

# OBITUARIES

## Iva Lea 'Dottie' (Goeken) Suydam

April 10, 1923 - March 12, 2009

Iva Lea "Dottie" (Goeken) Suydam, was born on April 10, 1923, and died in Boise, Idaho on March 12, 2009 at the age of 85.



Iva Lea Suydam

She was born in Edmond to John Goeken and Nora McCormick Goeken. Her childhood was spent in Norton County. She later followed her big brother Bill to Boise where she met and married Robert A. Suydam, who

was stationed at Mountain Home Air Force Base. They made their home in Boise and raised three beautiful boys. Dottie worked for Mountain Bell, St. Alphonsus Hospital and more than 20 years for Boise City Hall, from where she retired. In her early years, she volunteered as a Cub Scout Den Mother for her sons' troops and later was a permanent fixture at all her grandchildren's athletic events. She loved to bowl, garden and walk with the Happy Hoofers. She was a member of the Ten Mile Christian Church and active with various senior citizen groups.

Dottie is survived by her sons and

their spouses; Greg and wife Jane Suydam, Gene Suydam, Michael and wife Bernadine Suydam; her brother, Norman and wife Faye Goeken of Colby; sister-in-law Pauline Goeken of Lenora; seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her former spouse Robert A. Suydam, and several brothers and sisters. The family suggests that memorials be made to the Alzheimer's Association and Ten Mile Christian Church.

Services were held on Tuesday, March 17 at 1 p.m. at the Dry Creek Cemetery in Boise.

## Mary Lucille Stackhouse

April 11, 1915 - March 29, 2009

Mary Lucille Stackhouse, born on April 11, 1915, died at the Rush County Nursing Home on March 29, 2009, at the age of 93.

She was born in rural Jewell County to Charlie E. and Martha E. (Crumley) White. She was raised in Jewell County and graduated from Lebanon High School in 1933. She attended Fort Hays State University and received her teaching certificate.

On April 11, 1936, she married Walter Raymond Stackhouse in Mankato. From 1946 to 1967, she worked with her husband in the Stackhouse Market in Jennings. She lived in Alma, Lebanon,

Norton and Jennings. She was a member of the Jennings United Methodist Church, Tuesday Study Club, United Methodist Women and the Jennings Legion Auxiliary. Her hobbies included sewing and reading.

Survivors include her son, Donald and wife Leota Stackhouse, Roseville, Calif.; daughters Peggy and husband Terry Highfill, La Crosse and Linda and husband Carl Wahlmeier, Jennings; brother, Robert and wife Theona White, Bellflower, Calif.; sister, Edna Gartrell, Stockton; nine grandchildren 14 great-grandchildren and 7 step-great-

grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Walter, a brother, Wayne White, and a sister, Dorothy Jean Jamison.

Funeral services will be Wednesday at 11 a.m. at the Jennings United Methodist Church, with Pastor Carrie Buhler presiding. Interment will take place at the Jennings Cemetery. Visitation is today from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to the time of service.

Memorials may be made to the Jennings United Methodist Church, Whispering Pines or the Rush County Nursing Home.

## Charley Thomas Kent

Sept. 24, 1936 - March 29, 2009

Charley Thomas Kent, son of William Luther and Visa Belle (Grimes) Kent, was born Sept. 24, 1936, in Lenora, and died at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney on March 29, 2009, at the age of 72.

Charley grew up in the Lenora community and attended the local schools. On Nov. 22, 1962, Charley and Judith Sandra Senter were united in marriage in Edgewater, Colo. They made their home in Denver before moving to Norton in 1985. After one year, they returned to Denver for a year and then came back to Norton, where

he was a school custodian. Charley had been in the Air National Guard as a Master Sergeant, and after serving in Vietnam, he retired from civil service.

Charley was a member of the First Church of God in Norton and the Harmonson-Redd American Legion Post #63.

Survivors include: his wife, Judith, of Norton; one son and his wife, Derek and Marie Kent, Arvada, Colo.; two daughters, Denise Kent and Jolene and husband, Mike Ward, Ellis; two brothers, Bill and wife, Aggie Kent, Yuma, Ariz., and Merle Schulze of Cali-

fornia; four grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, other relatives and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, one sister, three half-sisters, one step-brother, and two step-sisters.

Funeral services will be Thursday at 11 a.m. at the First Church of God in Norton, with military honors provided by the Harmonson-Redd American Legion Post #63. Interment will follow at the Norton Cemetery.

Friends may call at Enfield Funeral Home on Wednesday from 3 p.m. until 8 p.m.

# Uncle shares 'Dirty 30s' memories

My husband's Uncle Herb wrote his memoirs a few years back. In them he vividly described his experiences during the infamous Dirty 30's era. We in the plains states have heard about it all our lives but those who lived through it are almost all in their 90's, soon to be gone and their stories along with them. I feel these stories are valuable and should be shared. This is just an edited excerpt due to space limitations.

