

OBITUARIES

Leslie LeCount

Aug. 4, 1915 - May 16, 2007

Leslie LeCount, 91, Norton, died May 16 at the Hays Medical Center.

The son of Charles and Una (Rhodes) LeCount, he was born Aug. 4, 1915, in rural Norton County.

He graduated from Norton Community High School in 1934. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

On Nov. 14, 1942, he and Irene Werthenberger were married in Quinter. Following the war, they farmed in Norton County until their retirement in 2001, at which time they moved into Norton.

He was a member of the Maple Grove Church of the Brethren and was a man who loved nature, his family, and lived his faith.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one son, Ron, one daughter-in-law, Peggy, one brother, Harold, and one sister, Leona.

Survivors include: his wife, Irene LeCount, Norton; two sons, Gary and Sue LeCount and Alvin and Myrna LeCount, all of Hays one daughter Treva and Leon Atwell, Glen Elder; six grandchildren; and four step-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Saturday at Enfield Funeral Home with Leon Neher officiating. Burial was in the Norton Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the Maple Grove Church of the Brethren, Rt. 2, Norton, Kan. 67654.

Enfield Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Mildred E. Thomas

Sept. 16, 1917 - May 14, 2007

Mildred Ellen (Showers) Thomas, 89, died at Deseret of Kensington Nursing Home, May 14.

She was born Sept. 16, 1917, on her Uncle Roy Griffin's farm near Logan. She was the only daughter of Oscar Franklin and Ellen Charlotte (Griffin) Showers.

She attended Whitfield Country School in Graham County. She graduated from Densmore High School with the class of 1935 as the salutatorian.

She completed Normal Training and became a teacher at the age of 17. She started teaching in country school. Most of her teaching career was spent in Graham County, ending in Bogue. Later, when her children were in school, she was a substitute teacher in the Logan schools.

On Aug. 18, 1941, she married Wayne Thomas at the Redline Church of God in Palco. They lived in the Redline community for a year before Mr. Thomas was drafted into the Army. She followed him to different locations during his military training. When he was ready to ship out, she came home.

She was teaching in Bogue when she received word that her husband had been injured in the war. When he was brought to Palo Alto, Calif., she quit her teaching job to be with him. They were in California about a year while he recuperated.

While there, she worked in a department store and later in the Post Exchange at the hospital.

After returning to Kansas, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas farmed in the Redline Community. While her husband was overseas, Mrs. Thomas had started buying and raising cattle with her father's help, so they had a good start.

The family moved to a farm west of Hill City and in 1950, into Hill City. In 1951, they moved to the Cooley Ranch nine miles northwest of Logan in the Cactus community. In 1955, the Thomases were able to accomplish their dream of owning their own farm when they bought a farm one mile west and six miles north of Logan.

Mr. Thomas died Dec. 9, 1977. She and her son, Delaine Thomas, continued the farming operation for several years.

She lived on the farm until 2005, when her health would not allow her to live alone anymore. It was then she moved to the

nursing home in Kensington.

She was a member of the Church of God. She was a very active member, teaching Sunday School for many years.

Her hobbies included gardening, reading, and music. She could play the harmonica and the guitar at the same time. She taught her children to play musical instruments and to sing. Often she and the children would sing three-part harmony at various community social events. She also loved to have friends come to her home to play musical instruments and have "jam" sessions.

She loved people and loved to entertain with good food. There was a time when she would bake cakes and decorate them for her Sunday School pupils and friends' birthdays.

She was the caretaker of her family. She had cared for her grandmother, Eliza Showers; her brother-in-law, Dennis Thomas; her mother, Ellen Showers; and her father-in-law, Herb Thomas, who stayed in her home for two winters. She was also with her brother, John, until his death.

Mrs. Thomas was preceded in death by her husband, Wayne; her parents; two brothers, John Showers and Kenneth Showers; and three brothers-in-law, Dennis Thomas, Robert Thomas and Ralph Thomas.

She is survived by a son, Delaine and Deb Thomas, Prairie View; a daughter, Jeanette and Gerald Haskett, Agra; a brother-in-law, Doyle and Gloria Thomas, Bogue; three sisters-in-law, Florence Thomas, Bogue, Myrtle Thomas, Casper, Wyo. and Norma and Lawrence Adams, Bogue; and 11 grand and great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held May 18 at the Community Church of God. Pastors Jerry Yotter, John Lymer and Roger Miller officiated. Burial was in the Pleasant View Cemetery.

Lori Ferguson accompanied Gail Allen as she sang, "When We See Christ". The congregation sang "Amazing Grace".

Casket bearers were Tyler Thomas, Tony Thomas, Kenton Abbott, Regina Abbott, Joe Haskett, Wade Haskett and Andrea Abbott. Honorary bearers were Darla Abbott, Luke Abbott, Michael Abbott, Daniel Abbott and her nieces and nephews.

