

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



Tuesday
July 30, 2013

Briefly

Tag renewals are due by Wednesday

July 31 is the last day to purchase "J", "K", or "L" tags from the Norton County Treasurer in the Courthouse. Bring current proof of insurance for all vehicles. You can now get your Kansas Parks Passports when renewing your tags for \$15.50 per vehicle. For trailers, include current insurance for the vehicle that will pull the trailer. Office staff will verify VIN number, policy number and current expiration date. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Drivers' license renewals can be processed Tuesdays through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. You need to have your driver's license and a current utility bill or current bank statement with your name and address for proof of residency. CDL renewals must be done at Phillipsburg, Hays or Colby.

Library to host "Big Diggers" Thursday

The Norton Public Library in keeping with their summer theme of "Dig Into Reading", will host Dan Bainter from the City of Norton to give a talk on "Big Diggers" this Thursday at 10:30 a.m. and again at 2 p.m.

Disc golf clinic to be held Thursday

The Norton Recreation Commission and the Norton Disc Golf Club will hold a disc golf clinic for children on Thursday, Aug. 1, from 7-8 p.m. at the Elmwood Park Disc Golf Course. The event is free and the first 20 registered participants (ages 6-12) will receive a free disc. Contact Don Mordecai at 877-5475.

End of school bash to be at The Rock

The Norton Christian Church is hosting an End of the Summer Bash on Saturday Aug. 3 at The Rock starting at 7 p.m. and ending at 10 p.m. All junior and senior high students are invited. There will be free food, games, music and raffles.

Markets

Monday, July 29, 2013

Wheat.....	\$6.91
Milo.....	\$5.30
Soybeans.....	\$12.33
Corn.....	\$6.05

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Weather

Wednesday - Partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of rain. High of 88. Wednesday Night - Chance of rain and fog overnight. Thursday - Overcast with rain and fog early. High of 84. Thursday Night - Overcast with a chance of rain and fog overnight. Low of 64. Friday - Partly cloudy and overcast with fog early. High of 86. Friday Night - Partly cloudy with fog overnight. Low of 64. Saturday - Overcast with fog early. High of 81. Saturday Night - 40 percent change of rain.

Prayer

Dear God, always let the words of your love be stronger than our hate. Amen

Norton Idol highlights area talent



The Norton County Fair held its annual Norton Idol contest Friday night. There were two age divisions, 18 and under and adult. The first place winner is seen above on the left, Lauren Mordecai with Emily Miller in second and Althea Paxton got the People's Choice award. All three young ladies were from Norton. In the adult division,



Winner of the 2013 Idol is seen above on the right, Halle Stephens of Arapahoe, Nebr. Second went to Adam Crocker of Indianola, Nebr., third went to Mary Daily of Oberlin and People's Choice went to Silas Pippitt of Gardner, Kan.

- Telegram photos by Dana Paxton

Norton City Council looks at improvement

By Mike Stephens

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Economic Development Director Scott Sproul gave his semi-annual report at the Norton City Council meeting on Wednesday, July 17.

Sproul said he has been gathering data for the Downtown Commercial Rehabilitation project and the grant application will be submitted in the near future. Also, the Downtown Beautification Committee and Downtown Development Committee are working with the City to complete the pod project.

He reported work had started on the Ryan Addition and Jerol with Penco Engineering is certifying the sewer as it

is being installed. Economic Development is working on infrastructure improvements for a couple of businesses and a downtown market study for rebuilding the downtown area. It will include information on shopping trends, business needs, and a strategic plan on how to attract people to the downtown area. Funding sources for the geometric improvement project are also being examined, to help get matching funds for the city to move the water line for the project.

The Council also held a public hearing for the purpose of considering a specific project application under the 2014 CDBG Downtown Commercial

Rehabilitation program, to rehabilitate the building located at 109 E. Main Street. The project will consist of renovations including but not limited to exterior building stabilization of the foundation, brick and stucco, construction of a new roof system and removal and replacement of 15-20 linear feet along the north and east side of the building for stabilization and support. The estimated total project cost is \$250,000 with the grant request of \$187,500. The sub-recipient, Mark Whitney, would provide matching funds in the amount of \$62,500. The City would have no out of pocket expenses for this project.