A picture hangs on the wall of my dining room here in Florida. It portrays a dust storm in western Kansas, one of the events that was a major cause of the onset of the depression years. Perhaps you would like to hear about the conditions that existed when I was growing up on a farm seven miles northwest of Otis, Kansas. I was ten years old when I experienced my first dust storm in 1929

My folks had gone into town leaving me and my younger brothers and sisters at home. I was studying my school books at the kitchen table, which was covered with white oilcloth. We began to notice dust in the air and then high winds outside. Mom and Dad came back about ten o'clock and said the dust was so bad they could hardly see the road. I picked up my books and where they had been was completely white while all around them the table was black with dust. We had never seen a dust storm before but we were to see a lot of them before the year was over.

In fact, they got so bad and came so often we put wet newspapers in the windowsill cracks and slept

## Child of the 40s

Liza Deines



with wet handkerchiefs over our faces at night. The dust generally rolled in about three in the afternoon, sometimes from the south, other days from the north. South wind brought red dust from Oklahoma dirt. Dust from the north was black from Nebraska soil.

Schools were dismissed when a report of an approaching dust storm came in so we could get home before it hit. I was in high school in town and got caught in the dust driving home. A neighbor girl was riding with me and she watched the side of the road so we wouldn't go in the ditch while I watched the brass radiator cap to keep us straight. We made it but it was quite a ride. Downtown the street lights were turned on midday. The sun was obliterated altogether by the thickness of the dust. When we were at home and saw a dust storm approaching we went to the cellar, which was a cave dugout with steps leading down. After the storm was over we would come out into a dense fog of dust still hanging in the air.

The only vegetation that would grow was a weed we called Russian thistles. We cut these and stacked them with salt blocks on top to provide winter feed for the cattle and horses. The problem was that when the thistles

matured they grew in a big ball. The wind broke them loose from their roots and sent them rolling across the pastures until a barbed wire fence caught them. The dust piled up three and four feet high in the clusters of thistles and the cattle walked right over the fence to go wandering away in the storm. On top of that, the dust was charged with electricity so when the storms continued into the night the barbed wire fences would be aglow and that would stampede our horses. A real electrical storm would leave growing wheat burned black in the fields.

The worst year I remember we had put out two hundred acres of wheat. At harvest time we cut a total of one hundred eighty bushels of wheat that was so dry and shriveled even the chickens couldn't eat it. Dad had to make a \$200 payment on the combine and wheat was selling for twenty-seven cents a bushel. He had borrowed \$2000 to buy that combine, the only item he ever bought "on time" and it took ten years to pay it off. We were raised to pay cash or do without.

When a spring finally brought rain again we kids took off our shoes and ran barefoot through the ponds that formed in the buffalo wallows in the pasture.

Uncle Herb lives in Florida now, plays golf and performs as Herbo the Clown for children's hospitals and at nursing homes. There are a lot more stories to share in future columns from his long and interesting life.

Thanks for the memories, Uncle Herb!

# Club hears development motto, goals

By JEAN WHITE

Special to The Telegram

GFWC Mid-Century met on March 26 at the home of Karen Cox. Beverly Kindler, president, called the meeting to order with "A goal is a dream with a deadline" from "Words to Live By." Ms. Kindler introduced the guest speaker, Diane Becker, director of Norton City/County Economic Development.

Miss Becker said this group was formed in 2005 with the mission statement, "Norton County Economic Development is a county-wide partnership dedicated to enhancing the economic strength of the county by recruiting new employers, retaining existing employers and improving the quality of life for all of Norton County." As a group, they would identify the community's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. They would then focus on three primary goals — job creation, downtown development and housing.

The Board of Directors is composed of 12 representatives from the City of Norton, County of Norton, City of Alma, City of Lenora, City of Edmond and the City of Clayton. Funding is divided between these entities.

Some of the successful projects are the Buy Local Week, Washington Street Park, iron street signs, State Street parking lot, and the Demolition Assistance Program. Also some of the current projects are a business directory, wind energy, the Storefront Renewal Project and the historic district. She said if you want more information, go to [www.discovernorton.com](http://www.discovernorton.com).

Ms. Kindler reported that Darlene McEwen and Rosalie McMullen's entries in the 6th District GFWC Creative Writing Contest have won 1st place. They will be entered into the GFWC state competition.

During the business meeting, Eunice Neiltopp announced that Mid-Century will deliver Meals On Wheels from March 30 to April 12. Lynn Nelson reported that the annual pie sale will be at the Norton Senior Center on April 2. There have been 60 posters placed in windows all around Norton announcing the sale.

Roll call was answered by 17 members with "My Wish For Norton County." Many different wishes were expressed, but it was

also noted that we have many good things going for the area.

The next meeting will be April 16 at the Norton Public Library Community Room, with guest Shirley Reynolds. Please bring scissors, a ruler and a pencil. Also, dues will be due.

