OBITUARIES

Cale A. Sleffel

January 14, 1911 - December 28, 2003

Cale A. Sleffel of Norton, 92, died December 28, 2003, at the Norton County Hospital.

He was born January 14, 1911, in Norton County 10 miles southeast of Norton near the farm that his grandfather homesteaded.

He was the son of Simeon H. and Agnes E. (Dobbie) Sleffel.

He attended Mt. Gilead, District 91, school and graduated from Norton Community High School with the class of 1929.

Cale and Sarah J. Mattson were married at her parents' home near Edmond on August 3, 1932. They lived on the farm where he was born until 1980 when they moved to Norton.

Cale was a farmer with many other talents. He was always ready to lend a hand to his neighbors whether they needed a car or machinery repaired, a house wired or a remodel job. He was one of the few farmers in the area to raise sheep.

He was very resourceful and "made" a lot of the tools he needed such as a gas operated sheep shearing machine; an auger post hole digger and other innovative ideas.

He was active in the United Brethren church in Edmond until transferring his membership in 1950 to the Norton Christian Church, where he sang in the choir and he with his wife were church treasurers for many years.

He learned to fly and owned his own airplane for many years

Cale is survived by two daughters, Shirley Ricketts, Farmington, N.M., and Sonya and Rex Montgomery, Almena; nine grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren and nine great-great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, an infant brother, a sister, Alice Arnold and a son-in-law.

Funeral services will be held Friday at the Norton Christian Church with Darel Boston officiating. Visitation will be from 3 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the Enfield Funeral Home. Visitation will also be Friday from 10 a.m. until the service time at the church.

Lula May Banchor

June 14, 1906 - December 21, 2003

Lula May Banchor, 97, died December 21, 2003, in Caldwell, Idaho.

She was born in Norcatur on June 14, 1906, the daughter of August and Iona Jane Hessenflow Peterson.

She attended elementary school through the eighth grade in Nuckolis County, Neb. She moved with her parents to Norcatur and graduated from Norcatur Rural High School in 1925.

For a few years after graduating she worked as a nanny and housekeeper for several families and entered Children's Hospital School of Nursing in Denver, where she completed a three-year program and graduated in 1933.

She did some nursing work after graduation and married Gordon Banchor in Colorado on December 7, 1937.

After the death of her husband in 1964, she continued to live in Denver until 1982 when she moved to Caldwell, Idaho, to be near her twin brother and her sister.

Throughout her life she enjoyed flower gardening, making crafts and entertaining friends and family. She loved children and was a caregiver at heart, helping senior citizens in the Denver area during the '70s and '80s. Although she never had children of her own, she was a loving "grandmother" and "aunt" to many.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Gordon Banchor, her parents, two brothers, three sisters and two nephews.

She is survived by her sister, Donna Burton, Meridian, Idaho; 13 nieces and nephews, two stepsons, four step-grandchildren and seven step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Friday at Flahiff Funeral Chapel in Cadwell, Idaho. Another service will also be held at 1:30 p.m. today at Enfield Funeral Home. Internment will be at Norcatur Cemetery.

Memorials may be designated to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and sent to 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tenn. 38105.

Ivalee Isabell McCreary

December 28, 1907 - December 28, 2003

Ivalee Isabell (Miller) McCreary, 96, died December 28, 2003, at the Baldwin Care Center.

She was born December 28, 1907, in Calvert, the daughter of Jasper and Jenny (Bennett) Miller.

She attended Calvert High School before moving to Norton and graduated from Norton Community High School in 1926. She graduated from Barnes Business School in Denver.

She married Frederick E. McCreary in Norton on May 30, 1930. He died September 12, 1990.

She was a homemaker and managed real estate investments.

She was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Norton, Order of the Eastern Star and several social clubs. She loved to cook, entertain for friends and family and play bridge.

After a car-pedestrian accident October 28, 1996 in Norton, she moved to Lawrence and lived at the Lawrence Presbyterian Manor before moving to Baldwin City on October 3, 2003.

Survivors include sons Frederick E. Jr. and Mary McCreary, Baldwin City, and Dr. William McCreary, Salt Lake City; grandchildren Dr. Bryce and Julie McCreary, Longmont, Colo; Sarah and Matt McCune, Baldwin City; Ruthanne McCreary, Cheney, Wash; David McCreary, Salem, Ore.; Andrew McCreary, Salt Lake City; and Megan Gaskill, Ocracoke N.C.; and four great-grandchildren.

Graveside services are planned for 10 a.m. Friday at the Norton Cemetery. Arrangements are being made by Enfield Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church in care of Enfield's.

Rex 'Short' Lentz

January 1, 1952 - December 28, 2003

Rex "Shorty" Lentz, 51, died at the Hays Medical Center on December 28, 2003.

He was born in Camp Pendleton, Calif., on January 1, 1952.

