Nataley Schumaker, 4, (below) showed off her long, dark hair one last time. Monday, Nataley dontated her tresses to Locks of Love, an organization that makes wigs for children. Modeling her "new do" (above) Nataley thought her cut looked just like the picture.

— Telegram photos by Carolyn Plotts

Little girl gives locks with love

By CAROLYN PLOTTS
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Grown-ups could learn a lot about generosity from four-year-old Nataley Schumaker.

Last summer, little Nataley overheard her mother, Mandy Schumaker, talking with a friend about how the friend had donated her hair to Locks of Love. Even at her young age, Nataley understood that some sick children didn't have any hair and a wig made from donated hair would make them feel better about themselves.

Nataley said to her mother, "I have long hair. Maybe I could give my hair to one of the sick kids."

Mrs. Schumaker said, "It was all her idea. She'll be okay with it. But, it may be easier for her than for me."

That's how Ruth Burd owner/operator of Shear Magic Beauty Salon, Norton, came to be involved. Nataley had a 3 p.m. appointment Monday to have her hair cut. Mrs. Burd called *The Telegram* with the news tip. She said, "She might go through with it and she might not."

But, there were no second thoughts. Little Nataley had even picked out a hairstyle for "after" — a cute bob that would accentuate her snappy, brown eyes.

Mrs. Burd combed Nataley's long, dark hair and asked if she was ready.

Without hesitation, Nataley said, "Yes." And the first cut was made.

Throughout the whole event, Nataley's father, Shane Schumaker, kept the video camera running. Nataley's little sister, Lauryn, 2 1/2, was also there. She had an appointment, too. But, just for a trim.

In a matter of minutes, Nataley's long hair was lying on the counter, tied in neat little bundles. It will be sent to the non-profit organization where it will be made into wigs for children suffering from diseases that have left them without hair.

When Nataley was asked why she wanted to donate her hair, she said, "'Cause there's girls that have to take medicines and their hair falls out."

After watching her daughter be so brave Mrs. Schumaker said, "We know it's going to a good cause, so that makes it easier."

To learn more about Locks of Love and the work it does, go to the website at: *www.locksoflove.org*.

Calling contest raises money for youth

By VERONICA MONIER
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Close to 100 hunters participated in the annual coyote and crow calling contest Saturday.

Of the 43 two-person teams who signed up, 31 teams checked in before the 7 p.m. deadline. Seven teams brought in a total of seven coyotes and one bobcat, but no crows.

This year's overall winners were:

• First place — Tom Edlund and Joe Ventura, two coyotes, 29 pounds and 24 pounds;

• Second place — Austin Brooks and Kent Legg, one coyote, 30 pounds;

• Third place — Rusty Goss and Chris Cuthbertson, one coyote, 30 pounds;

• Fourth place — John Ruder and Rick Paillet, one coyote, 32 pounds;

• Fifth place — Casey Richard and Kade Koleman, one bobcat, 26.5 pounds;

The teams of Casey Wegener and Nick York and Seth Cantrall and Kendra Baker also brought in coyotes. Wegener and York's coyote weighed in at 30 pounds and Cantrall and Baker's weighed in at 22 pounds. Ties were broken by check-in time with whoever checked in first taking the win.

The team of Ruder and Paillet received the biggest coyote award for their 32-pound coyote.

Other teams who checked in were Cory Urban and Vernon Carlton, Rick McChesney and Scott Arehart, Chase Braun and Mindy Braun, Herman Braun and Phyllis Braun, Jared Kendall and Isaac Kendall, Roger Fuller and Linda Fuller, John Baker and Justin Baker, Doyle Brooks and Robert Smith, Justin Kline and Darrel Shellito, Steve Otter and Alec Otter, Keith Ward and MJ Dempewolf, Brett McChesney and Ryan Kats, Jason Breiner and TR Richards, Tony Hildebrand and Chad Brooks, Jesse Hilburn and Casey Dole, Dominic Urban and Brad LeBeau, Russ Erbert and Chris Cox, Nathan Overlease and Eric Hartwell, Brett Gallentine and Ethan Gallentine, Jacob Gallentine and Tyler Esslinger, Scott Tien and Brady Tien, Tyson Kline and Tanner Portenier, and Gary Beikman and Roger Stutterheim.

Teams who registered but didn't check in were Tim Behrens and Guy Runyon, Greg Corman and Justin Colglazier, Myron Erbert and Jason Goetz, Doug Wagoner and Johnny Howard, Doug Johnson and Dusty Gastineau, David Horinek and Levi Schlosser, Stan Cure and Jerome Humrick, Jake Swisher and Kaitlin Ambler, Dustin Day and Mike Pfannenstiel, Patrick Chester and Craig Reimer, Trever Tien and David Leanna, Garrett Beydler and Jeremy Krehbiel, and Travis Stike and Cody Hilburn.

The coyote and crow calling contest is a fund raiser for youth shooting sports.

Rexford offers motorists place of safety

By JOHN VAN NOSTRAND
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When the heavy snow falls in or near Rexford, motorists and others will have a place to go for safety.

Rexford City Council and the Rexford Community Church are working out the details of making the church the town's emergency shelter.

