

Safety

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or unsafe, the money to fix the building. Sproul said the maximum grant is \$250,000 and that the owner has to match 25 percent of what is awarded. The grant application deadline is August 1 and the funds would be administered a few after that.

However, the City is more concerned with the issue of public safety over preservation of the building. The main concern is the potential of falling bricks or the collapse of an exterior wall. Council member Jerry Moritz said, "The City's main concern is making it safe, and there would need to be a temporary fix to hold it or brace it somehow."

City Code Inspector Jeff Wolf presented a slide show, which showed the condition of the building in 2011 compared to its present condition.

Council member Jerry Jones echoed Moritz's sentiment. "It is a public safety issue, and it needs to be stabilized somehow to remove the threat."

City Attorney Karen Griffiths told the Council that if the building is declared to be a dangerous and unfit structure, then a timeframe must be set for the owner to fix it or raze it. Griffiths stated it is the duty of the property owner to repair or demolish the structure, and if it is not done within the set timeframe, the City can proceed at that time.

The Council then passed three motions. The first determined that the property at 109 E. Main is considered to be a dangerous and unsafe structure under the Dangerous and Unfit Structure Code.

The second motion was to have a resolution prepared stating that the owner of record,

Paul and Mary Gower, at 109 E. Main shall be notified to commence within 30 days from March 6 to repair, stabilize and make the building safe and usable, and be ready for an inspection within 90 days of the date the resolution is passed; the owner shall diligently pursue with the repairs and have all of the repairs completed within 365 days of commencement. The owner will also be required to provide proof of liability insurance.

The third motion authorized City Administrator Rob Lawson to secure the area around 109 E. Main and Kansas Street as deemed necessary to keep the public safe.

The area has since been barricaded, and the City cautioned that people need to stay out of the barricaded area because it is dangerous.



Years of wear and tear show damages on the building standing at 109 East Main. A decision has yet to be made on what will happen to the building.

- Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Update

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is done the case is referred to the County attorney and a hearing within 48 hours will determine which avenue to take.

The second program is that of a Diversion. The diversion program is also an intervention program designed to serve the youth who are court ordered and includes weekly contact with an officer, community service, letters of apology, curfews, random drug tests monitoring of school work and attendance restitution and assistance with fulfilling requirements of any court orders.

The third program is an intervention program for first time nonviolent offenders. It is called, First-time Offenders Program. The youth is referred to it by the county attorney as a direct referral from Juvenile intake. This program is for a first offense which is a minor crime. The youth is on the program for 90 days and during this time they must meet with an officer weekly, do community service, write letters of apology, have an eight o'clock curfew, must submit to random drug testing and their school work and attendance is monitored. They must not have any additional contact with law enforcement or else be revoked from the program. Every youth that goes through the program is tracked for a year after successfully completing the program.

The fourth program is the Juvenile Intensive Supervision Program. This is for juvenile

offenders who have been revoked from the diversion program, court services probation and are repeat offenders, or have committed a more serious crime and are court ordered to the program. Requirements are much like the other programs but much more intensive and monitored much more closely. They meet with an officer three times a week, have a 6 p.m. curfew, must maintain employment or schooling, do community service, random drug and alcohol testing, and restitution. Craig Knapp of Norton is the current JISP officer for Decatur, Norton and Phillips Counties. In this program Mr. Knapp does a youth level screening to develop a case plan and match the youth with the services to meet their needs. Mr. Knapp also is in charge of Case Management; he may have to place a youth out of the home and in state custody.

Commissioner R.A. Peterson asked Ms. Pratt if she thought the county was gaining or losing with our young people. Mrs. Pratt said, "Alcohol use is down and attitudes were getting better, we are gaining." The problem she found was that in some cases nothing is done when a youth does something wrong, over and over again so they learn nothing. With the programs here agencies offer, the youth are taught that there are consequences to their actions and they will be held accountable thus learning a lesson.

"Our agency has a great rapport with all the counties we work with; we work together and have mutual respect." Pratt said. The meeting ended with Mrs. Pratt thanking the commissioners for being the host county to the program.

LYLE NEWS

Larry Van Otterloo, the maintenance man, scooped out the city of Lyle; the snow around the community building etc., on Thursday. It's so good to be able to depend on friends for help. Tom Baker was scooping my driveway when someone came and helped finish it. Thank you, whoever it was. Then I got stuck anyway, not being able to back straight. We still have snow on the ground, and a lot of it on this block.

