

# Service group here to assist

By DANA PAXTON

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The crisis intervention service group Options met with commissioners on Monday to update them on the results of the past year.

Dennis Becking and the new director, Sharon Leueneeger of Options Domestic and Sexual Violence Services, thanked commissioners for their past support and reported that their company served 15 domestic abuse victims and eight sexual assault victims in Norton County last year. This is up from 2012 when they helped nine domestic violence victims and five sexual assault victims. They also reported that from Jan. 1 to April 15 of this year they have served a total of 162 victims.

"We are making people aware of our services," Becking said,

"and with those services comes a high cost. There was 28 billion dollars spent on domestic violence services and 127 billion on sexual assault services last year total. This costs the communities and counties long term issues and we want to better serve the communities."

The cost to run the shelter per day in 2013 was \$483.61 and the cost for the crisis line was \$414.25 so they came asking for more financial assistance. For the last two years Norton County gave \$541.80 to each, and this year Options is hoping that the county will be able to help with a larger sum.

Rural America is one of the hardest places to deal with cases such as these because everyone knows everyone and they are hidden crimes. But, by educating the public and offering these

services more people are coming forward and reporting them because someone is there who will believe them.

"Both sexual and domestic violence survive in silence and we want to give people a place to turn," Becking said.

Services offered include 24-hour crisis intervention, one on one counseling, a personal advocacy, support groups, safety planning, a shelter, community referrals and public education programs. They want of break the cycle of abuse and have offered to come and help the communities affected by this type of violence. Abuse of any form impacts a community but there is hope for help. Options serves 18 counties in northwest Kansas and has offices in Hays and Colby.

## LYLE NEWS

By Veda Wood

Family and friends of Dwight Wood packed the LaCocina restaurant in McCook, Neb. Friday evening for a memorial to his name. Members of his first band, Homegrown, played and sang, followed by more music and visiting. We all hated to see him go, but he had put in his time and stayed happy and kept us happy for 58 years. In case anyone feels that Good Friday wasn't a good time for it, can you think of a date that was more joyous for God, who welcomed his own son back home on that date? On Sunday evening, we all met at the 'old farm'; reminisced and scattered ashes, according to his wishes, and took some to the Lyle Cemetery. Teresa made a fast trip to eastern Kansas to visit her family.

David and Merlin Wood were here for a few days and left April 21. Tracey Pershing and her daughter, Brooke, were in Norcat and Oberlin over the weekend and most of Tielia's family, Mariah, Garrett and Grant. We are thankful for all the visits, I couldn't remember them all if I tried.

Easter Sunrise service couldn't have been on a nicer day. The old orange sun came up right on time, then clouds covered it. We had a delicious breakfast at the Community Building, and although our number gets less, we still have enjoyable conversations. Katherine, Carolyn Plotts's sister, was there from Orlando, Fla. Their brother, Bob Kelly lost his battle with cancer, but he, also, was ready to go on.

Toots Magers played pinochle at Norcat on Thursday, then paid a visit to David and Merlin Wood. Her daughter, Jane, came to the Lyle dinner.

Lloyd Frandsen and Kathy Van Meter had Easter dinner at the home of his daughter, Beth and Ken Houghtelling.

June Jolly spent Easter at granddaughter, Jennifer's. Dean Jolly took his daughter, Kim, Zavier, and kids to Fort Morgan, Colo., to visit Sarah and new baby Quinn Madison, seven pounds, 20 inches.

Spring is here, and, we hope, to stay. Wheat fields and pastures, as well as lawns are getting greener, fruit and flowering trees are in bloom, and flowers, of course. We probably appreciate these things more than folks who have them all winter.

The garden patches are being worked. Toots Magers's family did lots of work for her and she's ready to plant. Evan Unger, who she calls her favorite truck driver, saw her bringing her groceries from her car, stopped and helped her take them to her house. Now, that is a good neighbor.

June Jolly attended a birthday party at Melvin Thielbars in McCook, Neb.

It's time for schools to have concerts, graduations, etc. When you have graduations at different schools for different kids and grandkids, what do you do? They know we love them all.

People who paid me short visits last week were: Tielia and Aubrey High, Teresa Wood, Tom and Cheryl Baker, Stan Applegate and Bob Beachel, who brought his tractor and worked up part of my backyard.

The trouble I have been complaining about in my throat suddenly got well, thanks be to the Lord.

Catherine, sister of Carolyn Plotts, visited the Lyle Church again on Sunday. She will be here until after her brother, Bob Kelly's memorial.

Happy birthday and congratulations to great-granddaughter Mariah Bader who will graduate from high school on her birthday, May 10.

