

# OBITUARY

## Barbara A. Tacha

Jan. 24, 1928 - Dec. 24, 2006

Barbara A. Tacha, 78, died Sunday at Norton County Hospital.

Mrs. Tacha was born Jan. 24, 1928, in Norton County, the daughter of Hubert Joseph "Joe" and Sylvia Marguerite (McMulkin) Wetter.

She graduated from Norton Community High School in 1944.

On Nov. 27, 1950, she and Claude Tacha were married in Norton. They made their home in Norton where she worked as a full-time mother, a bookkeeper, and then served as the Register of Deeds for many years. Mr. Tacha died May 5, 2000.

She was a member of the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church where she was an active member of the Altar Society and choir. She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and was serving as secretary/treasurer of the Norton Senior Citizen Center.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her step-mother Marie Wetter, her husband Claude, one infant daughter Gloria Lea, and one son-in-law Norman Adams.

Survivors include four sons:

Patrick and Connie Tacha, Topeka, Lynn Tacha, Gibbon, Neb., Jim and Lori Tacha, Kearney, Neb., and John and Kayla Tacha, Norton; four daughters: Mary Jo and Gale Montgomery, Norton, Sharon and Vance Poage, Norton, Anita and John Covey, Wheat Ridge, Colo., and Marcia Tacha and friend Matt Wheeler, Hays; two sisters: Dolores Freymuth, Colorado Springs, Colo., and Patricia and Willie Gauthier, Absarokee, Mont.; 17 grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one step-great-grandchild.

Friends may call from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday at Enfield Funeral Home. Visitation will be followed by a parish wake eulogy at 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Mass of the Christian Burial will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. Father Vincent Thu Laing will officiate. Burial will be in the Norton Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the Norton Senior Center, 208 W. Main, Norton, Kan. 67654 or to the church at 108 S. Wabash, Norton, Kan. 67654.

# BEAVER CITY

By JOY STALDER

Lawrence and Ruth Kentfield were soup supper guests of Milan and Diane Johnson Saturday evening.

Betty Robinson visited Judy Nickell Monday afternoon.

George and Betty Robinson took Becky, Bridgette and Joe Robinson to the Pizza Hut Sunday evening to celebrate Bridgette's birthday.

Becky and Joe Robinson went to Kearney Friday evening and took Bridgette out to eat in honor of her birthday.

Sunday guests of Helen Martin were Tom and Nancy Martin of Lincoln, Gary and Ellen Martin of Kearney and Alfred Cass.

Novella Hewett, Geneva John and Vivian Schluntz were Christmas dinner guests of Frankie John on Saturday at the Pavilion in the retirement center where she lives in Kearney. Approximately 130 guests were present and there was a wonderful program for them following the meal.

Walter Anderson, son of Connie Anderson, has been accepted into the nursing school at Union College. The classes begin in January.

Wilma Bates attended the caroling party at the Christian Church Sunday night. There were approximately 20 in their group, and they caroled in Arapahoe and Hendley as well as in Beaver City. They enjoyed soup and sandwiches afterwards.

Wilma Bates attended the Christmas program at Southern Valley this week.

JoAnn Becker visited in Omaha from Tuesday until Saturday night and babysat with her grandson, Maddox, while his parents went Christmas shopping and attended a Christmas party.

On Thursday Sarah Anderson, Maddox, and JoAnn Becker went to Xavier Seng's preschool program.

The Red Hat Peppers held their Christmas party Tuesday afternoon at Patty Becker's home. There were 10 in attendance. They worked on some crafts and played some Christmas games.

Tom and Dotty Biros took Vona Hardenbrook with them to the Grace Brethren Christmas program Sunday evening.

Ervin and Shirley Volgamore were guests of Ernie and Joy Stalder at the Senior Center's Christmas dinner on Friday.

Ernie and Joy Stalder attended the Christmas program at the Grace Brethren Church Sunday evening.

Betty Dedrick was in Oklahoma recently for Thanksgiving and spent a week with her daughter, Wanda Fowler.

Jean Gardner attended Austin and Ryan Rice's piano recital at Elwood Sunday afternoon.

Vera Gleason was in Denver last week to visit her sister-in-law, Dauphan Snedeker, who was a hospital patient. Vera came home Tuesday; her sister-in-law passed away Wednesday.

Novella Hewett was a coffee guest of Truth Sturtevant Wednesday.

Clinton and Vivian Schluntz, Dotty Thompson, Cathy Scott and Novella Hewett attended the

Christmas program at the Free Methodist Church Sunday evening. Cathy Scott was a part of the program.

Charlotte Ganser visited Virginia Burge Sunday afternoon.

