

Accident

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 “He never saw the pickup before he hit it,” the deputy said. Both victims were taken to the Decatur County Hospital. Mr. Steelsmith was treated for minor injuries, but Mrs. Marcuson was flown by air ambulance to Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney, Neb. Relatives said she suffered broken ribs, a punctured lung, two broken vertebrae each in her neck and lower back and other injuries. Monday, her husband said she expected to be in intensive care for three to four days, but her condition was rated as stable and none of the injuries, though painful, appeared to be life-threatening. The Marcusons knew the wheat would wait, but worried about their dog Kip, a German shepherd-labrador mix that looks more like a shepherd. Brad said Kip was with Elaine in the cab of the truck, and ran off after the

accident. Kip’s not allowed to roam, he said, and may not know the way home. A neighbor thought he saw the dog about a mile east of the crash site, Brad said, and the family made up a flier with the pooch’s picture on it, but as of Monday night, he was still missing. Even before the family left for Nebraska, friends began showing up at the hospital, offering to help. One of them was Larry Ayers, Oberlin assistant fire chief, who said he’d known the Marcuson family “since before Brad was born.” Another was Barry Richards, a farmer and used-car dealer in town, who said he and Brad had known each other since childhood, attending the same church for more than 40 years. Their wives are close friends, he said. Others were members of the close-knit Lund Covenant Church, where many are descendants of Swedish homesteaders

who populated the area south of Oberlin more than a century ago. The church is just a few miles west and north of the accident site; members call each other with news of births and deaths, fires and other emergencies and needs. Pastor Doug Mason said church member Tammy Fredrickson met Gail Marcuson and his wife Kay in Colby, where they’d gotten a ride with a friend from the hospital in Denver, took Kay to Kearney, and brought Sarah home. He said he and his wife had checked the house and he and others picked up combine parts knocked out of the pickup. Mr. Ayers, who farms a quarter-section of his own ground, said he and Mr. Richards offered to go cut the family’s wheat. He drove the combine and Mr. Richards drove the truck. It took until Sunday afternoon to finish that field. “His folks have been friends of my family since before I was

born,” Mr. Ayers said, “so I kind of owed it to them.” He said he’d missed the first call on the wreck, but went on out in his own pickup. He started directing traffic at the north end of the scene, he said, and had no idea who had been hurt until later. “Barry came to the hospital,” he said. “He told Brad he could help him. There were some others who offered to help, but it was basically a two-man job.” Sunday, he said, his wife Becky came out with sandwiches and then helped the men move equipment to a second field. Monday, Armand and Yancy Sowers brought a combine and Rick Shaw from Selden came to help. Rain stopped the harvest about 6 p.m. with a couple of small fields left to cut. Monday, Brad said he probably was lucky it was a low year for wheat for him, with the bulk of his land in corn. Still, he was struck by the response of friends

and even strangers who helped the family in so many ways. “I’ll bet there were eight or 10 people there before the sheriff got there,” he said. “The staff at our hospital was just super. People in Oberlin are great.” Normally, he said, son Jared would have been running the grain cart. But Jared, a student at Barton County Community College in Great Bend, works for a program for underprivileged kids called Upward Bound. He was helping escort the group back from a trip to Washington, his dad said, and caught a ride to Kearney on Sunday. One thing the wreck has taught him, he said, is to wear his seatbelt all the time. No one in the family

used the seat belts in the old Ford, he said, but the doctors said that could have saved his wife some pain. The truck was like part of the family, he said. “We bought it when Jared was a baby so we’d have room for all the car seats,” he said, adding that they’d just used it to haul furniture to Colby, where Sarah is in summer school. Becky Ayers echoed many when she said the town’s response was no big deal. “It’s just what you do for a friend,” she said. And the Marcusons found, they have a lot of friends.