Olliff Boeve Funeral Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Two Latter-Day Saints missionaries are assigned to live in Norton

Two Elders of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints have recently been assigned to live in Norton and to serve Norton and Graham Counties. Previously missionaries who lived in Phillipsburg have served the two counties.

The two are Elder Weaver and Elder Richardson.

Elder Weaver's home is in Tyler, Texas. He enjoys sports, fishing and sharing his testimony of Jesus Christ. He has been serving on his two-year mission for about 16 months.

He is accompanied by Elder

Richardson of Queen Creek, Ariz. Elder Richardson has worked in Arizona to save the money it takes to support himself while on his mission.

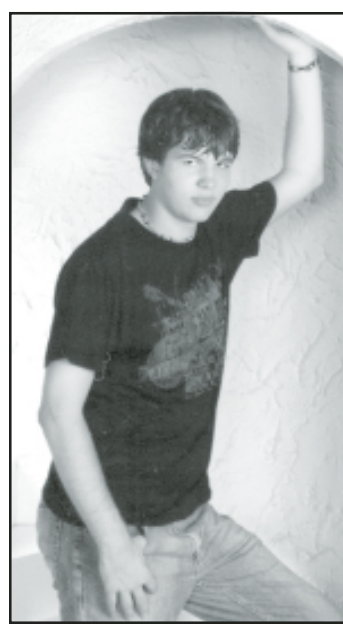
Latter-Day Saints missionaries do not draw a salary, but they and their families provide for their support while they are out telling others about their church. They are available for group speaking engagements. If you need someone to pray with you, please feel free to ask the elders. To contact Elder Weaver or Elder Richardson call 785-543-7912.

Governor honors senior

At the invitation of Governor Kathleen Sebelius, Mathew J. L. Shepard, a graduating senior from Norton Community High School, was selected to attend the 24th Annual Governor's Scholars Award Program on May 6 in Topeka.

The ceremony honors the top academic one percent of Kansas high school seniors from accredited public and private schools in the state.

Mat has been awarded a \$3,000 renewable Hansen Scholarship, a \$2,000 Nuttcomb Scholarship and named a Horatio Alger National Scholar.



Mathew Shepard

He plans to attend the University of Kansas and major in chemical engineering with studies directed towards premed.

Mat is the son of Paul and Virginia Shepard.

Sixtieth anniversary celebrated with picnic

Long-time Norton residents, George and Violet Clark, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Saturday, May 12, just two days before their actual anniversary date of May 14.

Over 50 family and friends attended a picnic at the city park hosted by their children, Cheryl

and Steve Thieler, Boulder, Colo. and Elza and Lisa Clark, Valley Falls. Their granddaughter, Jenna Thieler, Boulder, also helped host the celebration.

Relatives came from Colorado, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska to help Mr. and Mrs. Clark celebrate.

BIRTH

Sophia Grace DeDonder

Curt and Melissa DeDonder of Topeka are the parents of a daughter, Sophia Grace DeDonder, born April 30, at St. Francis Health Center in Topeka. She weighed 6 pounds, 2 ounces and was 18 1/2 inches long.

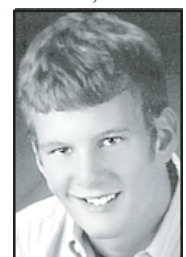
Grandparents are Stan and

Carol Miller, Norcatour, and Bob and Becky DeDonder, St. Mary's.

Great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. John Rule, Clayton, and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Miller, Oberlin. Great-great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Art Harries, St. Mary's.

READERS

Brian Juenemann, 2007 Norton Community High School graduate, accepted a \$500 Award of Excellence in agriculture from Fort Hays State University.



B. Jueneman

He is involved in basketball, football, forensics, Kansas Association for Youth, FFA and Catholic Youth Organization, received the President's Award and is on the Honor Roll.

Mr. Juenemann, son of Lee and Angie Juenemann, Norton, plans to major in agribusiness.

Andrea Lowry, 2007 Northern Valley High School graduate, accepted a \$700 Fort Hays Bronze Academic Award and a \$500 Award of Excellence in business and leadership.



Andrea Lowry

She is involved in volleyball, forensics, cross country, track, Kansas Association for Youth, Student Council, yearbook, band, vocals, cheerleading and National Honor Society and is senior class president.

Miss Lowry, daughter of Bill and Susan Lowry, Almena, plans to major in finance.

Aaron Daniels, son of Wanda Daniels, Norton, won Grand Champion of the Architectural Elevation Hand-Drawn category in the Northwest Kansas Technical College Engineering Drafting contest held April 11.



Aaron Daniels

Aaron is a graduate of Norton Community High School and plans to attend the college as a student in the engineering department.

Chicks arrival is a special delivery

Mama and I have been preparing all week and today the call finally came. Mr. Pickering just called from the post office to announce that the baby chicks have arrived in the morning mail. Mama holds the telephone over to my ear so I can hear. The post office is a riot of tiny cheepings from all the boxes of baby chicks stacked for pick-up. Dad will bring our box home when he comes from the store for lunch.