Kathy Van Meter and Lloyd Frandsen went to the appreciation supper by the Hometown Agency Insurance on Monday. Tuesday, they visited Lloyd's sister, Ruth, at Beaver City Manor. On Saturday, they brought Toots Magers to Norcaturo to Wentz' appreciation supper.

Tracey Pershing took her grandmother to church at Lyle on Sunday and joined in the community dinner. Jane Engelhardt shared a beautiful carrot cake which her mother had made for her birthday. Thirteen people enjoyed the potluck dinner.

On March 31, we will have our annual Easter Sunrise Service, held on the East side of the Lyle Church if the weather is fit. Otherwise it will be in the Community Building, and will be followed by breakfast.

June Jolly has finished a quilt and is starting another along with her cards and bingo. She ate Sunday dinner with Laveda McFarland.

Joyce Sumner has been making small quilts and plans to take them to the Norton County Hospital.

Happy Birthday to my sister, Sheryl Patterson on March 9, to Tracey Pershing, March 12, and belated Happy Birthday to Tielia High, which was March 2.

A good pancake supper was held at the Norcaturo Educational Building Sunday evening. I was privileged to sit by Inez and Charles Keller. He will be bringing the Easter Message at Lyle on March 31.

New bill up to get rid of death penalty

On Thursday, the Kansas House of Representatives introduced HB 2397, a bill to repeal the state's death penalty and replace it with a sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole. The bill was introduced in the House Federal and State Affairs Committee.

HB 2397 will repeal the Kansas death penalty that was reinstated in 1994, and make life in prison without parole the sentence for the crime of aggravated murder. HB 2397 also establishes a fund to help the families of murder victims and provide mental health services, using the savings that will come from abolishing the death penalty. Kansas death penalty trials can cost up to 70 percent more than trials for non-death penalty cases.

"This legislation will aid Kansas law enforcement and the families of homicide victims by redirecting funds to programs that will help victims' families and help provide mental health services," said Mary Sloan, the Executive Director of the Kansas Coalition Against the Death Penalty.

In February, the Kansas Senate introduced a similar bill, SB 126, to repeal the death penalty.

•PUBLIC NOTICE•

NOTICE OF GENERAL SCHOOL ELECTION

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, March 12, 2013

(1T)

NOTICE OF GENERAL SCHOOL ELECTION

In compliance with K.S.A. 25-2018, notice is hereby given there will be a General School Election for Norton Community Schools, Unified District No. 211.

I, Robert D. Wyatt, County Election Officer of Norton County, hereby certify the following names are entitled to a place on the official General Ballot for Member of the Board of Education:

DISTRICT #1

Craig R. Renner

DISTRICT #2

Bill Jones

DISTRICT #2

Robert D. Wyatt

All of U.S.D. 211 in Highland Precinct

No. 1 in Norton County will vote in Lenora City at the Lenora Community Center. All of U.S.D. 211 in Solomon No. 1 in Norton County will vote at the American Legion. U.S.D. 211 in Allison Township in Decatur County will vote in Jennings at the Sunflower Senior Center. U.S.D. No. 211 in Allodium Township in Graham County will vote in Morland at the City Hall. U.S.D. No. 211 in Graham and Indiana Townships in Graham County will vote in Hill City at the Courthouse.

Date: April 2, 2013 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 7th day of February, 2013.

Robert D. Wyatt

Norton Co. Election Officer

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Voting places will be as follows:

Ward One —

Norton American Legion

Ward Two —

Norton American Legion

Ward Three —

Norton American Legion

Rural — Courthouse Lobby and American Legion

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In compliance with K.S.A. 25-2018, notice is hereby given there will be a General School Election for Northern Valley Unified School District No. 212.

I, Robert D. Wyatt, County Election Officer of Norton County, hereby certify the following names are entitled to a place on the official General Ballot for Member of the Board of Education:

DISTRICT #1 —

Linda Malcolm

Curtis Lowry

DISTRICT #2 —

Voting places will be as follows:

Voters in Norton County #212 School

District #1 and At-Large in Almena and Grant Townships and the part of Harrison Township that is #212 School District will vote at the Almena Community Center. The part of Emmett Township and Belle Plain Township that are #212 School District will vote at the Courthouse Lobby in Norton, KS.

Voters in Phillips County #212 School District #2 and At-Large vote at the Long Island Community Center.

Date: April 2, 2013 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 7th day of February, 2013.

Robert D. Wyatt

Norton Co. Election Officer

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