

OBITUARIES

Ida Hulda Gowens

Nov. 19, 1922 - Dec. 26, 2013

Ida Hulda Gowens, age 91, passed away at 7:06 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 26, 2013, at Emerald Pointe Nursing Home, Galena.

Ida was born Nov. 19, 1922, in Norton. Her parents were Paul Emil and Agnes (Dicks) Wudtke. She has lived in Galena since 1954.

She and her husband owned and edited the Galena Sentinel Times Newspaper from 1954 until 1975. She then began working in area nursing homes and hospitals as a Certified Nursing Assistant. She was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Joplin, Mo. She was formerly active in the American Legion and the VFW Auxiliaries. She had also been involved with her children's activities

working as a volunteer in the PTA, Cub Scouts Den Mother, Girl Scout Leader and the Band Club. She used to play the piano. She enjoyed working word search puzzles and being with her grandchildren.

Ida was married to Aaron Virgil Gowens on June 28, 1942, in Norton. He passed away Jan. 15, 1973.

She was also preceded in death by two brothers, Herman Wudtke and Art Wudtke; one sister, Leonora Braun; and two grandsons, Jeff Gowens and Russell Gowens.

Surviving are two sons, LeRoy (wife Patricia Anne) Gowens, Miami, Okla., and Leon (wife Debra) Gowens, Galena; two daughters, Lorinda Thomas, Pittsburg, Kan., and Leanna

(husband Danny) Baker, Fremont, Calif.; one brother, Marvin Wudtke, Norton; two sisters, Alma Schulze, Norton, and Norma Jean Davis, Colorado Springs, Colo.; 11 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren and nine great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were Thursday, Jan. 2, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Joplin, Mo., with Rev. Gregory Mech officiating.

Burial followed at Oak Hill Cemetery, Galena.

The family asks that memorial contributions be made to Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Online condolences may be made at www.derfeltfuneralhomes.com.

Ida Mae Utley

May 4, 1925 - Dec. 30, 2013

Ida Mae Utley, 88, of Emporia, passed away Monday, Dec. 30, 2013 at her home in Emporia.

Ida was born on May 4, 1925 in Rhome, Texas, the daughter of John E. and Rose Lee Pickett Nehrmeyer. She married James William "Jay" Utley on Dec. 21, 1946 in Denver, Colo. He died June 1, 2002 in Emporia.

Surviving family members include: her daughter, Carla Alpers and husband Mike of Emporia; grandchildren, Chris Alpers and wife Crystal of Olathe, Kansas, and Eric Alpers and fiancée

Meghan Rogers of Olathe; and great-grandchildren, Mikayla and Michael Alpers.

She is preceded in death by her husband, and sisters, Luella Nehrmeyer, Helen Rhoads, and Dorothy Johnson.

Ida was a Registered Nurse in Denver for 16 years. She later owned and operated a Best Western in Norton, from 1971 to 1991 with her husband. After retirement she moved to Emporia to be closer to her family. She was a member of The Church of Christ, Ladies Bible Class, and member of the New-

man Regional Health Auxiliary, serving as a Pink Lady.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m., Friday, Jan. 3, 2014 at Roberts-Blue-Barnett Funeral Home, Emporia.

Visitation was from noon until service time.

Burial followed at Memorial Lawn Cemetery, Emporia.

Memorial contributions to St. Jude Children's Hospital may be sent in care of Roberts-Blue-Barnett Funeral Home.

You can leave online condolences at robertsblue.com

Loyd completes fellowship program

Gwen Loyd, Risk Management/Quality Improvement Coordinator for Norton County Hospital, recently completed the 2013 Improvement Leader Fellowship training program hosted by the Health Research and Educational Trust (HRET), a subsidiary of the American Hospital Association.

Through the national fellowship program, Loyd learned methods and skills to facilitate hospital-based patient safety and quality improvement programs, including design and implementation of highly reliable processes, enhanced teamwork and effective use of data to drive high performance in patient safety and clinical outcomes.

