

OBITUARIES

Frederick Zerr Sept. 22, 1950 - May 28, 2013

Frederick Zerr, 62, of Ravenna, Neb., died Tuesday, May 28, 2013 at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Omaha, Neb.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday, May 31, 2013 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Ravenna. Rev. Martin Egging will officiate.

Burial will be in Highland Park Cemetery in Ravenna. Wake Service will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at the church.

Memorials are suggested to the Boy Scouts. Rasmussen Funeral Home in Ravenna is in charge of arrangements.

Fred Zerr was born Sept. 22, 1950 in Norton, to Michael and Thelma (Johnson) Zerr. He was educated in Alma, and graduated from high school there. He attended Vocational Tech school in Goodland, studying diesel mechanics. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam.

He married Margaret Eggers on the Zerr Family Farm in Kansas on July 14, 1988. They made their home in Ravenna.

Fred was active in the Boy Scouts; he enjoyed gardening, fishing and hunting.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret of Ravenna, twin son

and daughter, Michael Zerr and Cassandra Duncan and her husband, Denton all of Ravenna, grandson, Lucas Duncan of Ravenna, grand-dogs, Torq and Throttle and Gunner and Abbie, sister, Ramona Pabian of Ravenna, two brothers, Adam Zerr of Norton, and Dennis and his wife, Wauneta Zerr of Lexington, Neb., and sister-in-law, Deb Florom of Alma, Neb.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Robert and Mike, Jr., sister, Mary Jane and brother-in-law, Vern.

Work begins on I-70 in Ellis County

Beginning Wednesday, May 29, a job to seal I-70 in Ellis County will begin, weather permitting.

Starting at the Trego/Ellis County line and continuing east approximately 15 miles to the U.S. 183 junction, workers will spread a thin layer of asphalt over the pavement then coat it with a layer of rock chips that are pressed into place with heavy rollers. Chip Seals are a low cost method of sealing minor cracking in a roadway, preventing water from seeping into the pavement and therefore extending the life of the roadway.

Interstate traffic will be reduced to one directional lane through the work zone, during daylight hours. The public should plan their travels accordingly.

Please use caution, pay attention to the work zone signs, and respect workers when driving through any road construction zone. Slow down and "Give 'Em A Brake."

KDOT awarded the chip seal construction contract - totaling \$1,559,218 - to Heft and Sons, L.L.C. of Greensburg.

Weather permitting, the I-70 seal will be complete by mid-June.

For questions concerning this project, please contact KDOT Northwest Kansas Public Affairs Manager Kristen Brands at (785) 877-3315 or kristenb@ksdot.org in Norton.

Engagement

Tom and Sandy Brown of Norton, along with James Stunkel, Bill and Mirna Malcolm all of Clay Center, would like to announce the engagement and pending marriage of their children, Austin Brown and Ashley Stunkel.

Austin is a 2008 graduate of Norton Community High School and a 2009 graduate of Beloit Tech. He is employed as a welder at Caterpillar in Wamego.

Ashley is a 2010 graduate of Clay Center Community High School. She is employed with Deseret Health and Rehab in Onaga.

An outdoor wedding is planned at their home in Onaga, on June 1, 2013.



The world's largest baseball is in Kansas

By Ron Wilson
Huck Boyd Institute

"These are the saddest of possible words: Tinker to Evers to Chance. Trio of bear cubs and fleeter than birds: Tinker and Evers and Chance." These famous words come from a poem about baseball. The poem was written from the standpoint of a rival team, but it made famous the best double-play combination in baseball at the time. One of those great players, Joe Tinker, was born in rural Kansas. His hometown is now honoring that history in a big way - and I mean that literally.

Jeff and C.J. Hanson live in the Atchison County town of Muscotah where Joe Tinker was born.

Joe Tinker debuted with the Chicago Cubs as a short-stop in 1902. In the lineup, he joined second baseman Johnny Evers and first baseman Frank Chance. The defensive combination clicked. The fleet-footed Tinker would snag ground balls and throw them to Evers at second base who would throw to Chance at first to put out the runners: Tinker to Evers to Chance.

