

County looks at insurnace

By Cynthia Haynes

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Insurance isn't very exciting but like indoor plumbing it's a necessary of modern life in America.

Norton County has its insurance through KCamp, an organization of counties similar to a co-op or credit union, said Larry Sharp, member services representative for the group.

Mr. Sharp visited with the Norton County commissioners on Monday about their risk management and their liability insurance.

He said that he would like to visit each county commission twice a year but most of them meet on Mondays so with almost 60 member counties, it's been about 10 months since he's been to Norton.

He gave the commissioners-elect Dr. R.A. Peterson and Charles Posson a short history of KCamp noting that in the 1990s several rural counties were no longer able to purchase insurance because they couldn't find anyone to insure them.

They banded together to form KCamp, of which Norton County has been a long-time member, he said.

The counties' insurance program is partially self-funded, he said, but KCamp does have reinsurance for really large claims.

Only counties or close political subdivisions of counties like the extension service are eligible to join, he said.

Part of the county's premium is based on its loss ratio, he said. Say a county pays \$100,000 in premiums and KCamp has to pay out \$50,000 in claims, that would have a 50 percent loss ratio, he told the commissioners.

The company looks at a four-year average, however, so one bad year will not make premiums go sky high.

That said, he noted, 2011 and 2012 were not exactly banner years for Norton County since the loss ratio exceeded 100 percent for 2010 and 71 percent for the first half of 2012 since figures are available for after July.

"Everyone has some bad years," he said.

The company usually shoots for a 60 percent ratio.

The biggest problems with liability are usually in law enforcement, where the officers can't win for losing sometimes.

If they take a person in and something happens, they're li-

able. If they ignore the situation, they're liable.

In 2012, he said, Norton county had more property claims than liability claims. This is unusual, he said, but ice and snow account for most of that and there isn't much the county can do about the weather.

Since July, County Clerk Robert Wyatt said, the county has not had many claims except for vehicle-deer accidents.

Commissioner Carolyn Applegate noted that the commissioners and the department heads meet quarterly and the county's safety committee gives a presentation each time including handouts for the supervisors to take back to their people.

The county gets a discount on its insurance if it has a working safety committee.

"We're taking this discount very seriously," she said.

The insurance group offers \$2,000 each year to each of its members to use on risk mitigation projects such as training, Mr. Sharp said.

The commissioners said that last year they used the money to buy a sign machine for the county shop and this year they are looking to buy tarps to cover

Favorite foods...



The Norton County 4-H members hosted their Favorite Food Show on Sunday at the 4-H Building. (From left to right) Teagan Files, eight years old, explains to Foods Judge Anna Schremmer, Phillipsburg, how she prepared her 'Impossibly Easy Toffee Bar Cheesecake,' which received a Top Purple ribbon in Level 1. The Top Purple in Level 2 went to Stacie Elliott, the Top Purple in Level 3 went to Molly Maddy and the Level 4 Top Purple went to Wyatt Wentz.

-Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

City and county law to remain separate

By Cynthia Haynes

c.haynes@nwkansas.com

The City of Norton wants to keep its own police force.

Mayor David Corns and City Administrator Rob Lawson told the Norton County Commission that the city council voted, at its Dec. 19 meeting, to turn down any effort to combine the city and county law enforcement.

Mr. Lawson said that there seems to have been a lot of speculation lately about the city and county combining the law enforcement jobs. So, the council talked about it and made a decision on the subject.

The city has six officers plus a police dog, which is considered an officer by the state, Mr. Lawson said.

Newly sworn in commissioner Dr. R.A. Peterson said that he was interested in looking more at savings that would result in a combination of the sheriff's de-

partment and the city police.

He noted that Rush County (La Crosse) has combined services and saved quite a bit of money.

"I'd hate to see us without an office in town," Mr. Lawson said to the commissioners noting that the city has looked at combining law enforcement services several times.

"The savings are nice," he said. "But, the city isn't willing to cut the services."

Mayor Corns noted that if there is a really big problem, having both city and county law enforcement capabilities allows for more officers to respond.

The new commissioner indicated that he would still be studying the combination.

"I'll be getting back with you on this," he told the mayor and administrator.

While the city isn't interested in a combined law force, Mr.

Lawson said, it is willing and interested in continuing its relationships with the county.

"The city and county work together and have for years," he said. "I don't see any reason not to continue."

The city's public works and the county's road and bridge department each have equipment that the other lacks, he noted and they work together to help each other.

"Neither of us is big enough to do everything on our own," Mr. Lawson said, adding that the city would be open to discussing any co-operative effort.

