

OBITUARIES

Jeremey James 'J.J.' Courtain

April 28, 1977 - Jan. 11, 2013

Jeremey James "J.J." Courtain, son of Kim (Courtain) Linner, was born April 28, 1977, in Norton. He lost his battle in life on Jan. 11, 2013, at the age of 35.

J.J. grew up in the Norton and Almena communities. He enjoyed driving trucks when he could lightly apply the pedal to the metal. His joy in life was spending time with his children and family.

Survivors include: his son, Jesse Courtain, and daughter, Macie Courtain; his parents, Kim and Roger Linner; his grandmother, Ila M. Courtain-Marble; his siblings, Tyler, Turner, Thunder, Dani, HalLee, and Ehme; his nephew, Tyson; and his extended family, Eden; his extra special friends, Mary Arehart and her children, Dave, Denny, and Stacy Nickell, Susan Fries, aunts, uncles, cousins too numerous to mention.

J.J. was preceded in death by his grandfathers,

Darwin Loughry, Gil Courtain, and Ron Marble, his grandmother, Annabelle Linner, his great-grandparents, Frank and Lucille Hoover, Alvah and Evelyn Loughry, Yvonne Courtain, great-great-grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and extra special friend, Rod Arehart.

Funeral services will be held on Monday, Jan. 21 at 10:30 a.m. at Enfield Funeral Home in Norton.

The family has requested that in lieu of flowers a donation be made to the J.J. Courtain Memorial Fund.

Condolences can be sent to www.enfieldfh.com.

Arrangements are by Enfield Funeral Home of Norton.

Inurnment will be at a later date.

David L. Browne II

Oct. 6, 1930 - Jan. 9, 2013

David L. Browne, II, passed away peacefully Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2013, in Norton at the age of 82. He was born Oct. 6, 1930, to David and Helen (Correll) Browne. David was a fourth generation Norton county resident and graduated from Norton Community High School in 1948. He entered the University of Notre Dame in 1948, studying Business and Accounting.

After his junior year, he served two years with the United States Marine Corps in Korea, attaining the rank of sergeant. He then returned to Notre Dame, graduating in 1954.

After graduation, he became office manager for the Upjohn Pharmaceutical Company in Kansas City. It was there he met and married Norma "Honey" Wurster Browne on June 23, 1956. In 1960, he returned to the family business, operating

Browne's Clothing in Norton and Hays. Under Dave's direction, the business thrived for over three decades. After retirement, he continued to operate Browne farms.

David was also involved in community affairs, serving on the County Fair Board, as chairman of the United Fund Campaign, the Norton School Board and Booster Club, the Norton Hospital Board, the First Security Bank Board, and the Norton Development Corporation.

The Browne family has been a strong supporter of the Norton Library. David, his brother, John, and sister, Ann Davis, donated the Browne's Store building to the youth of Norton County.

David was preceded in death by his parents, his aunt, Mary M. Browne, and his brother, John.

He is survived by his wife, Norma, daughters: Becky (Hank) Spencer of Marshfield, Wis.; Lisa (Bruce) Fillingim of Coppell, Texas; and sons: David III (Joan) Browne of Colby; Steve (Julie) Browne, of Leawood; Chris (Kerrie) Browne of Tulsa, Okla.; and 14 grandchildren.

Mass of the Christian Burial was held Monday, Jan. 14, 2013, at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Norton.

Burial was in the Norton Cemetery.

A memorial has been established to the Norton Public Library.

Condolences may be sent to www.enfieldfh.com.

Arrangements were with the Enfield Funeral Home in Norton.

Jessie Lorena (Dawes) Halbert

March 3, 1928 - Jan. 7, 2013

Jessie Lorena (Dawes) Halbert, daughter of Martha and John Dawes, passed away Jan. 7, 2013 in McAllen, Texas.

Jessie was born March 3, 1928 in Logan, and graduated from Densmore Rural High School. She married Ted M. Halbert on May 4, 1948 in Densmore. To this union one child was born, James Halbert.

Jessie was preceded in death by her husband Ted, two brothers and one sister.

Survivors; one son, James, one sister, Dorothy Lewis, two brothers, Lester and Ralph Dawes, one niece, Arnett Rosenburg, cousins, nephews and friends.

Cremation arrangements were under the direction of Skinner-Silva Funeral Home, Edinburg, Texas.

Memorial services will be held in Norton at a later date.

