# Adopting pets requires commitment, hard work

I am sitting here at my computer writing this column with two of my own adopted shelter dogs at my feet, contented and happy to share my space.

Duchess is a boxer mix that came to the shelter pregnant about three years ago. She had eight puppies, and things were going fine for the first week, and then she developed mastitis so severely she couldn't feed the puppies.

The other adopted shelter dog lying here watching me type is Luke. Luke is the puppy of one of the very first dogs that came to the Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter foster care system in 1998. Molly is Luke's mother's name, and she still lives in Atwood with her adoptive familv.

Watching the dogs now, I am reminded of what I have learned from them — the importance of spaying



and neutering and that it takes a and fed them. commitment to adopt a pet.

have had to suffer through the com- fused as to why she couldn't be with plications of her pregnancy and fol- her pups. In spite of her situation, lowing mastitis if she had been she was an incredibly good sport. spayed. The first night of her ordeal, She is one of the most loving little all I could do was cry. I was sure all creatures I know. the puppies would die, and there would be no way we could do this, but the next four weeks, Kelley and I were bottle feeding eight puppies, ing little bundles of fur that found and thank goodness, Dr. Shelby Palmgren, veterinarian, lived just Puppy Rescue. two doors down.

dog on some highpowered antibiotics. We would let Duchess clean and be with her puppies while we held

All the while, Duchess was so un-You see, Duchess would never comfortable, and I am sure a bit con-

> It was quite a ritual, but eight weeks from the day they were born they were all healthy, happy, bounc-

We had to keep the puppies sepa- day we took them to puppy rescue;

rate from Duchess, so it was hard to say "good-bye," but they wouldn't nurse, we shared some tears of joy as well. as she was a very sick Anyway, when I walked back in the house and looked in Duchess' eyes, I knew she had found a home with

> When Luke's mother had her puppies, we found homes for all but two, and then a couple from Oakley came to pick out their puppy, and Luke was left all by himself. I took him home with me.

Luke was an adorable puppy, but the equivalent of the "terrible twos" hit when he was about six months old. Luke had separation anxiety, and whenever we left him, he demolished things, like the recliner, any pillow he could get ahold of, etc.

We bought a 10'X10' kennel and decided he would have to stay outside while we were gone. He demolished the kennel.

It was time to get out the books wanted animals! and study what the behavior experts had to say. We were committed to not spayed and was abandoned betaking their advice seriously and cause she was pregnant. Another read everything we could on separation anxiety.

We left for short periods of time and came back: we didn't make a big deal about coming or going; and we left the television on. With time, Luke felt secure, and he is now six years old and a truly awesome companion.

After Duchess' ordeal, I promised her she would never go through was spayed as soon as she was healthy enough. Don't kid yourself pregnancy is not always a piece of cake for these critters, and thou-

sleep every week.

In Luke's case, his mother was lesson from Luke is that it takes a commitment to make things work out when you adopt a dog. It takes more than a couple of days and a lot more patience than some folks realize.

We get calls at the shelter that people can't keep this dog because he barks or his is not housebroken or he chews things. That's what dogs do, and we as responsible dog anything like that again, and she owners have to take the time to educate ourselves about solutions to these problems and not expect too much from these dogs too soon.

It takes time and hard work, but sands of innocent puppies are put to if you open your heart and mind to them, maybe you will find some of Spaying and neutering is critical the rewards that we have with our in order to stop the killing of un- beloved Duchess and Luke.

## Woman works at certified feedlot

couple works for a feedlot that is now a Certified Angus Beef LLC Premier Partner.

Rachel Smith, daughter of Dave and Sheila Smith of Goodland, is the cattle clerk for Thomas County Feeders Inc., which was named the June Feedlot Partner of the Month by Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB).

Feedyard Manager Mike Hunter and Assistant Manager Kendall Lock have worked to improved the feedlot's participation in the program, enrolling 7,000 Angus-influence cattle for carcass data over the past 12 months.

The feedlot was recognized for such efforts by being named Feedot Partner of the Month. Lock was Certified Angus Beef to create mar-

The daughter of a Goodland also named runner-up 2004 CAB keting tools that generate more An-Quality Assurance Officer of the gus customers. Year.

> drought, the feedlot managers have way for all the motorists to see," been working with customers to in- Dykstra said, "along with CAB crease profits and have made it a Partner logo signs on each enrolled priority to reach out to prospective pen." customers for new partnerships.

The management team has placed an increasing emphasis on feeding Angus cattle over the past couple of years, said Paul Dykstra, Certified Angus Beef feedlot specialist. They always look for opportunities to create value through marketing premium carcasses, he said, and it has helped them bring more profits to their customers.

"They have even placed their To offset the loss of cattle due to Angus cattle in the pens by the high-

> Certified Angus Beef is a nonprofit, limited liability company that owns only its trademark and operates a program. Its mission is to increase demand for Angus cattle through its branded beef program, by licensing the use of the trademark.

Restaurants, retailers, foodservice distributors, packers and feedlots have to meet certain crite-The feedyard has worked with ria to be approved to use the trademark.

## Goodland CNA goes to conference

restore through exercises a assistant was one of 40 nationwide to attend the President's resident's autonomy and ability to Conference for Certified Nursing take care of himself. Assistants at the Good Samaritan Crawford said she was excited

Society's National Campus in to meet other certified nursing assistants at the conference and to share stories.

worked at the Sherman County Good Samaritan Center for 22 certified nursing assistant from ter comes to life through their each center, and three nominees hands. years, said her job has been re-

A Goodland certified nursing warding. She said it is her goal to from each region were selected. The conference was Monday-Wednesday, July 19-21.

