



Wilma Wiseman, left, and Delores Keiswetter, both members of the Norton Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Club have achieved and maintained the status of KOPS (Keep Off Pounds Sensibly) for over 25 years. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

# Commission asks for plans from department heads

By VERONICA MONIER

The Norton County Commissioners want the non-elected department supervisors to get a plan put together saying what they will be working on this year and when.

Commissioner John Miller told Noxious Weed Supervisor Reggie Beckman at Monday's meeting that they were concerned because they never get reports from him on what he and his crew are doing.

"We don't know what your plan is," he said.

Mr. Beckman said he just finished his annual report for 2005 that needs to be signed and turned into the state by Feb. 15. He said now, they were doing maintenance, but they were almost done with that.

Mr. Miller said the problem was that they were just doing busy work.

"We'll be talking to all of the department heads," he said. "Our concern is there's two full-time people out there (at Noxious Weed) who might need some more to do. It's not a good use of the taxpayers' dollars."

"We'd like to know what you're doing, what your plan is for maintenance, your yearly plan. That way, we can see if we need to assign you some other duties."

He said Mr. Beckman needed to report to the commission on a regular basis that way they knew when he was going to meetings and what training he'll be taking this year.

Mr. Miller said there will be prisoner training sometime soon and they were looking at sending him and the other noxious weed employee, that way there would be back-up at the landfill if needed.

He said they wanted his schedule of meetings so they would know if they could send him.

"We're asking everyone for a meeting schedule, not just you," he said.

Commissioner Leroy Lang asked when Mr. Beckman planned on starting the yearly spraying.

Mr. Beckman said probably around April 1.

Mr. Miller said he needed to talk to Solid Waste Supervisor Curt Archibald and Road and Bridge Supervisor Tom Brannan to get a spraying schedule set up for the landfill, roads, bridges and ditches.

In other business, the commission:

- Heard from Mr. Archibald that the prisoner training would be on Feb. 1 and then either March 6 and 7 or March 13 and 14.

- Told Mr. Archibald that they toured the landfill last week and would like to see the weeds cleaned up. Either they need to be mowed or burned off, the commission said. Also, the fence on the north sides needs to be torn off and evened up. They told him to talk to the Kansas Department and Health and Environment to see if a grant was available to help pay for that. They said he also needed to talk to the neighboring landowners to see if they would have a problem with the fence being taken out.

- Asked Mr. Archibald to get a yearly plan together and bring it back to them.

- Heard from Mr. Archibald that BG Consultants recommended that the berm in between the first and second pits should not be taken out.

- Heard from Mr. Brannan that in order to get premiums down on their equipment, they need to get figures together on what the equipment is actually worth, rather than what it cost when they originally bought it.

- Learned from Mr. Brannan that the final cost of the snow storm this fall was \$14,664.03 for labor and equipment.

- Received the annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress Report for 2005 from Mr. Beckman. The report included information such as the estimated acreage of noxious weeds, herbicide disbursement, an enforcement summary, treatment, and the financial summary. The report said in the county, noxious weed treated 4,720.5 acres bindweed; 7,156.7 acres of musk thistle; 1,423.6 acres of Canada thistle; 62 acres of Johnson grass; and 2.7 acres of bur ragweed.

- Told Ambulance Director Andy Nielsen that the county wasn't chosen to receive a grant to build a new ambulance building. Most of those who received grants put up half or more than half of the match money for the total cost of the projects.

- Received a demonstration from Mr. Nielsen and Assistant Director Ruth Schillig on the department's training mannequin. In the demonstration, they showed that the current mannequin isn't sufficient because of age and condition. Three bids were presented with the low bid being \$1,297.35 plus shipping. However, the bid of \$1,299.89 included free shipping. The commission approved the request for a new mannequin.

## Losers gain from local club

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

In 1966, Dorothy Stuvick and 12 others organized the first Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Club in Norton.

Over the years the club has had as many as 50 members. In 2006, the number is 24. Members come from Norton, Logan and Beaver City.

Anyone, men, women, and children over the age of 7, with a weight problem is invited. Members must have their weight loss goal and their diet set by their doctor.

TOPS is a support group.

Weigh-in is private and confidential.

Every week members hear a lesson on health issues and have contests with prizes and charms awarded as incentives.

Two members of the local club are members of Keep Off Pounds Sensibly (KOPS). Delores Keiswetter has maintained her weight loss goal for 27 years while Wilma Wiseman has been at her goal for 29 years.

Chapter dues are 50 cents a week and \$24 to join. Included in that fee is a subscription to the

monthly TOPS News.