"We gave an informal OK a few months ago," said Lane Purcell, preacher at the church located at 205 Main.

Purcell said the city will help with utilities at the church when it is used for emergency purposes. Plans are to install an electric generator in the church to be used when Rexford's electricity is out. Plans are also to have sleeping cots and other necessities on hand should people have to stay a substantial amount of time.

Purcell is hoping church members and other Rexford residents will provide meals for those who stay long-term.

Purcell said part of the reason for having the church prepared as an emergency shelter stemmed from what happened last winter. On Dec. 30, 2006, a blizzard crippled Northwest Kansas from closed roads to power outages. Purcell remembers those days well.

"There were people stranded on Highway 83 and there were people in their 70s, 80s and 90s that didn't have electricity," he said.

U.S. Highway 83 is a popular north-south route in western Kansas. The highway goes through Rexford.

Purcell said several older residents who live outside of Rexford were without power during, and after, the storm.

Should the church quickly fill up during that time, there is another place that can be used in Rexford.

Shepherd's Staff Christian Conference and Retreat Center, at 240 Main St., has 96 beds, bathrooms, two commercial-sized kitchens and a food pantry. The center's services have been used during emergency situations.

"In the 26 months I've been here, that's happened twice," said Ron Boller, outreach director.

Boller said the storm the weekend after Thanksigiving in 2005 forced travelers to stop at Rexford.

Last winter, the Lamar, Colo., Community College basketball team was returning from a game in McCook, Neb., and was stopped in Rexford because of inclement weather. The team stayed at Shepherd's Staff until it was clear to leave.

"We had about 40 people that night," Boller said.

Lions' screening bus will be at wellness fair

Two very important aspects of the February 2008 Norton County Health and Preparedness Resource Fair need further clarification.

First, participants need to be aware that blood tests will not be given at the Resource Fair itself. Participants may get their blood draws done on Monday, Feb. 25 at the Norton County Health Department. If you want to have these tests done, consider calling the Health Department ahead of time to confirm all details so that they can be prepared for you. Once the test has been done, participants can pick up the results and have them interpreted by a PA at the actual Resource Fair on Feb. 27 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the National Guard Armory. If you can't attend on the 27th, information will be sent at a later date.

The second piece of information of interest is the fact that the Lions' Club screening bus will be at Norton again this year to do screenings such as sight acuity, hearing acuity, field of vision, blood pressure and possibly blood sugars. The Lions Club sponsored this screening bus at the previous Health Fair, and over 90 people took advantage of the service. They would love to increase that this year.

About 40 exhibitors will be on hand with health and preparedness information including the Goodland National Weather Bureau for the first time. They will have some timely information regarding natural disasters including the serious winter storms experienced recently and the spring severe weather season which is just around the corner.

Continue to watch for information on other exhibitors and to learn about other opportunities which will be available.

Keep in mind that a meal can be purchased on-site as well for those of you who wish to go directly to church or other activities in the early evening or after school.

If you have questions about who might be exhibiting at the 2008 Health and Preparedness Resource Fair, please feel free to contact Gina at the Norton County Health Department or Lacy at Norton Manor.

Red Cross holds blood drive

Winter weather has forced the Red Cross to cancel dozens of blood drives throughout the Midwest. This has caused a shortage of more than 1,100 pints of blood. This is making community's blood supplies dangerously low.

While all blood types are needed, Types O and B are nearing only a half-day supply.

Winter illnesses are affecting donor turnout and weather is playing havoc on the Red Cross' ability to collect blood. Hospital patients may soon be in jeopardy if the blood supply does not increase soon.

If you can donate on Wednesday, Feb. 13 from noon until 6:30 p.m. at the National Guard Armory it would be appreciated.

Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543) to schedule a time slot to donate. Walk-in donors are welcome, too. Please bring your donor card or photo identification. Donors must be in generally good health, weigh 110 pounds or more and be at least 17 years old.

NewsLine: 877-3361

CHILI COOK OFF

SUNDAY, FEB. 17

Sponsored by the Methodist Men

FAMILY GAME NIGHT WILL FOLLOW

To enter the contest, simply bring a crockpot of your favorite concoction to the Church prior to 4:00 Sunday afternoon. The chili will be judged shortly thereafter, the winner declared and justly rewarded, and then we all get to eat chili.

FREE WILL OFFERING WILL GO TO MINISTRY AND MISSION

Come and Wear Red

Public is invited to our Monthly Valentine Coffee

for the Corination of Our Queen this Year

Enjoy Fellowship, Coffee and Cake on Thursday, February 14

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

WHISPERING PINES RETIREMENT

W. HIGHWAY 36, NORTON, KS

Kansas Dept. of Aging-Partnership Loan Program-Medicaid Approved-NCBS Approved

NORTON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Are you a small business owner or agricultural producer interested in increasing energy efficiency or renewable energy systems? Come find out more about the USDA grant and loan program.

USDA Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Workshop on Thursday, February 21 at 7:00 p.m.
Economic Development Office
113 N. Norton, Suit B, Norton

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT www.discovernorton.com

DiscoverNorton.Com

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