The Council voted to approve the

Administration Agreement with Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission for the 2014 Downtown Commercial Rehabilitation grant project. The contract will be null and void if the grant project is not funded.

Mayor David Corns discussed the City's water leak policy and adjustment procedure, if proof is provided that the leak has been fixed. He also reported he authorized the electric distribution staff to put a light back in the alley behind the post office, as there had been one previously. It has been put back in and the property owners are very apprecia-

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Road and Bridge Department needs a way to cool down

By DANA PAXTON

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Herman Pfannenstiel and Floyd Mulder of the Norton County Road Department met with the commissioners at the July 22 meeting to discuss the need for a fan in the building.

Two bids were put in on a 3 speed 36 inch 14500 air delivery hurricane fan. Norton Carquest turned in one for \$2,642.21 and Roys Sales and Service turned in one for \$2600. This fan would move more air than the one the state has currently. Commissioner Charles Posson questioned the noise level and commissioner R.A. Peterson ques-

tioned if the building had windows that could be opened up. Yes, it would be noisy and with the open windows cross ventilation would be beneficial Pfannenstiel stated. Commissioner Richard Thompson asked if there was money in the budget for the fan and Mr. Mulding stated that he has spoken with Justina Smith about it and she stated that there was enough money to purchase it. Treasurer Robert Wyatt looked to find that the department had used 35 percent of its total budget for the year as of the end of June to verify that the funds were available.

Thompson believed that the workers

would be more productive if they had the fan to cool the building. Pfannenstiel said that it would be trial and error based on heat and humidity whether to run the fan or air conditioning. Anyway you look at it at 102 degrees it is unbearable, Mulding stated.

Commissioner Posson moved to vote yes and get the fan, commissioners Thompson seconded and commissioner Peterson voted no, so the motion was carried and passed.

Before the men from the roads department left the meeting commissioner Peterson moved to throw out the resolution to re-do Road L between E1

and E2 by the sale barn and leave it as it is for now. Commissioners Posson seconded the motion and it passed.

Treasure Hunt set for this September

The 8th Annual U.S. 36 Highway Treasure Hunt will be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 20-22. This is a 400-mile treasure hunt across Kansas on U.S. Hwy. 36.

To be listed on the map, the U.S. 36 Association web site, ushw36.com, and DiscoverNorton.com, contact the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce office at 785-877-2501 or e-mail nortoncc@ruraltel.net by noon, August 30th. There will be a \$5 charge to cover printing and distribution. Maps will be available in Norton at the National Guard Armory and at Water Tower Park on West HWY 36 all three days. Maps will also be available on six different websites. Vendors must contact the landowners for space availability and cost. Non Profit Clubs and Organizations can be clustered in Water Tower Park. Contact Tara Vance at the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce for more information.

Other items for commissioners to address

By DANA PAXTON

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Four issues were brought to the commissioners meeting on July 22.

First, bids were looked at for two vehicles up for sale. Treasurer Robert Wyatt brought the sealed bids to the table before the commissioners and opened them. Five bids were sent in on the Chevy van and two for the Ford Diesel truck. The van and the trucks highest bids came from Doug David. He bid \$1391.11 for the van and \$1,976.01 for the Ford. Commissioner Peterson said that they were just sitting collecting dust so why not take the bids and get rid of both. Commissioner Richard Thompson motioned to accept the bids

for both and commissioner Posson seconded the motion passing it.

Another topic brought to the meeting was the insurance for the fair. David Davis of Boxler Insurance Agency brought in the Indemnity Policy showing one million dollars of coverage per occurrence. Without the insurance the fair couldn't have run the rides. The commissioners thanked Mr. Davis for getting the coverage needed.

The third item on the agenda was a visit from Dustin Daniels of Foley Equipment. Mr. Daniels came to the meeting to invite the commissioners to a motor-graders tour in Little Rock Arkansas. "A group of about 60 people typically attend", Daniels said. The

group will tour the CAT factory and then the Remington Ammunitions factory. Commissioner Posson and Peterson plan to attend. The tour will take place August 6-8.

Mr. Daniels asked how the equipment operators were getting along with the new graders and commissioner Posson stated that they were liking the joy sticks but typically a lot of glass had been broken in the doors. This is very common on this type of equipment and to be expected.

The final item on the list was that of the county budget with Mapes and Miller. This took the rest of the day to go over.

