

New gas pump discussed

By Cynthia Haynes
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The cost of replacing a non-working gas pump at the Norton County shops is going to be a bit more than the road and bridge department or the county commissioners expected.

Road Administrator Sandy Smith told the commissioners at their meeting on Monday that they had an electrician come in to install the new \$6,000 pump. But, when he took the pump off its stand, he looked at the wiring and refused to put it back together because things were such a mess.

She said that she called Commissioner Charles Posson, who was not at the meeting due to illness, down to the shop since he has electrical experience from his former business. The electrician explained the problem, she said, and both men looked over the situation. Mr. Posson asked for a quote and the electrician came back with \$8,000. for the electrical work.

One big problem the shop has had that would be solved by the work, she said, is a shut off at the pumps. Right now the county has three pumps, two for diesel and one for gasoline and the only shut off is in the

building instead of right there by the pumps.

Mr. Posson, she said, thought it best to leave the work to the electrician who first looked at it. He will rewire all the pumps and bring everything up to where it needs to be, she said.

The commissioners agreed that the work needed to be done and authorized the expenditure.

The commissioners, Ms. Smith and Road and Bridge Foreman Floyd Richard discussed the road over the Norton dam, which has posts and cable that need replacing or repair.

The dam and park belongs to the Bureau of Reclamation, she said, but the road is the county's.

Ms. Smith said there is 6,735 feet of cable on the north side of the dam and some posts are down on the south side. The cable is not strong enough to keep a vehicle hitting it from going over the edge, she said and the posts are spaced far enough apart in places that a car could drive between them.

Mr. Richard suggested flexible posts with reflectors on top so that if they were hit they would just bounce back up and not normally break off.

Ms. Smith agreed.

"I really think the flexible markers are the most cost effective," she told the commissioners.

Mr. Richard said that he is also worried about how much of the road and bridge budget would be required to crush the concrete at the landfill although it can be used for road material.

"It'll work to put on road surfaces," he said. "They're getting all the wire out of it. We can use 90 percent of it out on the roads."

The pair also told the commissioners that Caterpillar had delivered a road grader for the crew to try out and they expected John Deere's machine to be here shortly.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Signed forms to renew several Kansas Department of Health and Environment grants for County Health Nurse Gina Frack.

- Recessed from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. because they had no appointments for that hour.

- Learned that Kansas Secretary of Transportation Mike King will be in Norton on Thursday, April 11. The times and place have not yet been set.

Important donation...



The Northern Valley High School held an American Red Cross blood drive Friday at the school. Blood drive coordinator Amy McKinney reported that the goal was to collect 14 units of blood; 15 were collected from 18 students and staff. Pictured, Northern Valley High School sophomore Phillip Bryant takes his turn at blood donation while Red Cross phlebotomist Cassie Snyder prepares to collect Bryant's donation. - Courtesy photo

National Parks, the American Legacy

The Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum presents "American Legacy: Our National Parks," April 12 - June 16. In this exhibit, 38 members and guests of the Plein-Air Painters of America set up their easels in national sites across the country. The artists are among the country's most respected plein-air painters. The adjective plein-air

refers to the philosophical belief that creating art on-location, challenging as it may be, is crucial to successfully documenting a visual and emotional point in time and place.

Each artist selected a favorite park to document. The more than fifty paintings depict sites from coast to coast, border to border, and from the earliest park des-

ignation to one of the most recent. The exhibition is a "field journal" experience that draws viewers into seasonal and daily experiences of color and light rendered in pigment on paper or canvas. In some instances, the field studies were used to create larger, studio paintings.

U.S. 36

(Continued from Page 1)

in the May, 1914 issue of Better Roads & Streets:

The Pike's Peak Ocean to Ocean Highway" is the latest development in the transcontinental route situation. The new highway was launched at a meeting in St. Joseph, Mo., on March 18, by the federation and alliance of State and interstate associations already in existence.

- The Springfield-Hannibal Highway Association, through Illinois

- The Hannibal-St. Joseph Cross State Highway Association, through Missouri

- The Rock Island Highway Association, (RIHA) through Kansas

- The Lincoln Highway Association through Colorado

- The Utah Division of the Pike's Peak Ocean to Ocean Highway Association

WWI did slow progress but did not deter the grand vision. In his life time, A.Q. Miller served simultaneously on three highway associations: U.S. 81 Highway (aka: Meridian Highway from Winnipeg, Canada to Mexico City; U.S. 36 Highway (formerly the Rock Island Highway); and the Pike's Peak Ocean-to-Ocean Highway. The term: Crossroads of Nation stems from the crossing of Highway 81 and 36 in Belleville. It is said that A.Q. Miller epitomized the image of a 'road-booster' during the 20th century! He is credited for fathering two great national highways, as chronicled in his biography: 'Jayhawk Editor: A Biography of A.Q. Miller, Sr.' by James D. Callahan.

