



Jeff Soper, owner of Jeff's Junktiques, carried a used air conditioner out for a customer Tuesday afternoon. Swans flap their wings on an Asian-style room divider (below) that is for sale in the shop. Photos by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

## Businesses to close for 4th

The Goodland Star-News office will be closed on Friday. To be sure our customers have their newspaper before the holiday, it is being delivered a day early, on Thursday. Banks, the post office, all federal, state, county and city offices and many businesses will be closed on Friday to celebrate the Fourth of July and the nation's birthday. Wal-Mart and Orschlen's will be open on Friday, Rasure's Lumber will be closed on Friday, but will be open on Saturday. Bubba's Meat Block will be open on Friday. Most Goodland restaurants plan to be open Friday, but Butterfly Cafe will close at 2 p.m. Crazy R's will be closed on Friday, and open on Saturday. The Daylight Donut shop will be closed Friday and Saturday. Under state law Kear's, Avallanche and Garrett's liquor stores will be closed on Friday, but will reopen on Saturday.

## Domestic violence programs fall short

**By Sharon Corcoran**  
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Kansas programs to help victims of domestic and sexual violence are in step with the national average in providing services, even ahead in some areas, but both in Kansas and nationally, some who need help are being turned away. The National Network to End Domestic Violence conducted its second annual 24-hour census count of shelters and services on Sept. 25, said Charlotte Linsner, program director for Northwest Kansas Domestic and Sexual Violence Services in Hays, which serves Sherman County, and the national statistics are staggering. During one day, she said, 53,203 victims received services (an average of 1,029 per state); 20,582 hotline crisis calls were answered (average of 396 per state); and 7,707 requests went unmet due to money and staff shortages (average of 148 per state). Unmet needs included a place to stay, childcare, mental health and substance abuse counseling and legal help. In Kansas, she said, 1,063 victims were served, 300 hotline crisis calls were answered, 274 victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing and 789 adults and children got nonresidential services. All of the programs provided individual counseling or advocacy, she said, but only 22 percent received transitional housing.

During that day, 141 victims' needs went unmet in Kansas, Linsner said, mostly due to a lack of staff. Seventy-four percent of Kansas programs have fewer than 20 paid staff, she said. While the northwest Kansas program has grown from five to 13 people in the past two years to better serve the 18 counties, she said, each day the program faces the issues of not enough money, staff or time to meet the needs of rural Kansas victims. Only through the help of volunteers, neighbors and donors can the program meet victims' needs, she said. The program served 229 victims from Jan. 1 through May 31, Linsner said, answered 180 crisis calls, found shelter for 43 adults and 25 children and had volunteers spend 2,326.75 hours helping victims. The program's 24-hour toll-free crisis line in Kansas is (800) 794-4624. Outside Kansas, it is (785) 625-3055. The program provides 24-hour crisis intervention, Linsner said, along with personal, confidential, nonjudgmental support, safety planning, safe shelter, community referrals, one-on-one counseling, support groups, personal advocacy and public education. Nearly 120 people, businesses, churches, organizations and governments in northwest Kansas donated to the program during the first half of this year, she said.

## 'Junk-tiques' shop open

**By Sharon Corcoran**  
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If you don't know what you're shopping for, it's the perfect place to look, because you never know what you'll find. From hand-carved teak furniture to brand-new speakers, vinyl records, platform shoes, dolls and even a wedding gown, Jeff's Junktiques has it all, except, perhaps, a permanent name. Jeff Soper has been operating the store at 1010 Main as Jeff's Junktiques for over a month, but his volunteers are urging him to change the name to Treasures from the Attic. Under either name, the store has a wide selection of nearly anything you could want. Soper bought the store and has been filling it with new and used items bought at auctions, from estates and from storage units. He has even bought items people brought in to make a deal. He said people keep suggesting he should open a pawn shop, but he'd rather just buy things and sell them. And he plans to keep a regular turnaround for merchandise. "I don't want this to be a museum where things stick around," Soper said. "I wholesale everything. I try to keep the prices reasonable."

He said he extends store credit, allows customers to put things on layaway and even lets them just give him their name and phone number and take items home, then pay when they get the money. So far, he said, those customers have come in to pay on payday like clockwork. Soper has been buying stuff for resale for 15 years, including being the buyer for a Goodwill operation in San Jose, Calif., but he said he hasn't owned a store before. "I'm trying to get a feel for displaying things," he said. "I have a feel for displaying furniture, but some of the other things, I'm learning." He said his volunteers, sisters Rhonda Moreland and Janice Cook, have been a big help with that. They have a good feel for display, he said. Soper said the store has been open from 2 to 6 p.m. four days a week but will stay open later if he has customers. "I would be open 12 hours a day if people came in," he added. As for the name, he said, it remains to be seen whether he'll let the women decide, out-vote them or take a vote among customers.