Brandon Rosenkoetter, Ridgeland, Miss., spent Friday through Monday in Beaver City visiting grandparents Bill and Dee Lamb. Saturday evening they celebrated Brandon's birthday and guests were Van and Pam Lamb, Christine and Chris, Ryan and Erika Long, Mackenna and Kolby.

Sunday Pam Lamb and Brandon Rosenkoetter went to Colby where Christine participated in Handel's "Messiah" at Colby Community College.

Kelly Soncksen, Kailen and Myranda of Burlington, Colo., met Pam and Brandon Rosenkoetter and attended the Christmas recital with them and they enjoyed supper together.

Sunday evening supper guests in the Bill Lamb home were Don Cass, Tony and Patti Cass of Columbus, Ohio, Wendell Cass of Wallace, Van and Pam Lamb and Chris, and Brandon Rosenkoetter. Brandon left for his home in Mississippi on Monday.

Arlyn and Freda Marble attended the Christmas dinner at the Senior Center Friday.

Wanda and Roger Rikli went to Lincoln and celebrated Roger's birthday at the home of Alisa and Drew Ramaekers.

Susanna Sturtevant and Stephanie Washburn of Mitchell were houseguests of Ruth Stalder Friday through Sunday night.

Jean Tauscher visited Freda Hartford Friday.

Debbi Phillips of North Platte was an overnight guest of her mother, Freda Hartford, Monday night, and took her to the doctor on Tuesday.

Jim and Sharon Northrup, Wayne, New York visited Freda Hartford Thursday.

Diane Johnson called on Freda Hartford Friday afternoon.

Bob and Phyllis Cass went to Colby Sunday afternoon to hear the Colby Community College Group at the High School. The performance was Handel's "Messiah".

Hannah Louderbaugh, their granddaughter, was one of the performers.

In the evening, they went to McDonald Federated Church to the children's Christmas program. Three grandchildren took part in the program.

Ervin Volgamore visited his aunt, Violet Volgamore, at Whispering Pines in Norton Monday.

Lawrence and Ruth Kentfield attended the Christmas program at the Free Methodist Church Sunday evening.

# Reorganize hearts and minds at year's end

There's fudge ground into the carpet, the cat is lapping eggnog from an abandoned punch cup, paper, ribbons and packing peanuts are everywhere. Yes, Christmas is past. But is it truly? At our home we took the tree down the day after Christmas and as we did we went through our collections and told stories of years past. Each bauble held a memory, each had a special box, some were wrapped in discarded paper from long ago packages. To the aroma of turkey soup in the making, we laughed over dinner disasters and successes from long ago. In a way it was more fun than the hectic hustle preceding the big day.

Every home has their Christmas collection, accumulated or accumulating through the years. Don't be too quick to discard everything and plan to go with one of those magazine theme trees. All gold balls and red bows or all blue lights and glitter butterflies may be elegant, but does Martha Stewart come to your house for the holidays? No, your college kids come home and say "Where's the angel I made in Mrs. Hickert's class?" From sad experience I know how much each goofy or glamorous item means. We lost all our ornaments in the tornado in 1952 and then again I lost many more at the auction in Norton.

A friend once told me about their first Christmas together. Their tree, a little cedar cut from a nearby creek bed, homemade paper cut-outs, cranberry and popcorn garlands, gifts of groceries wrapped in old comics. They had but one real decoration, a tiny cardboard village of little houses and trees dusted with glitter snow, set out in drifts of aspirin bottle cotton. As children blessed the marriage, that unbreakable display was one they loved and enjoyed. Came a time things got better for the family and Mom could decorate the house most beautifully with brass candlesticks and white poinsettias. The children, arriving home from school, looked for their village. "Well, it's pretty shabby," their Mom began. "What???" Our village? We can't have Christmas without our village!" And out it came every year thereafter, steadily repaired and refurbished but dearly cherished through three generations.

## Collector Chat Liza Deines



At my children's homes angels from Sunday School teachers are given places of honor, small wooden crosses from Dan to his brother and sister hang on tree boughs, a Santa and Mrs. Claus ice skating music box still amuses. Mice ornaments also have their places. Formerly they were tied bows on packages from Grandma. My ceramic angels and nativity scene are here with me. The absence of any one of them would detract, even if only a bit, from the celebration.

As we pack and reorganize our collections, so we should clean and reorganize our hearts and minds each year. Dig out the hoary old grudges, historic hurtful memories, little thoughtless splinters festering away. How about yesteryear's attitudes? Discard the angry battles and the broken hearts that might be littering your "heart home". Toss 'em all. On your clean new memory shelves place blessings and joys, pleasures both large and small, a basketful of happy moments and a box running over with a zest for life. When your heart shelves are full of love there is no place left for misery. Keep hugs, smiles and handshakes carefully wrapped and stored close at hand for easy sharing. Pass them along throughout the coming year and you will find you never run out of them. A very small container should be used to collect only happy tears; sad ones should be thrown out at once since they have a tendency to spoil anything that comes near them.