It's not too late to winterize your car

The last thing any driver needs is a vehicle that breaks down in cold, harsh winter weather. It's not too late to have your vehicle checked, saving you from the cost and hassle of unexpected emergency repairs when severe weather strikes.

Battery - Keep the battery connections clean, tight and corrosion-free. Batteries don't always give warning signs before they fail completely so it's wise to replace batteries that are more than three years old.

Antifreeze - Antifreeze (coolant) should be flushed and refilled at least every two years in most vehicles. As a reminder, do not add 100 percent antifreeze as full-strength antifreeze actually has a lower freeze point than when mixed with water.

Brakes - Have the brakes checked. The braking system is the vehicle's most important safety item and is key while driving on icy or snow-covered roads.

Tires - Check the tire tread depth and tire pressure. If snow and ice are a problem in your area, consider special tires designed to grip slick roads. During winter, tire pressure should be checked weekly as tires will lose pressure when temperatures drop.

Oil - Be diligent about changing the oil and filter at recommended intervals. Dirty oil can spell trouble in winter. Consider changing to low-viscosity oil in winter, as it will flow more easily between moving parts when cold.

Wiper Blades - Cold weather can affect the life of windshield wipers. Wiper blades that are cracked or torn, or that chatter, streak and don't properly clean your windshield, should be changed. Check the windshield washer reservoir in case it needs fluid.

Be sure to keep your vehicle's gas tank at least half full as that decreases the chances of moisture forming in the gas lines and possibly freezing. If you're due for a tune-up, consider having it done as winter weather magnifies existing problems such as pings, hard starts, sluggish performance or rough idling. To help you drive smart and save money, visit www.carcare.org and check out the free digital Car Care Guide.

Northwest Tech awarded \$50,000 grant

The Dane G. Hansen Foundation awarded Northwest Kansas Technical College a \$50,000 grant for the "Tools for Success" project. The project funds the purchase of three tool kits for each of the divisions in the Transportation and Construction programs. These tool kits expand access to high wage, high demand careers by lessening the upfront cost of tools by making rental tool kits available to students.

One of the most significant challenges to the Kansas economy is closing the skills gap by training students for stable, higher wage technical careers. Governor Brownback took a significant step forward by introducing Senate bill 155 to fund technical education at the high school level. Kansas students are now able to attain technical education credits and industry-recognized credentials prior to graduation through the tuition waiver program. However, access is limited for students who do not have funds available upfront to purchase the necessary tool kits ranging from \$400 to \$3,300 per program. The Dane G. Hansen Foundation funded Tools for Success project ad-

resses this barrier by providing rental tool kits at a fraction of the cost.

The Dane G. Hansen Foundation has a long history of supporting technical education. Each year the foundation generously funds one hundred Career and Technical Education Scholarships to assist students within the service area attend technical programs in Kansas. The Tools for Success project furthers this assistance by providing an alternative to accessing the tools necessary to pursue high wage, high demand careers, particularly for high school College Option or low income students who may not be able to attend otherwise.

To inquire about programs at Northwest Tech or the Tools for Success project, please contact admissions at (800) 316-4127 or admissions@nkwtc.edu.

For more information on Northwest Tech, please visit www.nkwtc.edu.

For more information about the Dane G. Hansen museum and scholarship funds, please visit www.hansenmuseum.org or www.hansenfoundationscholarships.com/Trustees.asp.

Science and earth



Four students competed in the Norton Junior High School Geography Bee on Wednesday. Mr. Fiscus was the moderator, challenging the students, geography knowledge. (From left to right) Layton Miller, Dallas Gosselin, Cale Patterson and Justis Posson breezed through the first round, but in the end, Layton Miller was the winner.

—Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

'What's important is the fit'

By Ron Wilson

Huck Boyd Institute

"What's important is the fit." That statement might apply to your suit or your shoes. It also applies to economic development. This is a story of a dairy enterprise which came to rural Kansas - in large part, because the "fit" felt right.

In last week's Kansas Profile we met Tom McCarty and his four sons Clay, Mike, David, and Ken, owners of McCarty Family Farms LLC in northwest Kansas. Today, in the conclusion of our two-part series on these entrepreneurial dairymen, we'll learn about their innovative marketing agreement and care of natural resources.

The McCartys were a long-time dairy family in Pennsylvania, but when they needed room to grow in the 1990s, they relocated to rural western Kansas.