The Kansas Healthcare Collaborative (KHC), based in Topeka, recruited Loyd and 63 other participants from 44 hos-

pitals across the state to participate in the HRET's fellowship program to become mentors in Kansas quality improvement infrastructure.

The Kansas Healthcare Collaborative is enthusiastic and committed to investing in the development of the leadership skills of Kansas health care professionals, said Kendra Tinsley, executive director of KHC. These individuals will be the champions of quality improvement throughout their facilities and the state.

The training is designed to assist hospital leaders in Kansas and 30 other states working with HRET to achieve national patient safety goals that will improve the quality, safety and affordability of health care for their patients.

Loyd commented, "It's great

to be involved and see the changes taking place in a rapidly evolving healthcare field. Having opportunities to participate in programs like this gives small hospitals like Norton County Hospital a voice in the future of healthcare."

The Kansas Healthcare Collaborative is a nonprofit, provider-led organization founded in 2008 by the Kansas Medical Society and the Kansas Hospital Association. KHC embodies the commitment of two of the state's leading health care provider groups to act as a resource and continuously enhance the quality of care provided to Kansans through patient-centered initiatives that improve quality, safety and value. For more information about the Kansas Healthcare Collaborative visit www.khconline.org.

JENNINGS NEWS

By Louise Cressler

Guests at the Sue Long home for Christmas were Lori Schiefen and Katlyn and Brian Schiefen of Overland Park. Jason Row, Drake and Brecken, Tom Votapka and Terri Hanke joined the group for Christmas Eve supper.

"The Paper Bag Christmas"

by Kevin Alan Milne was read and discussed by the Jennings Book Club in December. On December 18, club members were greeted by twinkling outside lights and a multitude of Santa's and Snowmen inside the home of Sue Long. Those enjoying the holiday gathering included Jacque McKenna,

Lynn Tacha, Terri Hanke, Carla Latimer, Helen Rhodes, Kathy Nauer, Shelley McKenna, Lila Jennings, Patty Foster and Sue Long. Terri Hanke will host the next meeting on January 23. "The Ox-Bow Incident" by Walter Van Tilburg Clark is the book chosen for January.

ka; Jacque McKenna and Marcus McKenna, Lawrence; Chris McKenna, Scott City; Kelsey Hladek, Hays.

Shelby of Delphos; Nathan and Nikole DeWitt, Ethan and Macy of Inman.

Greg and Paula McKenna, Marlee, Landee, Hallee and Baylee hosted a Christmas Eve gathering in Selden. Those attending included Kathy and Nick Otter, Sean Otter, Hoxie; Pat and Shelley McKenna, Mike and Joan McKenna, Jennings; D'Ann and Rick Gardner, Jalen and Rylan, Mankato; Nathan and Pam Diekmann, Parker and Mason, Woodbine; Brock and Becca Peterson, Will and Henry, DeMotte, Ind.; Amy McKenna, Manhattan; Brett and Tracey McKenna and Tate, Claflin; Sarah McKenna, Tope-

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A Card Shower is Being Requested for **Sandy Spires**

Who will be Celebrating his 90th Birthday on **Jan. 6, 2014**

Mail Cards to him at: 106 Whispering Pines Norton, KS 67654

New Year's fire



At 1:36 a.m. on Jan. 1, 2014, the Norton City Fire Department was called out to a fire on South Graves Street. Upon arrival they found a couch sitting in the front yard engulfed in flames. Attempts were made to contact the home owners but no one answered the door. "The fire was put out quickly, and no, there was no loss to speak of," Fire Chief Mitch Jones said. He asks anyone with information about this fire to contact the city police department.

— Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Action taken on Radon Gas

January is National Radon Action Month, according to The EPA. Health agencies throughout the United States have joined forces to promote action against the leading cause of lung cancer for non-smokers. The American Lung Association, Centers for Disease Control, and National Cancer Institute all agree that radon is a National health problem and encourage radon testing during the January call to action.