## Business owner plans to expand store space

Jeff Soper's plans for Jeff's Junktiques include expanding the store far beyond what customers see now. This store is in its infancy, he said; it has 3,500 square feet at ground level and is only using about half that. "I have four or five more rooms in the back," he said. "I want to convert one to a reading room, put all the books in there, and people can read awhile before deciding to buy." He also wants to add a music room and a toy room. Kids' toys and antiques don't mix well, he said; kids could play with the toys while their parents shop and then buy the toys for a quarter apiece. He's also working toward being organized and having like prices for like items, but his eventual aim is to get the store off the ground, then once it's established, sell it. "I want to establish a business and hand it over to somebody," he said. "It's not my goal to be working inside a thrift store for eight hours a day. I want to get it established and then move on to other projects. "I bought houses at foreclosure sales. How do I fix them up if I'm here all day?" Soper said he believes in Goodland, so much so that he has invested heavily in northwest Kansas. "I've invested every nickel I own out here," he said. "It doesn't matter that I haven't lived here my whole life. I'm all in." After starting up the Edson Gym Flea Market — he bought the old Edson gym from the school district after seeing an ad on the internet — Soper said he returned to California to take care of his parents. He has heard his seven-month absence convinced people he wouldn't be back. Then his truck had a bad alternator for about a year, and his efforts to haul merchandise to the store were put on hold. But, he said, he always had plans to return. "Why wouldn't I come back?" he asked. "I bought houses and buildings here." He sold the gym to Siram, a limited liability company that manufactures and refills ink cartridges for computers. He said he's encouraging others to move in as well and expects to have a tenant in the old Daylight Donut shop in November. Robert Lee from Iowa City has a store called Aquatic — Bay, Soper said, and is planning to move it here. Lee bought a lot of the equipment left behind by Greg Williams, former owner of Just Ponds, Soper said, and when he came here to liquidate the store, he noticed how good of shape many buildings were in downtown and really liked

Goodland. Soper said he offered him six months' rent free in the building at 1008 Main and will house Lee in one of the apartments upstairs. Soper said when he bought the space for the thrift store, his main reason for doing so was knowing that Chester Fried Chicken was open three doors away. "I figured at lunch time and dinner time, I would get overflow foot traffic," he said, "but by the time I opened, they were closed." The restaurant is planning to reopen July 14, Soper said, and the Vault Creamery plans to open today, he said, so that should help with getting more people to shop downtown. It's connecting the dots, he added, filling the empty buildings and not just with service businesses, but also with places to shop.

## corrections

The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate your calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

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## TABOR WANTS YOUR VOTE FOR SHERIFF ON AUGUST 5TH!

Dear Citizens of Sherman County, I would like to take time to introduce myself. My name is Frank Tabor. **I am running for Sheriff of Sherman County and need your vote in the August 5th primary.** A little bit about me: I have worked in Law Enforcement and Corrections for the past 13 years. I have lived in Sherman County for the last 6 years. I am currently working in Iraq and have been there for the last 2 years. I will return this December. I am helping to build the Iraqi police force, setting up police stations and assisting them in raids of terrorists and other criminal elements. I want to let the people of Sherman County know that if I am elected I would make a few changes and improve the service that is currently provided by the Sheriff's Office.



1. If I am elected, I would extend patrol times and add community support. I understand that our current patrol is put on-call at approximately 2:00 A.M.. I don't believe this is a good practice. This does not serve our community well because as the bars are closing at 2:00 A.M., our current deputies are heading home and the drunks are taking to the streets. Our rural areas that do not have a city police force are then left vulnerable when the burglars are out after 2:00 A.M. knowing the current patrol goes home at this time.
2. I believe that the current relationship between the Sheriff's Office and the City of Goodland Police Department is at an all time low and needs to be repaired. The lack of cooperation between the two only hurts our citizens. This will be changed if I am elected.
3. If I am elected, I will encourage more community involvement from the Sheriff's Office. Participation in the schools and talking to the youth are great tools. Youth ride-along programs may also be offered.

Law Enforcement is about protecting and serving the community. I feel I can serve this county and its citizens well. I have several ideas and I am sure you may have questions for me. If you would like to discuss any ideas with me or make comments to me while I am in Iraq, please email me at [frank.tabor@yahoo.com](mailto:frank.tabor@yahoo.com). Please understand it may be a day or so before I respond. Internet in Iraq is not the greatest, but rest assured I would love to hear from you and will respond. Thank you for your time and support.



**Vote for me, Frank Tabor, on August 5th for your Sheriff!**

Paid for by Frank Tabor for Sherman County Sheriff.

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