## READERS

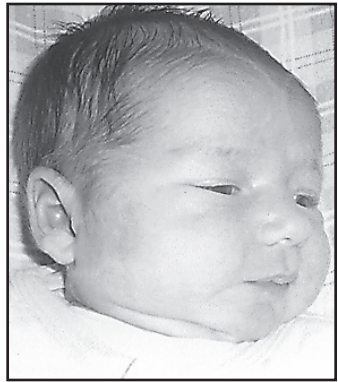
— Notice of the annual business meeting of The Rock Christian Youth Center on April 13 at 7 p.m. at The Rock.

— Steak and Seafood Night, Thursday, 6-9 p.m., Norton American Legion. Members and guests welcome.

Have a Great Birthday Grandpa Gil

You look fine for being 69!

## It's a girl!



Emma Alise Collins

Emma Alise Collins was born on March 1, 2009 at the Norton County Hospital to Troy and Sara Collins. She was 8 pounds, 2 ounces and 19 inches long.

She has two sisters, Darrien, 13, and Ainsley, 2 and a half.

Grandparents are Raymond and Ardith Scheetz, Clayton; Carla Collins and Terry Minshall, Norton; and the late Terry Collins.

Great-grandparents are Ida Thibault, Smith Center and the late Jerry Thibault; Jim and Marge Collins, Truth or Consequence, NM; and the late Leland Pearl Dwinell and Leonard and Marie Scheetz.

## Bridge time is coming

By JAKE DURHAM  
Special Contributor

There is a feeling of anticipation in the air as city crews are busy changing street signs that read Goren Boulevard, Slam Avenue, No-Trump Street, etc. Bed and Breakfast operators are gearing up for another bonanza season as Holiday directors Karl Kohfeld and Joe Herman report that it will be another year before that project will be open for occupancy, therefore the Norton American Legion, two blocks north of the intersection of US highways 36 and 283, will be the site of the tournament.

The Norton National Bridge Tournament will celebrate its twentieth anniversary as it begins play this spring and tournament director Jake Durham extends an invitation to all of you bridge players from beginners to seasoned players to make this an extraordinary year with your participation. As usual the tournament will be played on three successive Thursday evenings beginning April the sixteenth, the first Thursday after Easter. Starting time is 7:00 PM. Entry fee is \$5.00 per person for the entire tournament. Participants need to bring their own partners and the substitute rule will allow one or both members to have a substitute if either one or both partners aren't available on a given evening.

This is strictly a fun tournament, Contract or Party Bridge will be

the game and organizations and groups are asked to make concessions to accommodate participation in the tournament.

Call Jake Durham at (785) 877-2400 to enter or send entries to Jake Durham at 414 N. First, Norton, Kan. 67654. Or at last resort, enter at the tournament site.

## 'Smart' program nears

Certified Conscious Discipline Instructors will present "Conscious Discipline: Becoming Brain Smart" at the Norton Christian Church from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 18.

The only cost is \$5.50 for the meal. You must pre-register by calling 888-351-3589 by April 14th.

The meeting is open for anyone who comes into contact with children, and those who care about children and the future of our nation. We urge parents and providers to attend.

Research shows that Conscious Discipline:

- Increases cooperation
- Decreases problem behav-

- Decreases aggressive acts
- Increases academic scores
- Increases teaching time
- Increases parenting effectiveness
- Creates a positive home and school climate
- There is a better way than time out and nagging.

Instructors will introduce Conscious Discipline structure for success which include: implementing the time machine, teaching jobs and responsibility, creating a safe place and choices.

You don't have to be an army drill sergeant — there is a better way. For more information please call 877-3026.

The family of  
**Leo and Jerry Stalder**

Would like you to help them  
celebrate their parents'

**"55th Anniversary"**  
with a Card Shower

Cards and letters will reach them at:  
70481 Road 434, Stamford, NE 68977-3014

We're Doing It Again!

**PIE SALE**

\$1.50 Per Serving

**Thursday, April 2**  
**9:30 a.m.**  
**Norton Senior Center**  
— Free Coffee —  
SPONSORED BY  
**Mid-Century Federated Club**

March 27 - April 1

Showing at the  
**NORTON THEATRE**  
**Monsters VS Aliens**  
(PG) 1 Hour, 44 Minutes (Presented in Digital Surround Sound)

**Friday and Saturday: 8:00 p.m.**  
**Sunday: 5:00 p.m.**  
**Mon., Tues., Wed.: 7:00 p.m.**

**Taken**  
(PLAYING ONE WEEK ONLY)  
1 Hour, 44 Minutes (PG)

Since both movies are non-premieres, all passes accepted

Both movies are the general admission price of \$6.00-\$5.00  
\$3.00/Ticket for Either Movie this Sunday)

**Race to Witch Mountain**  
**Hannah Montana: The Movie**  
**Knowing**

**COMING SOON**

This ad is brought to you by The Norton Telegram