

TALKING BEFORE DINNER at the Norton County Wildlife and Parks Commission. Mr. Hayden served nine Chamber of Commerce annual banquet were former Gov. years as secretary of wildlife and parks. Mike Hayden (left) and Doug Sebelius, a member of the state

- Herald staff photo by Steve Haynes

People should recognize public servants

BV STEVE HAYNES

value of what they do.

s.haynes@nwkansas.com he thinks people should take time to recognize public servants and the

Speaking to about 116 people last Monday at the annual banquet of the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Hayden said people today seem to denigrate public employees and elected officeholders. He noted that he'd spent 32 years in public service, as a state representative and speaker of the Kansas House, governor, assistant secretary of the interior in Washington, and most recently, secretary of the Kansas Department of Wildlife

"I'm very proud of those years," he told the Chamber crowd as they dined on prime rib and baked

and Parks.

The ex-governor noted that public service runs deep in his family: his dad was a city commissioner and county commissioner in Atwood when he was growing up, including time as mayor, and many relatives

served on school boards.

Former Gov. Mike Hayden says men from western Kansas to be in office. The two come from difelected governor.

"Unfortunately," he said, "the party others are deceased.

"As the population changes (to urban areas), it's harder and harder Association of States and Tribes. a for people in western Kansas to get elected."

So how did he do it in 1986?

Creighton, an Atwood lawyer who was his campaign manager for State University political science the group. professor who had been an advisor to former Gov. Bob Bennett, former Kansas water engineer. The among other things. They pointed out that there were 90 counties current hometown, Lawrence. in the state then with populations under 10,000.

"If we carry all 90 counties, Bob tion of natural resources." said, we can't lose," Mr. Hayden recalled. "We carried 89."

the former governor talked about Sebelius Reservoir near Norton his time at Wildlife and Parks and with the Almena Irrigation District. his new job. Though he had served That guaranteed that farmers would under three governors, he was not

said, and one out of three persons

He said that three-fourths of the

dollars raised by Relay for Life goes

Relay for Life volunteers, cancer

survivors, family members and

friends give much needed support

to those with cancer. In Decatur

County, the event raised about

\$13,000 in 2010. The Rotary Club

Relay Walk-a-thon, which will take

place the evening of Friday, June

17, at The Gateway. Volunteers are

Norma Unger and Sandy Rush

Teams are being formed for the

contributes \$150 each year.

always needed.

were guests.

for cancer research.

He said that he's one of only three Brownback after nearly nine years ferent wings of the state Republican

Mr. Hayden said he will be executive director of the Missouri River group which represents the interests of state governments and Native Americans in the world's third-He recounted talking with Bob largest river basin. Board members of the seven states are their chief water engineers and top wildlife years, and Dr. Ed Flentje, a Wichita executives, so he's familiar with

> He'll be replacing David Pope, office will move from Topeka to his

"I'm looking forward to it," he said. "It involves a lot of preserva-

One thing he was able to do while at Wildlife and Parks was negotiate In an interview before the dinner, a "minimum pool" agreement for not drain the reservoir in dry years,

retained by incoming Gov. Sam eliminating both the fish and the business they bring in, in return for state payments.

> "If we hadn't had that agreement," he said, "we'd be 15 feet (of reservoir level) below where we're at now." His biggest accomplishment in

> his final state job? Adding more acres to public hunting, fishing and recreation areas. "I'm a very strong supporter of public land," he said, "and Kansas

> land in the country. "It's gonna be hard to get people to come here and recreate if we don't have public land."

> has the smallest proportion of public

He said that his replacement, Secretary Robin Jennison, another former speaker of the House, does not have a professional degree in wildlife, as most former wildlife executives have had. (Mr. Hayden holds a bachelor's degree from Kansas State University and a master's from Fort Hays State, both in biology and wildlife, a lifelong

Tractor show June 5

annual Selden Antique Tractor and Classic Car Show, which starts at 10

Events throughout the day include horseshoe pitching, an antique baler in the park after lunch, barrel train demonstration, a kiddie tractor pull, rides and food sold all day. barrel-roll competition, washer drop, children's raffle and a coin or to get into the show, which is tank, capped by the big parade.

Cars, trucks and antique engines nity Foundation.

John Fiala, Sr.

Albert Janousek

Matt Kaspar, Sr.

Edward Cilek

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Raymond Matousek

Alfred W. Heilman

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Wayne Buchanan

Peacetime

Elmer Petracek

Civil War Bartholomew Henry

Mark your calendars for the 18th will be on display on Main Street all day. The parade starts at 3:30 p.m., with awards given to the top a.m. Sunday, June 5, in downtown five tractors and cars and top two small engines.

There will be live entertainment

There's no fee to enter an exhibit sponsored by the Selden Commu-



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Spanish American War Anthony Kolsky

World War I

Henry W. Heilman William Krizek

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Rotary learns about program in Ethiopia

Col. Gordon Kuntz of the Kansas affected by some form of cancer, he National Guard, who was instrumental in collecting shoes for the will have cancer in their lifetime. needy children of Ethiopia, in east Africa, presented the program at the May 17 meeting of the Oberlin Rotary Club at The Gateway.

He was introduced by his fatherin-law, Doyle Brown of Jennings, program chair for the week.

Col. Kuntz said that the area has a population of 72 million, with 80 different ethnic groups. Eighty percent of the population lives in rural areas. The area has poor, rocky soil, it's dry and most homes do not have running water.

The area has a blending of eastern and western cultures. There is little industry and the items produced are usually manufactured by hand, which includes sewing and arts and craft-like items. The people of the area are very poor and very patient,

Col. Kuntz collected 204 pairs of shoes from Oberlin and Decatur County to send to the children there. A business contributed shoes in adult sizes. The children and adults appreciated the shoes and proudly displayed them, he said, regardless of the color or the style of shoe.

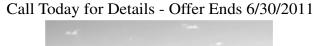
The club received a citation for its efforts for Polio Plus, Rotary International's campaign to wipe out the disease around the world.

The club welcomed visiting Rotarian Janice Shobe of the Atwood club and Brown, Jody Betts and Kara Kuntz as guests.

Program Chair Ralph Unger spoke about the upcoming Relay for Life event and its importance to the area at the May 10 meeting.

The event focuses on the awareness of cancer, its treatment and the importance of early detection and diagnosis, he said. He spoke about healthy lifestyles and how lifestyles have changed, pointing out that smoking has decreased and along with treatments, while survival rates have increased.

He noted that nine Rotarians are cancer survivors, including himself. Most families have been **MORTON** BUILDINGS, INC. **Grain Storage Structures**





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