The city and county also work together with the department of corrections to have prison work crews help out both entities, Mr. Lawson said. The city handles the paperwork and will be re-

porting progress to the commis-

sion. Mr. Sharp said that would be a great use for the money as broken windshields account for a lot of small claims.

•PUBLIC NOTICE• NOTICE OF SUIT

Published in The Norton Telegram on
Tuesday, January 8, 15, 22, 2013 3(T)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS

GALL MOTOR CO., INC.,
NEW LOOK BODY SHOP)
Plaintiffs,)
vs.)
2004 Nissan Titan SE)
Vehicle ID No: 1N6AA07B84N514323)
AND the unknown heirs, executors, admin-)
istrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, and)
assigns of any defendants which are exist-)
ing, dissolved, or dormant corporations; the)
unknown executors, administrators, devisees,)
trustees, creditors, successors, and assigns)
of any defendants who are or were partners or)
in partnership; the unknown guardians, con-)
servators, and trustees of any defendants who)
are minors or are under any legal disability;)
and the unknown heirs executors, adminis-)
trators, devisees, trustees, creditors, and assigns)
of any person alleged to be deceased,)
Defendants.)

NOTICE OF SUIT (K.S.A. 60-307)

The State of Kansas to the above-named Defendants, and all other persons who are or may be concerned:
You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in the District Court of Norton County, Kansas by Gall Motor Company Inc., New Look Body Shop, Plaintiffs, praying for an order quieting the title to the following described vehicle:

2004 Nissan Titan SE, VIN No.: 1N6AA07B84N514323
The Petitioner further seeks an order holding the Plaintiffs to be the owner to the above described vehicle, free of all right, title, and interest of the above-named Defendants, and all other persons who are or may be concerned, and that they and each of them be forever barred and foreclosed of and from all right, title, interest, lien, or equity of redemption in or to the above-described vehicle, or any part thereof. You are hereby required to plead to said petition on or before the 29th day of January 2013, in said court at 9:00 a.m., Norton County, Kansas. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

Gall Motor Company Inc.
New Look Body Shop
Plaintiff

Charles E. Worden #7417 WORDEN LAW OFFICE
213 S. Kansas, P.O. Box 427, Norton, Kansas 67654
(785) 877-3086 Attorney for Plaintiff

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Tuesday, January 8, 15, 22, 2013 3(T)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS

GALL MOTOR CO., INC.,
NEW LOOK BODY SHOP)
Plaintiffs,)
vs.)
2003 Jeep Wrangler)
Vehicle ID No: 1J4FA49S93P323634)
AND the unknown heirs, executors, admin-)
istrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, and)
assigns of any defendants which are exist-)
ing, dissolved, or dormant corporations; the)
unknown executors, administrators, devisees,)
trustees, creditors, successors, and assigns)
of any defendants who are or were partners or)
in partnership; the unknown guardians, con-)
servators, and trustees of any defendants who)
are minors or are under any legal disability;)
and the unknown heirs executors, adminis-)
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TREASURER'S QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT CITY OF NORTON

First published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 1(T)

TREASURER'S QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

CITY OF NORTON, KANSAS

For the Period From October 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012

FUNDS	1 Old balances (last report)	2 Receipts	3 Disbursements (warrants paid)	4 Net treasury cash
GENERAL OPERATING	549,954.43	318,472.47	362,632.10	505,794.80
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT	58,860.66	7,177.32	27,062.83	38,975.15
SPECIAL HIGHWAY	222,048.67	19,076.61	30,305.78	210,819.50
CEMETERY MAINTENANCE	6,682.97	0.00	0.00	6,682.97
SPECIAL PARKS	20,362.59	1,121.60	2,049.20	19,434.99
CEMETERY DONATION	17,313.42	0.00	0.00	17,313.42
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT	41,111.80	839.71	9,825.75	32,125.76
TOURISM	0.00	11,674.49	11,674.49	0.00
LIBRARY	12,485.78	5,808.86	18,294.64	0.00
LIBRARY EMPLOYEE BENEFIT	3,575.37	2,146.48	5,721.85	0.00
FIRE PROCEEDS CASH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SPECIAL HEALTH	111,805.18	108,351.20	111,741.33	108,415.05
BOND & INTEREST	8,723.96	4,327.60	4,900.00	8,151.56
IMPROVEMENT FUND GO BOND	8,606.29	1.93	8,608.22	0.00
DEBT SERVICE GO BOND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CDBG FIRE TRUCK GRANT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
AIRPORT BOND & INTEREST	4,398.36	0.00	0.00	4,398.36
NORTHBRIDGE BOND & INT.	3,055.86	0.00	2,534.62	521.24
ELECTRIC	1,383,854.78	865,995.86	890,291.09	1,359,559.55
WATER	429,041.74	285,087.63	147,231.73	566,897.64
SEWER	476,875.63	165,103.74	49,423.97	592,555.40
REFUSE	257,345.42	92,096.69	78,527.93	270,914.18
REVOLVING LOAN	450.00	4,910.33	4,452.22	908.11
ELECTRIC REPLACEMENT	508,175.38	25,534.76	143,087.68	390,622.46
ELECTRIC DEPOSITS	76,088.22	6,264.76	6,058.22	76,294.76
WATER DEPOSITS	22,002.99	1,504.25	1,619.63	21,887.61
WATER REPLACEMENT	44,683.73	1,800.00	0.00	46,483.73
SEWER REPLACEMENT	51,016.60	1,800.00	0.00	52,816.60
REFUSE REPLACEMENT	40,889.89	1,500.00	0.00	42,389.89
PAYROLL	8,465.50	448,395.01	448,271.52	8,588.99
PRIOR YEAR	0.00	202,121.60	0.00	202,121.60
TOTALS	4,367,875.22	2,581,112.90	2,364,314.80	4,584,673.32

