



Public Notices

•PUBLIC NOTICE•

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THOMAS O. MELROY

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, April 30, Tuesday, May 7, Tuesday, May 14, 2013

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS In the Matter of the Estate of **THOMAS O. MELROY**, Deceased Case No. 2012-PR-04 **NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT**

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that a petition has been filed on April 26, 2013, in said Court by LeeAnn Nelson and James W. Anderson, co-executors of the estate of Thomas O. Melroy, deceased, praying for a final settlement of the estate, approval of their acts, proceedings and accounts as co-executors, allowance for costs, fees and expenses, determination

of the heirs, devisees and legatees entitled to the estate and assignment to them in accordance with the will of the decedent and the laws of Kansas.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before May 22, 2013, at 1:30 p.m., in said Court, in the City of Norton, Norton County, Kansas, at which time and place said petition will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

LeeAnn Nelson and James W. Anderson, Petitioners Mark C. Whitney, No. 9607 **WHITNEY LAW OFFICE** 109 East Main, Box 208 Norton, Kansas 67654 (785) 877-2661 Fax (785) 877-3868 Attorney for the Co-executors

•PUBLIC NOTICE•

INVITATION FOR BIDS NORTON SWIMMING POOL REPLACEMENT

Published in the Norton Telegram on Tuesday, May 7, and Tuesday, May 14, 2013

INVITATION TO BID NORTON SWIMMING POOL REPLACEMENT

General Contractors are invited to submit an offer under seal to the City of Norton for replacement of their existing swimming pool facility located in Norton, Kansas.

Project Description: Replacement of the existing City of Norton swimming pool, bathhouse, and various site improvements.

Bid must be received by the City of Norton, Kansas at City Hall, 301 E. Washington Street, Norton, KS 67654 before 2:00 pm local standard time on the 12th day of June, 2013.

All equipment, materials, and workmanship must be in accordance with the plans, specifications, and project manual.

Pool Sub-Contractors are required to pre-qualify to the approval of the Owner no later than May 21st, 2013. Pool Sub-Contractors may request pre-qualification through completion and submission to the Engineer all related forms and bond documents required in the Project Manual. All General Contractors bidding the project must use one of the pre-qualified Pool Sub-Contractors for that portion of the work. A pre-qualified Pool Sub-Contractors list will be available to all plan holders via addendum prior to bidding.

Bid Documents, Plans, Specifications, Project Manual, and Soils Report may be obtained electronically as pdf files from the project engineer, Aquatic Design Consultants, Inc. General Contractors and potential Pool Sub-Contractors needing plans for bidding purposes may contact the engineer to request access to electronic plans by calling 913-937-0025, or by email request at bids@WaterParkTeam.com. A printed set of documents may be viewed at City Hall.

Bidders will be required to provide bid security in the form of a bid bond in the amount of 5 percent of the bid amount.

Offers will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 45 days after submission.

The City of Norton reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers.

National Hospital week celebrated

The Kansas Hospital Association invites you to join your area hospital in celebrating National Hospital Week, May 12-18. Celebrated since 1921, National Hospital Week is a time dedicated to reinforcing the valuable contributions hospitals make in our communities, caring for them 24-hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

The 127 Kansas community hospitals provide vital health care services to our communities. Annually, Kansas hospitals staff more than 10,000 beds; see more than 320,000 inpatient visits; assist in nearly 40,000 births; provide care during 7.1 million outpatient visits; and treat more

than 1 million patients in Kansas emergency departments.

Not only do our hospitals serve thousands of individuals, keeping our communities healthy, strong and vibrant, hospitals also benefit the financial health of our state. In Kansas, hospitals employ 81,931 people or 4.4 percent of all job holders and generate \$4.9 billion in direct total income. In these challenging economic times, our hospitals support the creation of an additional 61,855 jobs in other business and industry and have a total employment impact of more than 143,000 jobs. For every one dollar of income generated in the hospital sector,

another 48 cents is generated in other businesses and industries in the state's economy; thus, having an estimated total impact on income throughout all business and industry of more than \$7.2 billion.

National Hospital Week is our nation's largest health care event. This year's theme, A Guiding Light for Changing Times, reminds our communities of the important role hospitals play as a lighthouse in their communities. Health care is changing and grassroots efforts to sustain our community hospitals are essential. More information regarding National Hospital Week can be found online at <http://www.nationalhospitalweek.com>.

The Kansas Hospital Association is a not-for-profit association of health care provider organizations and individuals that are committed to the health improvement of their communities. KHA membership includes 215 member facilities, of which 126 are full-service community hospitals. Founded in 1910, KHA maintains its vision of "an organization of Nathospitals working together to improve access, quality and the affordability of health care for all Kansans."