In 1905, Joe Tinker led the National League in double plays. Tinker, Evers and Chance led the Cubs to four pennants and two World Series championships. It motivated a rival fan to write: "These are the saddest of possible words: Tinker to Evers to Chance."

More than a century later, people in Joe Tinker's birthplace of Muscotah were looking for ways to help the community. After a carpentry career in Colorado, Jeff and C.J. Hanson had moved to Muscotah to be close to her aging parents (who are a mere 92 and 96 years old).

Jeff and C.J. had volunteered on a project done by Marci Penner and her Kansas Sam-

pler Foundation in a nearby community. Marci wanted to help Muscotah as well. Her group noticed a sign saying that Muscotah was the birthplace of Joe Tinker. One person suggested that the round water tower be painted to resemble a baseball, but it wasn't practical at the time.

Then when the municipality chose to upgrade its water system and replace the tank, Jeff Hanson had a creative idea. What if Muscotah could repurpose the old, round water tank to look like the world's largest baseball, with a baseball museum inside?

Of course, there are a few zillion complications with such an idea, such as who would do this and who would pay for it? Rural communities like Muscotah don't have big city staffs or budgets. But Marci Penner of the Kansas Sampler Foundation encouraged the idea.

When a contractor brought down the tank, Jeff Hanson bought it to save it from salvage and moved it to a location where it could be seen from the highway. Marci helped organize a weekend for volunteers to work on this project.

On May 17-19, some 25 volunteers came together to remake the water tank. The Kansas Sampler Foundation collected nearly \$6,000 in donations to support the project, not counting donat-

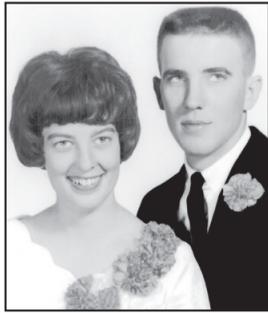
ed labor and supplies. Not one penny of taxpayers' money has been spent on this project. In the best tradition of rural Kansas, a group of volunteers came together to make it happen.

Now the giant, 20-foot diameter baseball is freshly painted, complete with red rebar which looks like stitching. Work is continuing on the interior and on the landscaping of a 1/4-scale ball diamond. Joe Tinker-era memorabilia and local family histories are being collected for display in the museum, which will open when resources allow. The Guinness Book of World Records has been contacted. How remarkable it would be to find the world's largest baseball in a rural community like Muscotah, population 200 people. Now, that's rural.

"I hope this baseball will be a symbol of the rebirth of Muscotah," Jeff said.

"These are the best of possible words: Tinker to Evers to Chance. Inspired a museum as today you have heard: Tinker to Evers to Chance." That's my variation on this famous baseball poem, featuring Muscotah's native son Joe Tinker. We salute Jeff and C.J. Hanson, the people of Muscotah, Marci Penner, and all the wonderful volunteers who are making a difference by making this dream a reality. They are having a ball.

50th Anniversary



Joe and June (Clydesdale) Nold will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 22, 2013. They met at Fort Hays State University and

were married in Lenora, Kansas in 1963. They raised a family of three children: Jill (Tom), Jeff (Laura) and Joe (Sarah) and are the grandparents of eight grandchildren. Enlistment and employment with the Coleman Company led to many moves - from the east Coast to southern California, and many stops in between. Upon retirement, they settled in Joe's hometown of Abilene. Joe and June will celebrate this milestone with their children and grandchildren in Colorado this summer.

Please send your best wishes



es in honor of their anniversary to:

Joe and June Nold
2191 Eden Road, #11
Abilene, KS 67410

World champion to compete in Phillipsburg

The bulls and the cowboys stampede into Phillipsburg this weekend for the 2nd annual Phillipsburg Professional Bull Riding!

Among the 36 riders who will hang on for the eight second ride is 2009 PBR World Champion Kody Lostro.