The July, 1920 issue of AAA's American Motorist stated: "Pike's Peak Ocean to Ocean Highway: the street from Hell's Gate to the Golden Gate".... is the superlative scenic route. It leads to places of beauty and grandeur; it gives expression to the phrase 'See America!'"

In 1924, the PPOO's western terminus was changed to Los Angeles. Whereupon the June, 1924 edition of the Citizens Good Roads Association magazine wrote: "The PPOO is the central scenic route of the United Statesit's the shortest transcontinental highway in the United States. Roughly

following the 40th parallel..... the highway runs westward in almost a straight line." Sadly the highway that couldn't make up its mind, slowly disappeared from national awareness.

From 1916 through 1939 road and highway development was legislated through Federal-Aid Road Acts (1916); Federal Highway Act (1921); and the creation of the Bureau of Public Roads (BPR). By 1925 route names, overlapping roads, starting and end points were found to be based on willingness to pay dues and not on good engineering judgment. During this period in history stories such as a delegate from Colorado Springs attempting to reach a meeting where decisions would be made about road direction and signage, died in the saddle! Even Mr. Miller stated; "The largest obstacles that had to be overcome..... was intersectional rivalries and activities of selfish interest." In short, things were getting messy and confusing. As a result, State highway agencies and the BPR joined forces to create a new national marking system; the U.S. numbered highway system. The plans were approved and by 1926 U.S. shields, such as the one used for U.S. Highway 36 were being installed. You can see today's start and end points for U.S. 36 at www.usends.com/30-39/036/036.html

While the first 40 years were focus on road direction and good conditions across Kansas, in the past 60 years the U.S. 36 Highway Association has continued dialogs with KDOT, voiced the use of Highway 36 which benefits commerce, and published literature that provides readers with historical and tourist information. The association has also funded strategically placed signs, advocating the use of Highway 36. In 2010 the Dockings Institute was commissioned to conduct a feasibility study for projects such as Four-lane and Super-two development in certain areas. In addition, the U.S. 36 Highway Association has been visible at the annual Kansas Sampler Festival.

Adding a boost of "tourism" across Kansas, the Border-to-Border Garage/Antiques Sales event known as Treasure Hunt

was launched in September 2006. The event continues to attract national and international attention. Towns along the route organize their activities on the theme of Garage/Antique Sales. In 2012, from Elwood to St. Francis and 26 towns in between participated. For more information about this year's event visit: www.uswy36.com Join us this year, Sept. 20 - 22.

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TRUCKS:•05 Kenworth T800, 475 CAT, 10 spd•'99 Peterbilt 377
•96 Ford Aeromax, 3406E CAT, 15 spd, day cab•'86 Freightliner
•'86 Chevy C-50, 4x4, 327 eng, 12' B&H, 41,035 mi•'78 Ford F700 tandem, 5x2, 22' B&H, RO tarp•'66 Chevy Truck, 327 eng, 16' B&H
PICKUPS & ATVs:•'97 Ford F250, 5 spd, 4x4, Hydrabed•'95 Ford F250 3/4, 4x4, 5 spd, 460 gas, long bed, ext cab, fuel tanks•'93 Diesel 350 flatbed•'86 Ford F350 dually, 4spd •'95 Ford F150 pickup
•04 Polaris 4x4 4-wheeler
TRAILERS:•12 Timple 42' dbl hopper grain trl•'88 Merritt dbl hopper
•84 Guthrie 48' & '77 Wilson 46' cattle pails•6'x24' GN stock trl, triple axle•'95 Diamond 6'x25' GN Cattle trl•HM 28' trl, double axle•16' car trl•92 Titan GN stock trl
FARM MACHINERY:•NH BR780 baler, gathering wheels, net wrap, 1,552 bales on new monitor•UFT Grain cart•SF 27' disc•Walden 12' dozer•3 bottom plow•5 shank ripper•JD LZ 1010 drills, new points•3) JD LZ 8'x12" grain drills•5x5 blade plow w/pickers •FK KM17 3x5 blade plow w/pickers•16' Crustbuster•Krause disc•MM & Emerson 4 bottom plows•4) augers •Westfield drill fill auger•Markers for Kinze 16-row planter•Scag "Cheetah" HD riding mower, 6' deck•Scag "Cheetah" HD riding mower w/catcher, 61' deck •2) Bush hog rotary mowers
HAY EQUIPMENT:•NH 358 grain mixer, 20' auger, small sq bale picker w/scale •NH 479 Swather, 9'•JD Side delivery hay rake•Tonutti GR350 hay rake, PTO, 3pt•NH 499 Haybine swather
•H&S Bi-fold rake
LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT:•40+ bags Jade III alfalfa seed •50 asst'd Panels•Richie waterer•Filon calf cradle •Squeeze chute •Gehl feed wagon•Creep feeder •Chicken feeders & waterers
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