Down to the basement we go to be sure the chicks' new home is ready. A thick layer of newspaper laid down in a solid corner, enclosed with the oak dining table leaves propped up with apple boxes, create a pen for our expected guests. Mason jars filled with water stand ready to be topped with old saucers and tipped over to create watering kiosks and a big bag of chick mash is leaning up against the wall. Above the makeshift enclosure hangs a rigged-up extension cord with a big light bulb. Mama turns it on so the area will be warm for our babies when we put them in. And, the Hen House Hilton is ready to go.

There is Dad's kick at the back screen and we run to open the door for him. He has a big flat cardboard box balanced in his arms. Through the ventilation holes we can hear chirps of confusion and shufflings of tiny toes. "Let's get them lifted quickly," Mama says, "and see how many survived the journey." And so we raise the lid to behold clusters of yellow fluff, wee pointy beaks and frightened little black eyes.

Each tiny chick is gently enclosed in a tender hand, set down on the newspaper on wobbly little legs, beak dipped lightly in a saucer of water and the head tipped back just enough so the cooling drink would run down throats dry since birth. Just that simple process taught them to drink and eat. I even got to lift a few and teach them. They were so soft and fuzzy but inside the little bitty bodies I could feel little bitty worried hearts beating a mile a minute. I hope they feel at home soon.

Child of the 40s

Liza Deines



Dad had to hurry back to the store but he cautioned Mama and me to stay with the chicks to be sure they wouldn't all pile up in a corner and smother themselves. At two cents a chick, we sure didn't want to lose any. A few had suffered that fate in the box, but out of 200 ordered, there were 194 little cheepers in the pen, milling around as they tried out spindly legs and discovered their winglets.

While we kept watch, Mama told me about how little chicks were once hatched by a settin' hen, sheltered under fluffy, warm wings. Later on, chicks were hatched in a kerosene-powered incubator. Fertilized eggs were carefully rolled a quarter turn daily and the kerosene burner had to be kept at a certain temperature to duplicate the warmth of a hen's sheltering wings. A settin' hen sure sounded a cozier home to me.

At last our new flock settled down to sleep without cuddling into heaps and Mama and I went upstairs. "Tomorrow we'll start them on mash," Mama said. "You'll be surprised how fast they'll be ready to move to the chicken house...and then to the skillet!" It is hard for me to think of those wee yellow fuzz balls as future food, but I sure do love Mama's fried chicken.

"It would be easier with an incubator and a brooder house," Mama explained, "but money is short and there's more than one way to skin a cat OR raise a chicken." "And it wouldn't be as much fun either, would it, Mama?" I replied. She smiled. We, as well as the chicks, were content.

CHICKEN FACT: Did you know poultry love citrus fruit? Give them orange or grapefruit peels and they will pick them clean as a whistle.

Salad supper ends school year for local teachers' sorority

The May 7 meeting of the Beta Alpha Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International was held in the basement of City Hall. Co-hostesses for the annual salad supper were Robbie Griffiths, Verlaine Schooler, Susan Lowry and Julie Thompson. Seventeen members and guest, Brenda Mann, were present.

After the meal, President Nan Smith, conducted the meeting. A thank you note was received from the staff at Eisenhower Elementary School expressing their appreciation for the prizes donated by the club to the Accelerated Reading program. Another thank

you was read concerning the club's donation towards a door prize at the state convention.

Lynn Hehn and Nancy Sebelius provided the program filled with ideas from the convention. Through song and storytelling, they encouraged members to "ignite their passions". Elvina McLallen won "Money the Fun Way". A club scholarship recipient was discussed.

The next meeting will be Oct. 1 at the home of Sandy Worden.

MARKETS

At close of business May 21

Wheat	\$4.42
Milo	\$3.38
Corn	\$3.81
Soybeans	\$6.97

The Norton Telegram... News you need!

The Norton Community High School Class of 1957 is Celebrating Their 50th Class Reunion on SATURDAY, MAY 26.

THERE WILL BE AN OPEN HOUSE AT THE EAGLES CLUB FROM 2 TO 4 P.M. FOR FRIENDS TO VISIT WITH CLASS MEMBERS

Volunteers Needed to put up Avenue of Flags at the Norton Cemetery

Meet at 6:00 a.m. Monday, May 28

Norton American Legion

SPECIAL TREATS FOR MEMORIAL DAY PICNICS

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Show Times: Fri. & Sat.: 7:00 & 9:30

Sunday: 5 & 7:30 p.m.; Mon., Tues., Wed.: 7 p.m.

SHREK THE THIRD

(PG-13) (PREMIERE)

COMING SOON:

•May 25-Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End

POP POP POP

Let's go to the Movie

No movie passes accepted for either movie