Why? Well, what's important is the fit. In a nutshell, dairies are a good fit with the Kansas agribusiness economy. Unlike the congested areas of the east coast or California, rural Kansas has lots of livestock feed and room to grow. Rural Kansas also needs more people and more jobs.

The McCartys built their first dairy at Rexford and expanded through the years. Their next dairy was built near the rural community of Bird City, population 472 people. Now, that's rural. Now the McCartys are operating a dairy near Scott City as well.

The three dairies produce about 59,000 gallons of milk

per day. They milk about 7,200 cows - twice a day, 7 days a week.

In 2012, the McCartys announced the completion of a multi-million dollar milk processor and evaporator at the Rexford facility. In June, they signed an exclusive rights agreement to provide all of the condensed skim milk for Dannon Yogurt's plant in Fort Worth, Texas.

In the main facility at Rexford, McCarty Family Farms has positioned itself as a "net-neutral, or a net-negative water user," according to Ken McCarty.

"We've added 500 head of lactating cows," he said. "Cows drink a lot of water, [but] we actually draw less water out of our well today than we did a year ago." Water to the facility is filtered, purified and eventually used as drinking water. It is then drawn from the milk in the newly-built evaporator, and used in lagoons and cropland.

"The lifecycle of a gallon of water on this farm is pretty dynamic," Ken McCarty said. "Water can be recycled anywhere from two to six times on this dairy before it eventually ends up out on the fields. We use zero commercial fertilizer on our ground and we also have enough effluent waste to spread on other farmers' grounds, where they have to use zero commercial fertilizers. We recycle all of our sand bedding. Everything is done on these farms for economic reasons but also for sustainability reasons. We try to recycle and re-use and be

as efficient as we can be."

Tom McCarty says taking care of the land "is what we do. We take pride in taking good care of cattle; employees get a lot of training in doing everything properly. Environmentally, we've had a very good relationship with the [Kansas Department of Health and Environment]."

The McCartys also credit K-State Research and Extension faculty for their assistance. "K-State helped with the dairy's overall concept and the basic ideas and critical components," Ken McCarty said. "We don't have time to pour over research journals and do studies, that's why we lean on those guys. They've been a phenomenal help."

"By bringing the McCarty Dairy to northwest Kansas and creating the jobs and...increasing the enrollment in schools, that has made a huge impact for us," said Christy Rocca, director of the Thomas County Economic Development Alliance. "This is what it's going to take to bring people back to northwest Kansas."

"What's important is the fit." Yes, that statement is true of your shoes, your suit, and the type of businesses we recruit. We commend Tom, Clay, Mike, David, and Ken and all the McCarty family for making a difference by making a new life in Kansas. Their innovative dairy production seems to be a good fit with the high plains of Kansas, and if the shoe fits, wear it.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The schedule for Meals on Wheels for Jan. 7 through March 3 is as follows:

Jan. 14-25 Community volunteers, contact Alice Hawks (877-3351)

Jan. 26-27 20th Century Federated Club, contact Lottie Wiltfong (877-5286)

Jan. 28-Feb. 3 St. Francis Altar Society, contact Jan Volgamore (877-5653)

Feb. 4-10 Redeemer Lutheran Church, contact Cynthia Washburn (877-3004)

Feb. 11-17 Knights of Columbus, contact Chris McDiffett (877-2216)

Feb. 18-24 Immanuel Lutheran Church, contact Fonda Lawrence (877-3145)

Feb. 25-March 3 Community volunteers, contact Alice Hawks (877-3351)

TARA JOHNSON
785-421-8919
cb lazer07@yahoo.com
OWNER

BELLA SOLE
785-874-4014
TANNING

CARLIE JOHNSON
Beautician
Pedicures, Manicures
785-421-7385

Let's Go to the Movie

Showing at the
NORTON THEATRE
The Guilt Trip
(PG-13) - 1 Hour, 45 Minutes
Friday and Saturday: 8:00 p.m.
Sunday: 5:00 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Lincoln
(PG-13)
2 Hours, 40 Minutes

The Guilt Trip and Lincoln are both non-premiere movies-\$3/tx on Sunday

The Guilt Trip is a non-premiere movie \$7.00 and \$6.00. \$3.00/tx on Sunday
Lincoln is a non-premiere movie - \$7.00 and \$6.00. \$3.00/tx on Sunday

Coming soon to the Norton Theatre:
Les Miserables (PG-13)
Sunday, January 20 and January 27-2:00 p.m. For Greater Glory (R)

This ad is brought to you by The Norton Telegram

