

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



Friday

June 20, 2014

Briefly

Trash cans not to exceed 35 gallons

The City of Norton would like to remind residents that trash containers are not to exceed 35 gallons. If they do, city crews will not pick them up.

Benefit at Eagles on Saturday at 7 p.m.

There will be a benefit for Brett Boys at the Eagles Lodge on Saturday starting at 7 p.m. Live music, a silent auction and more. Wear orange if you can.

Jubilee events set for the weekend

The Lenora Jubilee will take place this weekend. It all starts tonight at 7 p.m. with a concert by Dean Alexander, James Wesley and Eric Paslay then on Saturday the garage sales start at 7 a.m. followed by the parade at 11 a.m. then a BMX show, trap shoot, creature races and more. Rounding out the day at 7 p.m. is a concert including the Wes Cossman Band and Lucas Maddy.

Swimming lessons offered at new pool

Swimming Lessons at the Norton Aquatic Center begin on Monday until July 3. There will be a second session held from July 7-11. If you did not get your children enrolled you still have a chance on Saturday from 10:30 a.m. until noon.

Archery Club carp shoot is Saturday

Norton Archery Club is having a Carp Shoot at Prairie Dog State Park on Saturday. For more information please call 871-1615 or 877-5269.

Aquatic Center opens with a splash



The new swimming pool has many new features that has attracted an average of over 300 visitors since its opening on Monday. The facility has two water slides, two diving boards and numerous other

features. The pool is open from noon to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday and 1 to 8 p.m. on Sunday.

—Telegram photo by Shylo Paxton

By MIKE STEPHENS
mstephens@nwkansas.com

The much anticipated opening of the Norton Aquatic Center has arrived. An estimated 308 people came out on Monday to enjoy the new facility and swimming pool.

The Center was originally scheduled to open on Memorial Day weekend, but was pushed back due to construction delays.

The facility is complete but the parking lot still requires some work and the concrete will need to cure.

Now that it's open, pool manager, Jill Lively said, "Its been going really well," and that everything is in place and functioning.

"We have all the lifeguards that are needed as well."

Lively hired 22 lifeguards to super-

vised the pool and six employees to work the expanded concessions area.

"We have so much more real food items for sale than before," she said, and added that there is an outside window for anyone who wants to eat but doesn't want to pay admission to go inside.

The lifeguard staff is a mix of old and new, according to Lively.

"Our staff is half old and half new and they're doing a really good job of supervising considering the numbers (of people) we've had."

On Tuesday it was estimated that there were 330 visitors and the new pool was on pace for over 300 on Wednesday, and that does not include an estimated 100 people who have participated in the various water aerobic classes.

The new pool, unlike the old one, is designed for slides allowing for a safer entry into the water. There are two large slides; one that is steep and fast and the other not so much.

"We really watched the slide the first day, but the kids caught on (to the rules) right away," said Lively

There's also a toddler slide in the kiddie pool. Two diving boards have been installed and the pool has zero depth entry to accommodate small children or adults with walkers. Additionally, the pool has a lift chair that can be lowered into and raised out of the water by remote control.

"The pool is much more accessible for people with physical disabilities."

Lively said the bath house has more bathrooms and showers that offer more privacy, and there is a family re-

stroom as well.

There have been a few bumps in the road also, but nothing major.

"The very first day we had to get in the pool to get some kids who were without parental supervision," said Lively.

The zero depth entry surface has rubbed a few toes the wrong way. It has a little rougher surface than the rest of the pool, according to Lively, and that "it's intentionally rough or gritty so people don't slip, and we will address the issue at the end of the summer to see if any solutions are available."

In the mean time, she recommends anyone with tender toes to wear water shoes.

(Aquatic - Continued on Page 5)

Commissioners hear from seven groups

By DANA PAXTON
dpaxton@nwkansas.com

The Norton County Commissioners had a full agenda at this Monday's weekly meeting. They saw seven organizations and discussed a variety of topics.

First, Gina Frack of the Norton County Health Department came in to let the commissioners know that she had re-typed the new tobacco policy for county offices in the county. The new policy will take effect on July 21 of 2015. Commissioners Charles Posson motioned to accept the new policy and it was seconded and passed.

Frack said that after holding a department head meeting for the Work

Well program, several involved wished to create a worksite wellness committee. She said that since the county is involved with this program there was help available free of charge to help get this committee set up and wondered if the commissioners wanted her to go ahead and bring them in. The commissioners agreed that getting help with this was a good idea.

Frack reported that she would be bringing in the budget for review next week.

Next in to see the commissioners was Wanda Vincent from Register of Deeds. She reported that they needed to get some new shelving and after talking with End Zone found that what

she needed was a specialty item and it would have to be ordered. The cost of the shelving is \$2,646 and weighs about 400 pounds. Vincent said that it would be paid for out of her capital outlay fund and that there was enough in the fund to cover the cost with no problem. The commissioners agreed to order it in and then discussed getting it to her office.

Vincent concluded by informing the commissioners that it was time to put records on Microfish and CD's again and requested that she be able to use the same company that she used last year. This will be paid for out of the Technical fund. She was given permission to go ahead with her plans for this.

Members from the soil conservation office also visited with the commissioners, Twila Dizmang, Teresa Schultz, Mike David and Chris Harting were all in attendance. Dizmang reported that last year the county helped them out with \$15,000 and this year they were asking for future consideration of \$16,500. The request for additional funds would be used for educational materials and programs they do since another grant they normally get for the WRAPS program was drastically cut from \$85,000 to \$50,000 this year.

The commissioners said they would consider it and get back with them with their decision.

weather forecast

Weather

Friday - Mostly sunny with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s. Saturday - Mostly sunny with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 90s. Sunday - Mostly sunny in the morning then becoming partly sunny. A 30 percent chance of thunderstorms.

Markets

JUNE 2014

Wheat.....	\$6.82
Milo.....	\$4.09
Soybeans.....	\$13.63
Corn.....	\$4.49

Markets Courtesy of Norton Ag Valley Co-Op

Prayer

Dear heavenly Father, we thank you for all we have received from you -- especially good memories and a loving family and church. Amen

By DANA PAXTON
dpaxton@nwkansas.com

Sheriff Troy Thomson met with the Norton County Commissioners on Monday, June 16 to discuss the recent storms and applying to the state for local disaster emergency assistance.

In order for counties to receive help they must apply for it and have it signed by two county commissioners. It was agreed that due to recent storms there was a need to develop resolution 2014-10 and a proclamation stating that in-

deed certain conditions have created obstructions which endanger health, safety and welfare of persons and property within the county. The proclamation states that a state of local disaster emergency does exist and assistance is needed. This was signed by commissioners chairman Richard Thompson and board member Charles Posson as well as county clerk Robert Wyatt so that it could be sent to the state.

Thomson reported that during the storm Saturday night his office re-

ceived a total of 442 calls. He wanted to remind people that the sirens are for those outdoors and encouraged the citizens to continue to keep track of eminent weather via the television and radio since not everyone can hear the sirens while in their homes.

Thomson also reported that officer Robert Annon Jr. will be retiring on July 3 and that he will soon be advertising for the position. Officer Annon may still be used as a part time officer when transports are needed or during

day time hours while his replacement is being trained. Currently the department has three deputies, one under sheriff and one sheriff.

Before the meeting with the sheriff was over Commissioner R.A. Peterson proposed that since we had had a good amount of rain recently that the fire ban be lifted. Sheriff Thomson agreed. A vote was taken, the motion seconded and passed that for now the fire ban has officially been lifted and if it needs to be re-instated later it would.

Sheriff seeks emergency assistance from state