In addition to the weekly meetings in the basement conference room at Norton County Hospital, members may attend the annual state and international rallies. Some members have already made their reservations for the international rally to be held this July in Atlanta, Ga.

An open house to celebrate the 40th anniversary of TOPS in Norton will be held at 7 p.m., Monday, Jan. 23, in the hospital basement conference room. Everyone is invited to attend.

## Auction Sunday to benefit center

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

Step right up, folks. What-am-I-bid?

An auction to benefit The Rock Christian Youth Center will get started at 2 p.m. Sunday at the center at the corner of Main and State in downtown Norton. Auctioneer Duane McEwen will conduct the sale of donated items.

Up for bids will be: two green fees from Prairie Dog Golf Club; a leather, Dale Earnhardt jacket from Hall's Clothing; an electric guitar from Thunderchord Guitar; free movie passes from Norton

Theatre; car wash tokens from Norton Car Wash; an electric toothbrush from Dr. Craig Krizek; a \$50 gift certificate from Pure Prairie Natural Foods Store; a power tool from Felton's Ace Hardware; five vehicles; a boat.

Some of the other contributing donors include: Mortensen Computers, Bridges Insurance, Western Distributing, Computer Pro, NexTech, Pizza Hut/Taco Bell, Adventures In Eating, Dairy Queen, End Zone, Norton Animal health Clinic, Patterson Plumbing, Zwicke Accounting, Jays Wood-

working and Norton FFA.

Some local youngsters are also offering themselves to be put on the auction block. They will work an agreed number of hours for the highest bidder.

Organizations are encouraged to take a tour of the building to see how they might use it. The Rock's board of directors will make the facility available to other groups for special events.

Planned events at The Rock include Junior High Nights, fifth quarters after home games, Family Nights, Unprom for freshmen and sophomores and Super Bowl parties.

For more information about the auction or The Rock, call Trent Richmond at 871-0368.



A winter scene in the main lobby display case greets visitors at Eisenhower Elementary School. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

## Friends rally for accident victim

A medical relief and expense fund has been set up to help the family of a Norton man recently injured in a power takeoff accident.

Warren Harting, Norton, lost a leg in a farm accident last Saturday. He is hospitalized in Lincoln where he has undergone several surgeries.

Mr. Harting has been a board member of Norton's home-owned

carnival organization since it began 15 years ago in 1991. The group has started a fund to help his family with medical and traveling expenses. The community is invited to add their support by making donations at First Security Bank, P.O. Box 383, Norton, Kan. 67654.

For more information on how you can help, call Deb Eveleigh, 877-5452.

## Grief support offered Tuesday

Rosalie McMullen and Dorothy Chandler went to a course, "Comprehensive Bereavement Skills Training" at the Center for Loss and Life Transition in Fort Collins, Colo.

The women will lead a grief support group meeting at 7 p.m., Tuesday at the Norton Christian Church.

The group helps bereaved people by providing a supportive environment that re-awaken their zest for life and countering the sense of isolation many experience.

Everyone is welcome. If you have any questions, you may call Mrs. McMullen at 877-3026.

## Norton churches celebrate life

Jan. 22 is Sanctity of Life Sunday. Two area churches will have special services Sunday.

During the 10:40 a.m. worship service at Norton Christian Church, Victoria Ward, Copeland, will speak on her struggles of coming to find faith after having an abortion.

Following the service, youth from one of the Sunday School

classes will give away free lollipops in exchange for a donation to the Norton Kansans For Life Chapter.

The Rev. Rick Rostek of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Norton, will have a special order of service to recognize Sanctity of Life Sunday. Worship services start at 10:30 a.m.



**Congratulations**

**Willie and Thanks for 45 Years!**

*Happy Retirement!!!*

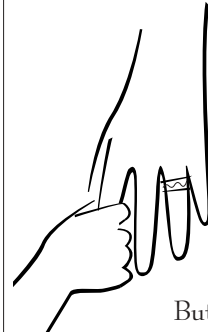
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### A BABY'S PRAYER

—WORDS BY KATHY TROCCOLI



I can hear her talking with a friend  
I think it's all about me  
Oh how she can't have a baby now  
My Mommy doesn't see

That I feel her breathe, I know her voice  
Her blood it flows through my heart  
God you know my greatest wish is that  
We'd never be apart

But if I should die before I wake  
I pray her soul you'll keep  
Forgive her Lord — she doesn't know  
That you gave life to me

Do I really have to say good-bye  
don't want this time to be through  
Oh please tell her that I love her, Lord  
And that you love her too

On the days when she may think of me, Please comfort her  
with the truth, That the angels hold me safe and sound  
'Cause I'm in Heaven with you.

**Kansans for Life**

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all that have been affected by abortion

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