Got the tree down? Ornaments neatly put away and your heart and mind tidied up? You see, the trick of collecting is to know what to keep and what to throw out. Blessings for 2007 to all of you from my freshly cleaned "heart home".

APOLOGY: Forgive me for no column last week — I was visiting the famous Land of the Flu Plague and it wasn't a pleasant trip!

# READERS

— **Almena State Bank will close at noon on Friday, Dec. 29.**

Three local students are among the 1,350 fall graduates of Kansas State University. Commencement exercises were held Dec. 8 and 9. The graduates are: Drew Sebelius, Norton, with a degree in archi-

tectural engineering; Megan Walter, Norton, with a degree in business administration; and Dale Jessup, Logan, with a degree in agriculture.

— **First State Bank and First Security Bank will both close at noon, Friday, Dec. 29 for year-end processing.**

# HANSEN MUSEUM

By SHIRLEY HENRICKSON

The Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum is exhibiting "International Turning Exchange" organized by the Wood Turning Center of Philadelphia, a not-for-profit institution that focuses on education, preservation and the promotion of wood and other lathe-turned art. This exhibit will run through Jan. 28.

In 2005, the Wood Turning Center kicked off an exhibition and publication, showcasing the "International Turning Exchange (ITE): Ten Year Retrospective." The Wood Turning Center's ITE program is an eight-week, internationally competitive summer residency dedicated to emerging and established artists and scholars.

The lathe-artists, furniture makers, sculptors, scholars, photojournalists and filmmakers exemplify cutting edge creativity and craftsmanship linked to lathe art. Over 50 participants have challenged themselves and each other to study, explore new work and diffuse this freshness into their approaches when they returned to their native countries.

This exhibition will first tour the United States and then

travel to the artist's native countries, which might include: Canada, the United Kingdom, Europe, Australia and New Zealand. The collection of wood and other lathe-turned objects will contain some of the 120 creations by ITE resident artists.

Please come in and view this outstanding exhibit of wood and other lathe-turned art and furniture.

Lori Struik is the museum's December "Artist of the Month". Ms. Struik's floral arrangements and wreaths bring a festive air to the Museum.

Please check out our website. The address is [www.hansenmuseum.org](http://www.hansenmuseum.org). If you have any questions please e-mail us at [hansenmuseum@ruraltel.net](mailto:hansenmuseum@ruraltel.net).

The Norton Telegram...  
News you need!

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT THE  
**CARDINAL BAR AND GRILL**  
IN NORCATUR

Holiday Hours: Saturday, December 30-Closing at 2:00 p.m.  
Closed New Year's Eve and New Year's Day

Dec. 22-27

Showing at the  
**NORTON THEATRE**  
**NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM**  
(Premiere) 1 Hour, 48 Minutes — (PG)  
\$7.00 for Adults; \$6.00 for Children 12 and Under  
Show Times: Friday and Saturday: 8 p.m.  
Sunday: Closed.; Mon., Tues., Wed.: 7 p.m.

**CHARLOTTE'S WEB**  
(Premiere) 1 Hour, 35 Minutes — (G)  
\$7.00 for Adults  
\$6.00 for Children 12 and Under



No Passes accepted for Night at the Museum or Charlotte's Web

Let's go to the Movie

*A Reception to honor Karen Reedy will be held Friday, Dec. 29 from 3 to 5 p.m.*  
Sebelius & Griffiths Law Office  
105 S. Norton Avenue  
Norton, Kansas  
*In honor of her 48 years of service*  
Cards will reach her at P.O. Box 51 Norton, KS 67654

## Norton Schools

# Staff Spotlight

### Classified Employee



Otis Howard

Otis Howard is a special education paraprofessional at the Norton Community Senior High School. He is beginning his fourth year as a para in USD 211. He and his wife, Clarice, have three grown children and four grandchildren. His favorite pastimes are exercising, model railroading and hunting. What he likes most about his job is being able to work with the kids without the responsibility of being a teacher.

### Certified Employee



Virginia Will

Virginia Will is the fifth and sixth grade teacher at Eisenhower Elementary School. She is a graduate of Kansas Wesleyan University and has also earned an M.S. from Emporia State University. She is in her 31st year of teaching with 19 of those being in USD 211 and EES. Mrs. Will and her husband, David, have two grown and married sons. She lists her hobbies as reading and doing cross-stitch. What she likes best about her job is that every day is different — she never feels like she gets in a rut.