Radon is a naturally-occurring, invisible and odorless radioactive gas. One in 15 American homes contains high levels of radon. Millions of Americans are unknowingly exposed to this dangerous gas. In fact, a recent study by Harvard University ranks radon as America's #1 in-home hazard. By taking simple steps to test your home for radon and fix if necessary, this

health hazard can be avoided.

Radon gas is not isolated to certain geographical areas or home types. Radon problems have been detected in homes in every county of the U.S. It caused more American fatalities last year than carbon monoxide, fires, and handguns combined! If a home hasn't been tested for radon in the past two years, EPA and the Surgeon General urge you to take action. Contact your state radon office for information on locating qualified test kits or qualified radon testers.

The federal commitment made by EPA, the General Services Administration, and the departments of Agriculture, Defense, Energy, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Interior, and Veterans Affairs will focus efforts on radon reduction and mitigation in homes, especially

those of low-income families, many of whom do not have the resources to make the simple fixes necessary to protect their homes and loved ones.

In the recent years, the federal consortium has met with key leaders in the public health, environmental and private sectors to launch the federal action plan that includes both immediate and long-term steps to reduce radon exposure. In 2013, this effort to spread awareness and move forward protecting the nation from radon is moving along. Your media group can participate in this nationwide initiative simply by writing articles and broadcasting messages about this deadly gas and by promoting National Radon Action Month. Again, National Radon Action Month is here. For more information visit www.RadonMonth.org.

PUBLIC RECORD

District Court

These transactions were taken from the records of filings in the offices of the District Court clerk at the Norton County Courthouse.

Traffic and Wildlife and Parks cases are given to the paper when the fines are paid.

Dec. 19

Nov. 27-Sergio Lopez-Ayuci, Wichita; Charge: Speeding 80 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$171.

Dec. 12-Rodrigo Miranda Gomez, Garden City; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Nov. 20-Norman E. Myers, Jr., Norton; Charge: Speeding 82 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$183.

Oct. 31-Stenson Pekin, Blue Gap, Ariz.; Charge: Speeding 77 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$153.

Dec. 14-Carl J. Robinson, Clayton; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Dec. 12-Alejandro Rodriguez Alvarado, Garden City; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found:

Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Nov. 12-Brock W. Schneider, Funk, Neb.; Charge: Speeding 75 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$141.

Dec. 1-Nicholas Paul Sutton, Denver, Colo.; Charge: Speeding 76 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$147.

Dec. 11-Juanita Marie Waters, Aurora, Colo.; Charge: Speeding 66 in 55; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$147.

Nov. 28-Virginia White, Glenpool, Okla.; Charge: Speeding 80 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$171.

Dec. 4-Travis Carl Worden, Overland Park; Charge: Hunting deer with use of radio; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$296.

Dec. 4-Troy N. Worden, Prairie Village; Charge: Hunting deer with use of radio; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$296.

Dec. 26

Dec. 17-Arloa Kay Barnes, Smith Center; Charge: Speeding 76 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$147.

Nov. 24-Terry E. Hager, Norton; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

THANK YOU
to all the Volunteers
who Helped with the Annual
Chamber Christmas Dinner

Tony and Verla Grysh, Ron and Gloria Zwickle, Larry Joe and Diana Enfield, Dwight Heikes, Jane and Gene Burton, Jean Williams, Sarah Davis and Genny Poage. Special thanks to John Carlin who prepared all the meat.

Jan. 3-
Jan. 8

Showing at the
NORTON THEATRE
Last Vegas
1 Hour, 54 Minutes (PG-13)
Friday and Saturday: 8:00 p.m.
Sunday: 5:00 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Walking with Dinosaurs
3D 1 Hour, 38 Minutes (PG)

Last Vegas is \$7.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 12 and under. \$3/tx on Sunday
Walking with Dinosaurs is \$7.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 12 and under. \$3/tx on Sunday

COMING SOON

Visit our Website:
nortontheatre.com

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