New standards deepen KPERS pension hole

Despite legislative efforts to reform the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERS) in 2011, the plan's funding status remains seriously low. Kansas Policy Institute scholar Barry Poulson, Ph.D., makes clear that the reforms undertaken thus far were not enough to address the structural deficiencies in KPERS. In fact, new Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) standards will make the current deficiencies much worse.

While a funding ratio (value of assets in the plan divided by a measure of the pension obligation) of 80 percent is generally considered a barometer of a pension system's health, KPERS has a 59 percent funded ratio as of the most recent KPERS year-end report, and that will decrease to 46.1 percent under the new GASB standards. KPI also released a database of the 2012 KPERS distributions, which highlight individual payments made to KPERS beneficiaries, via KansasOpenGov.Org, a transparency portal publishing official government data.

"The evidence underscores the fact that [KPERS] is not on

a sustainable path. Recent studies reveal that Kansas has one of the most under-funded pension plans in the nation," writes Dr. Poulson, the paper's author, a retired professor from the University of Colorado - Boulder, and past president of the North American Economics and Finance Association.

The new GASB standards will take effect in 2013 and 2014 and, according to GASB, will "require governments providing defined benefit pensions to recognize their long-term obligations for pension benefits as a liability for the first time, and to more comprehensively and comparably measure the annual costs of pension benefits."

Dave Trabert, president of Kansas Policy Institute said, "At the end of 2011, our official KPERS debt amounted to \$3,285 per Kansan. But more realistic investment return assumptions could easily double that amount. In very real terms, this clarifies the magnitude of the problem and its impact on individual Kansans. KPERS' own benefit payment records indicate that some government employees will likely collect

multi-million dollar pension benefits if they live a normal lifespan. Public servants deserve retirement security but we shouldn't be handing out annual retirement checks that are far greater than what most private sector taxpayers receive."

Trabert continued, "The new, more realistic accounting standards underscore the need to go further in reforming KPERS. Public sector retirement benefits need to be brought in line with those in the private sector and taxpayers should be let off the hook of pension debt by moving employees to a 401(k)-style pension plan. Incidentally, 401(k)-style plans have been the standard in the private sector for decades. They are available to Kansas political appointees and Regents' professors, can provide a better final benefit and give more flexibility to an increasingly mobile workforce."

"Preventing Bankruptcy in the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System" outlines six steps that should be taken to stop making state pension debt worse and to secure the benefits of retirees in the future;

Welcome the new GASB stan-

dards as a way to increase transparency and accountability;

Implement a 401(k)-style system that increases public servant flexibility and taxpayer peace of mind;

Align public sector retirement benefits with those in the private sector;

Be prepared for any legal challenges - recent case law suggests this is the case;

Take steps now to avoid a bankruptcy that puts already-earned benefits at risk;

Follow the example of other states by bringing taxpayers, government officials, and public sector workers together to address the problem.

Trabert concluded, "Our leaders in Topeka should be commended for the work they've done thus far in working to fix KPERS, but more work needs to be done. Without continued 401(k)-style reform Kansas taxpayers will remain on the hook for higher taxes to finance pension debt and beneficiaries will remain at the mercy of an unsustainable system."

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Norton archery club shoot results

The Norton Archery Club held its first event of the 2013 season on Sunday. The 3-D shoot at Prairie Dog State Park

had 28 competitors, 21 adults and seven youths. The 1st Flight winner was Scott Esslinger with 505 points and the 2nd Flight

winner was Tom Bauer with 422 points. The next event will be a 3-D shoot on May 19. For more information call 877-3253

Update

(Continued from Page 1)

the bottom and then working its way up to the top and over in the wind. He said he is still looking at the proper angle for that.

Mr. Miller suggested that

the commissioners look at the Phillipsburg landfill because the county engineers are looking at a similar pit for the next one in Norton. The pit is bigger, he said, and the engineers hope

that will help extend its lifespan. However, it also collects water, that has to be constantly pumped out and has more trouble with blowing trash due to its size.

Concrete

(Continued From Page 1)

even been a plan made for it.

Commissioner Posson agreed that a long-range plan needs to be made for Road L to help with the trucks moving grain on it. He said he would like to see it paved, perhaps with asphalt and that depends on the cost and if the county can get some help from the state.

The county is paving the road from E1 to E2 so it stands to reason, he said, that paving up to E1 would be a good thing.

"Whether we could do this financially nobody knows," he added.

The pavement for the rest of the road is coming from an economic development grant, he said, because of the Ag Valley project and cannot be used for other paving.

Ms. Burd had several other questions for the commissioners including whether the county ever did copays with owners to fix them and whether there would be any more asphalt millings available.

The commissioners weren't sure about the copay question but said they didn't expect to get any millings this year.

County Clerk Robert Wyatt said that the state is reusing most of the millings to repave

the roads so he doesn't expect there will be much available in the future.

Ms. Burd thanked the commissioners and assured them that she would be talking to them again.

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