Lostro grew up in a non-rodeo family and got interested in rodeo by watching a Cheyenne (Wyo.) Frontier Days rodeo video. "I'd always watch the bull riding over and over and over," he said. "My mom signed me up to ride a steer at the fair when I was seven, and I liked doing it." The seed for Kody's future career was sown. "I didn't have a clue what I was doing. It was trial and error."

Kody competed in high school rodeo, winning the Colorado High School Bull Riding title three years, and finishing second in the nation when he was a junior. He went to the University of Wyoming on a rodeo scholarship, but success in the pro rodeo world beckoned so he quit college and went to riding bulls full time.

He was the PBR's Rookie of the Year in 2005 and four years later, won the World Championship. In the eight years he's been a PBR member, he's finished six of those years in the top twenty in the world.

Like any bull rider, injuries have been part of Kody's career. He's broken his back twice, his eye socket, cheekbone, legs, ribs, and arms. "Anybody who has ridden bulls for any amount of time can probably write you a book" on their injuries, Kody said. But broken bones are not that serious. "All broken bones heal. The stuff that nags a guy is ligaments and tendons. Those things don't seem to get bet-

ter." He's dealing with a problem shoulder right now. "It got torn up and I had it fixed three years ago. Three weeks ago I dislocated it again, and now I'm figuring out the best course of action" to make it better.

Like all bull riders, Kody has learned to deal with the pain. "We love riding bulls and it's how to pay the bills, so I have to tough it out sometimes. It's not something that comes as a surprise. Everybody getting into (bull riding) knows it'll happen. It's another challenge we have to overcome."

Kody knows that riding bulls is his calling and a challenge he loves. "It's a lot of fun to be overmatched and come out on top. I don't know what God's purpose is in it, but I know he's given me this talent for a reason. If I can do what I've been blessed with, and help others to reach their potential as well, and make a positive impact in people's lives, that's what counts. It's not about me riding bulls but helping others."

This year, Kody will compete in the Pro Rodeo Cowboys Association as well as PBR events. "I'm not a spring chicken in the bull riding age anymore, and I've always wanted to go to the National Finals Rodeo. That was one of my goals when I first started."

Kody and his wife Candace have been married seven years and have a daughter who is ten months old.

He will compete at the Phillipsburg PBR June 1 at 8 pm. Tickets are available at Heritage Insurance Co. in Phillipsburg (785-543-2448) and at the gate. Tickets range in price from \$18 to \$25. Children under the age of 12 receive a free general admission ticket when accompanied

by an adult. For more information, visit kansasbiggestrodeo.com or facebook.com/PhillipsburgPBR.

Other PBR contestants in Phillipsburg on June 1 are Skeeter Kingsolver, McLouth, Kan., Carrson Hiatt, Rosalia, Kan., Kasey Hayes, Liberal, Kan., and Mike Lee, Decatur, Texas. A complete list of contestants can be found at www.Facebook.com/PhillipsburgPBR.

WATER AEROBICS CLASSES
to be offered by Norton County Hospital's
Physical Therapy Department

Norton Municipal Swimming Pool
Tuesdays and Thursdays, Weather Permitting,
JUNE 11 THROUGH AUGUST 1
WE ENCOURAGE PARTICIPANTS TO WEAR WATER SHOES
Low Impact Classes: 5:00-5:30 p.m.
High Impact Classes: 5:30-6:30 p.m.
\$25.00 Paid First Night of Class at the Pool
• NO EARLY REGISTRATION REQUIRED •



A
Huge
Thank
You

to Regina Stark at Stitch Up A Storm for going above and beyond for a stranger in an emergency situation and for tracking me down to be sure I had what I needed before leaving town. I am forever in your debt.

*Tim Huffman
Temple, Texas*

Congratulations to
LeRoy and Marjorie (Nyland) Lambert
on 50 years together,



Those wanting to join in the
celebration, send cards to:
301 N. Hwy. 183, Miller, NE 68858

May 31-
June 5

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2 Hours, 33 Minutes
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Epic-in 3D is a Premiere movie - \$7.00 and \$6.00. NO Sunday Discount
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