Available Cash:	
FIRST STATE Bank	4,239,673.32
THE BANK Bank	195,000.00
FIRST STATE BANK Bank	150,000.00
TOTAL Available Cash (To agree with total funds above)	4,584,673.32

LIABILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS	
NORTHBRIDGE HOUSING REFUNDING BOND (2003)	\$ 4,864.00
AIRPORT REFUNDING BOND ISSUE	\$ 230,000.00
DIGGER DERRICK TRUCK	\$ 20,753.22
WASTEWATER PLANT KDHE REVOLVING LOAN	\$ 3,158,668.20
WATER PLANT KDHE REVOLVING LOAN	\$ 1,407,679.38
WASHINGTON SQUARE IMPROVEMENTS	\$ 280,000.00
RESCUE TRUCK	\$ 42,944.08
REFUSE TRUCK	\$ 28,979.57
USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT WATER PLANT BONDS	\$ 3,151,828.00
TOTAL	\$ 8,325,716.45

I, Patty Rowh do hereby certify that the above statement is correct.
Signed, Patty Rowh, City Treasurer

Health screening coming to Norton in February

Residents living in and around the Norton, Kansas community can be screened to reduce their risk of having a stroke or bone fracture. Norton County 4-H Building will host Life Line Screening on February 2. The site is located at 126 E. Park Street in Norton. Sallie Trotter of Bonner Springs attended a Life Line Screening and said, "I want to thank you for saving me from having a stroke".

Four key points every person needs to know:

Stroke is the third leading cause of death and a leading cause of permanent disability

80 percent of stroke victims had no apparent warning signs prior to their stroke

Preventive ultrasound screenings can help you avoid a stroke. Screenings are fast, non-invasive, painless, affordable and convenient

Screenings identify potential cardiovascular conditions such as blocked arteries and irregular heart rhythm, abdominal aortic aneurysms, and hardening of the arteries in the legs.

Packages start at \$159. All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. For more information regarding the screenings or to schedule an appointment, call 1-877-237-1287 or visit our website at www.lifelinescreening.com. Pre-registration is required.

said, is part of the Promoting Norton County, that his group does. This involves bringing various legislative and cabinet members to the county.

On Thursday, he said, the secretary of Wildlife and Parks will be here to start work on the Kansas Ringneck Classic, the governor's annual pheasant hunt, which will take place the weekend after the season opening. The event has been held in Oakley for the past two years but will be held in Norton this year and will move on to Scott City later.

The economic development group is starting to work on some sponsorships, Mr. Sproul said, including work to get national television and magazine coverage of the event.

"It's already shaping up to be a busy January," he noted.

Update

(Continued From Page 1)

usually cheaper but the concrete holds up longer so the county would have to consider which is better and what it can afford after the bids come.

He also reminded the commissioners of the groundbreaking ceremony for the Norton Estates, which took place on Wednesday and also said that Leadership Norton would be at the Economic Development office that morning and that the group planned to take part in the groundbreaking later that day.

Mr. Sproul told the commissioners that Secretary of Transportation Mike King would be in Norton for a meeting at 10 a.m. next Wednesday at the Sleep Inn. It is important, he said, that the secretary realize how important the state district shop is to the county. The visit, Mr. Sproul