> The society's president and chief executive officer, David J. Horazdovsky, said the conference provides an opportunity for their front-line employees to come to-Administrators nominated one gether to realize how the care cen-

#### Hospice sponsors aromatherapy workshop

the organization's exploration of complimentary therapies to improve end-of-life care.

Touch Therapy" was held at the Gateway in Oberlin, and was conducted by staff members who had participated in workshops presented by Melanie Sharpe, a licensed massage therapist and registered aromatherapist.

Many Hospice staff and volunteers from northwest Kansas, including Goodland, attended. The

nurses also attended. There were 25-30 people there, she said.

Clinical Aromatherapy and Pikes Peak Hospice and Palliative Care in Colorado Springs since May of 2001. She has served in a variety of roles, including volunteer touch therapist, volunteer massage therapist and staff massage therapist.

cator with emphasis on clinical shops.

The workshop in Oberlin provided basic information about clinical aromatherapy and essential oils. Great Plains Health Alliance partnered with Hospice Services to provide continuing education credits for clinical staff.

Hospice volunteers from Decatur County hosted the two-day event and provided refreshments for breaks. The workshop was provided in part through a gift from the Lois Steiner Estate.

# Parks biologists to check health of deer

Kansas Department of Wildlife before bringing a deer in. and Parks biologists plan to use check stations to monitor the health of the western Kansas deer herd this fall.

Hunters in western Kansas must take their deer to a check station within 48 hours after they kill it. Data will be collected from the hunter, and a seal will be attached to the carcass. This will allow a check of the report card system used

to survey deer hunters. Wildlife agents will visit check stations to collect biological information from the deer. The primary reason for the check stations is to create locations where large numbers of deer may be examined and samples obtained to monitor the health of the herd, including checks

In the Mountain Time Zone: Goodland: Goodland Sinclair, Saturday. 2320 Commerce Rd., 785-890-

6855, open 6 a.m.-10 p.m. seven days a week. Bob's Taxidermy, 303 Grand, 785-821-1207. open 3-8 p.m. Monday-Friday and 8 a.m.-8 p.m. on

weekends. Sharon Springs: Fox Still, 421 Elm St., 785-852-4318, open 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday. Call

on Saturday and Sunday. Tribune: Ampride, K-96 and K-27, 620-376-2311, open 5 a.m.-11 p.m. seven days a week.

In the Central Time Zone:

St. Francis: Tri-State Gun Shop, p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. -1 223 W. Washington, 785-332-2731, p.m. Saturday.

3700, open 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Colby: Colby Lumber Yard, 1760 W. Fourth, 785-460-2781, open 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-noon Saturday and 6 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday.

Logan: Logan Hardware, 200 Main St., 785-689-7592, open 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Norton: Phillips 66, 407 W.

Holme, 785-877-2274, 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday.

Oakley: Oakley Meats, 3847 U.S. 40, 785-672-3220, 8 a.m. -5:30

Myra Crawford, who has

Sioux Falls, S.D.

Hospice Services Inc. sponsored workshop was open to everyone, aromatherapy consultant and edua workshop on aromatherapy and Monica Monroe, Hospice administouch therapy last week as part of trative assistant, said, and several aromatherapy and Hospice work-

Sharpe has been involved in

Through her involvement with hospice in Colorado Springs, Sharpe started her own business ScentSational Oils and works as an



loving homes through Lifeline Dr. Palmgren went with me the

for chronic wasting disease, a con- open 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Fridition similar to mad cow disease.

Hunters should be sure to phone

day and 8 a.m.-noon Saturday.

the number listed for a check station Service, 720 S. 2nd St., 785-626- day and 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday.

**Oberlin:** Dale's Fish 'n' Fun, 502 E. Frontier Pkwy., 785-475-2201, Atwood: Northwest Arms and open 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Fri-

### matters of record

#### **District Traffic**

The following fines were paid in ing. the Sherman County District Court: July 27 — Richard R. Johnson, 65, Andover, was fined \$120 for speeding.

July 28—Roberto A. Reyes, 29, speeding.

Topeka, was fined \$129 for speed-

Leo P. Million, 43, Locust Grove, Okla. was fined \$132 for speeding. Andrew M. Minor, 26, Fort limit on wheels and axles. Collins, Colo, was fined \$126 for

Joanne M. Rock, 48, Langhorne, Pa. was fined \$126 for speeding. Gwadalupe Rodriguez, 45, Denver, was fined \$100 for over weight

Kristi K. Johnson, 40, Hartville, Mo. was fined \$126 for speeding.

#### FOR SALE **480 ACRES DRYLAND & GRASSLAND**

#### Sherman County, Kan.

LJors Ulrvin

#### Legal Description:

E/2 OF Section 21-10-42 SW/4 of Section 22-10-42 Location: From Kanorado go South 11 1/2 miles. Minerals: Seller will retain 1/2 of the existing mineral rights for a term of 10 years with said reservation to be non-participating in lease monies, delay rentals and bonuses, but fully participating in royalties. Acreage Information: Grassland Acres - 180 Dryland Acres - 300 **Base/Yield Acres:** Bases acres DCP yield

Wheat	162.8	33
Oats	9.1	36
Grain Sorghum	18.1	42
Barley	19.5	36
Taxes: Seller shall nov taxes for all of 2003 ar		

axes: Seller shall pay taxes for all of 2003 and prior years with taxes for 2004 to be prorated to day of closing. (2003 Taxes = \$1,017.14) Possession: Date of closing on open ground, after wheat harvest on cropland, and after the grazing season on the grassland. Price: \$216,000



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