Thanks to all my family and

friends for cards, good wishes, gifts and a nice Mexican dinner on my 91st birthday Friday, with Larry and Sandy McNames and Carol Moye.

Toots Magers had word from Lynn Scrivner that Martha Scrivner Mack, who was visiting here, that she had fallen and hurt her hip. They didn't know if it was broken, but she was taken to the Kearney, Neb. hospital, promising to give more information later. Toots' family came to the Lyle dinner Sunday and did lots of work for her.

We were sorry to hear that Jerry Wescott was flown to Kearney, Neb., with a massive heart attack. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Joyce Price's daughter, Linda Jurey, is helping Joyce get out and around and brought her to Lyle for church and dinner on Sunday. Eleven people enjoyed a good meal and a good time.

Kathy Van Meter and Lloyd Frandsen attended the comedy, "Basement church ladies" at McCook, Neb. Thursday evening.

June Jolly took part in a 'quilt day' on Friday where the guest speaker showed appliqued quilts. She had made around 50, and had all the instructions and materials to teach whoever was interested. June played bingo, cards and is still swimming.

Teresa Wood went to an Allen Jackson concert on Friday with tickets Dwight had given her earlier.



## NORCATUR NEWS

Senior citizens met on April 18, in the Educational Building to play Pitch. There were 14 players present, Jackie Porter, Gust Foth and Sherrie Regal were all winners. The next meeting was on May 2, in the Educational Building.

Norcat held its 2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt this year! Young and old alike came to enjoy the day. There were 44 kids ready to fill their baskets with the 865 eggs that volunteers hid. The library had prizes for each child that came to celebrate with us. We really appreciate all the help of those who volunteered to hide the eggs and a big thank you to the City of Norcat, the Norcat Volunteer Firemen and the Norcat Public Library for sponsoring it!

Easter weekend was such a wonderful weekend for families to be together. The house guests of Bee Nelson over the Easter weekend were son, Todd Nelson and grandson Garrett Nelson and their three dogs, Lola, Star and Grizzly. There was a "Honey Do List" to be completed, and it was finished with haste! They accompanied Bee to church for Easter Service. They returned to Wichita on Sunday afternoon.

On April 18, Gust Foth cel-

ebrated his birthday in Norton at Las Canteras with Kay Foth, Noah and Morgan Bristol, DeAnna Foth, Baylee, Bladen and Jeremiah Johnson, Kimber Robinson and Paul Foth, Lenora. Gust and Kay Foth had a house full for Easter weekend, Saturday evening their supper guests included their daughter Karen Bristol and granddaughter Hope, Aurora, Colo., Noah and Morgan Bristol, Kimber Robinson, DeAnna Foth, Baylee, Bladen and Jay Johnson. For Easter supper they had the same group of friends and family plus a few more, Fred Mohlzahn, Paul Foth and Jesse Bebb, Lenora.

Toots Magers celebrated her 96th birthday and was very appreciative of all the cards, calls, flowers and food she received from all of her friends and family.

Others celebrating their birthday this week are Gary Anthony, Greg Sumner, Yonne Sumner and Gerald Jackson. Les and Lynn Ward are also celebrating their anniversary this weekend!

The Norcat Citizens Alliance received several donations for the Elden Auker Park Bathroom Fund. Gary and Cathy Anthony donated in memory

of Beth Johnson, Alice Shirley, Dwight Wood and Les Vanover. Wava Reames donated in memory of R.L. "Bob" Crabill. Terry and Barbara Lyon donated in memory of Alice Shirley. Lee and Patricia Sebaugh also donated. Please help us complete the park with a bathroom!

Reminders for this week.

The sirens are tested every Monday at 10 a.m., unless inclement weather, a solid whistle for one minute means that everything is all clear, if the siren is up and down for two minutes that is the tornado whistle and you need to take cover. Remember all cell phone numbers go public this month and are being released to telemarketing companies, you will be charged for these calls! To prevent this, call 888-382-1222, this is the National do not call list, call it from a different phone number. This will block your number for five years. There is a county-wide burn ban! Absolutely no fires! Free Dump Days at the Decatur County Landfill were May 2, and May 3, each household is allowed one free dump. The City will not pick it up this year, you are responsible for hauling away your own trash.

## Baked goods for a good cause...



The Norton Church of God Relay For Life team held a bake sale last Saturday at Jamboree Foods and raised over \$500 to help in the fight against cancer. Destination Kitchen, Town & Country Kitchen and Jamboree Foods assisted the effort by donating space and containers for the baked goods. Team members involved were (from left to right) Trent Alexander, Makayla Alexander, Brandon Herman, Lisa Herman, Darilyn Peterson, Kelli Alexander and Chelle Millan. Customer Donna Garrison is seen making a purchase from the group to show her support.

— Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

## Attorney General makes request

Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt on April 25, asked a three-judge panel to dismiss part of a school funding lawsuit because additional funds appropriated by the Legislature and signed into law this week by Governor Brownback satisfy the requirements of the Kansas Supreme Court.

In a filing before a special three-judge panel in Topeka that is hearing the case, Schmidt noted that the recently enacted school funding bill fully funds equalization aid for school districts' local option budgets and capital outlay budgets. Because

those two matters have now been fully funded, Schmidt asked the panel to end the litigation regarding those two matters.

"The Legislature has acted timely and in good faith to fully and conclusively address the inequities in the funding of capital outlay state aid and supplemental general state aid which the Kansas Supreme Court found necessary to satisfy the requirements of Article 6, Section 6 of the Kansas Constitution," the attorney general wrote. "Because those constitutional infirmities are now cured, there is nothing

more for the panel to do with regard to the equity claims."

The Kansas Supreme Court ruled in March that current funding was inequitably distributed and also directed the three-judge panel to assess whether overall funding was "adequate" to be considered reasonably calculated to result in appropriate student learning. If the panel agrees to dismiss the equity claims, Friday's filing then requests a conference to determine the schedule for addressing the adequacy issues.

## The Norton Andbe Home is acknowledging Nursing Home Week MAY 11-17 by Celebrating Our Staff and 67 Residents

### NURSING STAFF: Joyce Cropp, D.O.N.

Eurika Abarca  
Clorisa Abel  
Lindsay Addington  
Megan Arehart  
Nancy Arehart  
Emily Bader  
Ashley Bailey  
Vicki Baker  
Lelani Bell  
Brenda Brake  
Katrina Brassfield  
Mandi Brill  
Diana Brown  
Nancy Carlton  
Crystal Clapp  
Janet Conn  
Ronee Craig  
Natalie Davis  
Melissa Delimont  
Sheridan Dillehay  
Kerri Donahay  
Chelsey Eberle  
Janice Ebner  
Jessica Ebner  
Lori Ebner  
Tracy Engelhardt  
Melanie Ewing  
Melisa Fowler  
Theresa Gallegos  
Melissa Galvan  
Karen Gebhard  
Jordyn Gosselin  
Louisa Gosselin  
Wanda Graham  
Bethany Greeson  
Brian Hartman  
Tamara Haussermann  
Leann Henderson  
Sheena Herrick  
Joan Hessler  
Stephanie Johnson

Alasia Kenney  
Karen Kitzke  
Jennifer Koerperich  
Heidi Lane-Davis  
Alexis Lively  
JoAnn Long  
Amanda Majors  
Sherry Martin  
Sally May  
Lorraine McClain  
Ashley McGee  
Klarchen McKenzie  
Donna Millan  
Gina Miller—  
MDS Coordinator  
Edward O'Rourke III  
Kyla Peterson  
Carla Pharis  
Elizabeth Reaves  
Kathy Runnion  
Rachael Rushton  
Christine Rutherford  
Alisha Simmons  
Wendy Sloan  
Tanya Snyder  
Kynzie Stevens  
Tonya Stoll  
Brittany Sweet  
Cody Temmel  
Mercedes Thomas  
Adrienne Vacura  
Laurie Vsetecka  
Alice Whitt  
Kellie Whittenburg  
Amanda Wiltfong  
Carolyne Wiseman  
LeAnn Wyatt  
RESIDENT  
RESOURCES:  
Natasha Gordon  
Darlene McEwen—  
RR Director  
Wiyanna Paxton

### ADMINISTRATION STAFF:

Nancy McGinnis—  
Administrator  
Becky Hopson  
JoLynn Lockhart  
Bradena Stagemeyer  
DIETARY:  
James Anderson  
Makayla Cadwalader  
Leif Carlson  
Cheryl Crumbaker  
Skylar Davis  
Ashley Goodwin  
Ashley Hildebrand  
Eric Hjort—  
Dietary Manager  
Jessica Hjort  
Heather Lawson  
Mary Mann  
Carla Jo Robinson  
Ronnie Robinson  
Ashley Simants  
Bonnie Sweigart  
Jessica White  
Christia Williams  
LAUNDRY/  
HOUSEKEEPING:  
Nathan Beckman  
Heather Cole  
Letisha Foley  
Ellen Gibson—  
ESD Director  
Pryor Harrington  
Kathern Lindsay  
Meaghan Peterson  
Paula Snider  
Belinda Turman  
MAINTENANCE:  
Christopher Andrews—  
Maintenance Supervisor  
Chance McGinnis  
Ford Wiltrout

We greatly appreciate all the support we get from our board members, volunteers, area businesses and the Norton Community