Huelskamp

(Continued from Page 1) and voted to protect unborn children under the same criminal code as other people. He has also led efforts to defund Planned Parenthood of their state funding. Huelskamp is a fourth generation farmer from Fowler. He and his wife Angela have four adopted children. He has served in the

Kansas Senate for 14 years where he has been on several committees including: Agriculture, Energy and Natural Resources, Education, Elections and Local Government and the Joint Committee on Information Technology. He said he will continue to fight for rural values in Washington. “We need to make sure we

send someone to Washington who understands family values,” he said. Huelskamp is running against Jim Barnett, Emporia; Sue Bol-dra, Hays; Marck Cobb, Galva; Tracey Mann, Salina; and Rob Wasinger, Cottonwood Falls for the Big First seat, currently held by Jerry Moran.

The candidates will face off in the Aug. 3 primary.

Telegram

(Continued from Page 1) and advertising director. Due to losing Erica, we here at the paper, will be asking the public and our readers to be patient with us in making this adjustment. As with any change, it all takes time. Please notify us of any news stories or upcoming events so that we can make arrangements for someone to cover it, Paxton said.



Erica Bradley

Meeting

(Continued from Page 1) terested in planning a community event emphasizing the importance of the U.S. Constitution and Declaration of Independence are encouraged to attend. Those unable to attend the Monday meeting, may contact Ardith Scheetz in Clayton, Richard Wyatt or Dick Boyd in Norton or Kathy Wilmot in Beaver City, phone (308) 268-6235.

Big Brothers, Big Sisters set to host meeting

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Norton County invites the public to a community meeting, scheduled for July 21 at 7 p.m. at the Norton Public Library. The agency, which has been operating in Norton County since 2001, will present information about its operations and outline different ways residents can get involved and help support the organization. Founded in 1904, Big Brothers Big Sisters is the nation’s oldest and largest one-on-one mentoring organization. Independent research indicates that children who are matched with a mentor in the program are more confident in their school work, less likely to skip school and less likely to abuse drugs and alcohol. For more information about the community meeting, contact the agency at 785-874-4200.

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FOR SALE IN NORTON:

- 512 Holme** — 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, double car attached garage, nice large lot
- 342 West Lincoln** — 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, double car detached garage
- 308 South Kansas** — 2 bedrooms/1 bath, single car attached garage
- 606 Sunset Drive** — 2 bedrooms, 2 baths on main floor; 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, family room in basement; double car attached garage
- 310 West Pearl** — 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, garage and outbuildings on nice large lot
- 502 Jones Street** — 1 bedroom, 1 bath, nicely remodeled
- 504 Jones Street** — 2 bedrooms, 1 bath on main floor; 2 bedrooms, or 1 bedroom, 1 family room in basement; detached workshop and 4 stall garage
- 509 North Jones** — 1 bedroom, 1 bath on main floor; 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, family room, and utility room in basement; recently remodeled, double car detached garage
- 205 North Wabash** — 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, central heat and air, shop with bath
- 408 East Holme** — 2 bedrooms, 1 bath on main floor; apartment in basement; 4 unit motel; large workshop building
- 109 Waverly** — 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom upstairs, single car attached garage
- 511 West Wilton** — 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, full unfinished basement

NORTON FLOWERS GIFTS & GREENHOUSE — 209 North Kansas, Norton, Kansas
 Floral business and building, greenhouse, work shop storage building, rental house

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 Business building

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- 160 Acres CRP** — North Edge of Graham County, 12 payments remaining, payments equal to 50% of purchase price
- 707 N. 4th Avenue, Hill City** — 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, price reduced to \$159,900.00

FOR SALE IN LOGAN

- 205 Sherman, Logan** — 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, extra lots, reasonable offers considered
- 305 W. North Street, Logan** — 2 bedrooms, 1 bath

LOGAN COMMERCIAL

- 111 S. Mill Street, Logan** — 3,000 sq. ft.

FOR SALE IN PHILLIPSBURG

- 485 D. Street** — 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Under Contract
- 47 Rural Drive** — 3 Bedrooms, with shop, Under Contract

FOR SALE IN STOCKTON

- 812 N. First Street** — 5 bedrooms, 2 baths

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