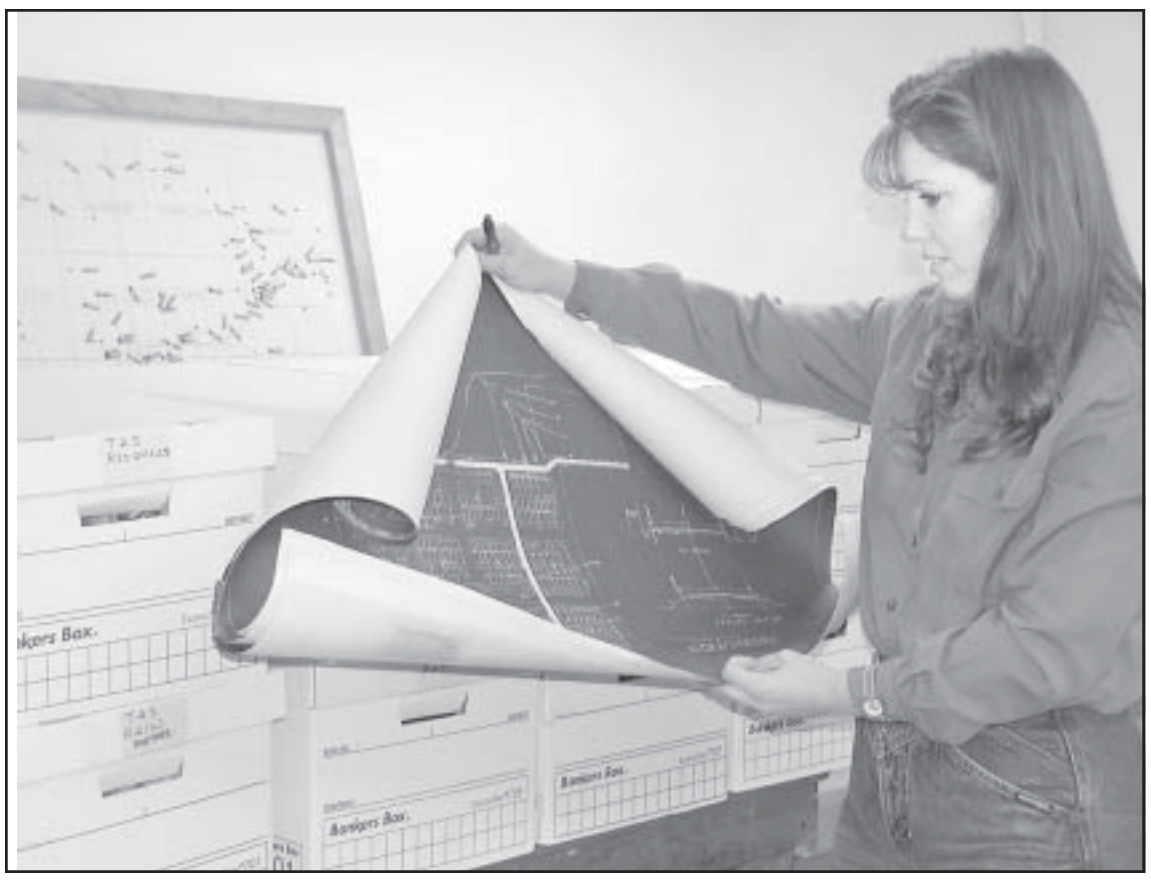
He was raised in San Jose, Calif, where he attended school. He married Virginia Shewey in Norton on November 21, 1981. The couple lived here until 1986 when they moved to Connecticut. In 1991 they moved to Almena.

Mr. Lentz was a member of narcotics anonymous and alcoholics anonymous.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include his wife, Virginia of the home; six children, Lee Lentz, and Christina Booksin, California; Christina League, Amanda Borden, Shane Lentz, and Daniel Lentz, Almena; two brothers, Ralph Lentz, San Jose, Calif; and John Lentz, Great Bend; two sisters, Sandy Woodruff, Carlsbad, Calif; and Debbie King, California; and seven grandchildren.

No services are planned at this time. Arrangements were made by Enfield Funeral Home.



Kathy Hardy, office manager, for the Norton County Road and Bridge office, looks over some of the old maps she had been busy cataloging and re-organizing. When this huge project is completed the maps were returned to their space on the top floor of the Norton County courthouse. — Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Road records get sorted, refiled

The records of the Norton County Road and Bridge Department will no longer be in disarray after the employees get done sorting, re-rolling and refiling every thing.

Road Supervisor Tom Brannan told the Norton County Commissioners earlier this month that the files, which are normally kept on the top floor of the courthouse, should take up about one-third the space they previously occupied.

Surveyors and other people, who use these maps should be able to find what they need a lot faster and easier when the refiling is all done.

He said that the crew has hauled eight to 10 boxes of loose records to the basement of the county shop building for sorting.

Included in those loose records were plat maps for all the cities located in Norton County.

Kathy Hardy, office manager, has been in charge of the reorganization.

Mr. Brannan said that unneeded preliminary reports have been tossed and the others have been reorganized by township and range.

According to Mr. Brannan the oldest plans on file were from 1934.

He said, "Some are awfully brittle, but it's been a pretty interesting deal."

Mrs. Hardy said the files had been a mess but she had spent a lot of time cleaning the storage containers, labeling and reorganizing the documents.

Some of the maps are so old, they are on a canvas-like material.

Mrs. Hardy said the maps will be returned to the courthouse when she is finished cataloging and organizing the documents.

Emergency Medical Service looking for help

By VERONICA MONIER

The Norton County Emergency Medical Service needs more help.

Acting Director Andy Nielsen said there are 13 active volunteers, but that he is the only full-time emergency medical technician.

In the past, the service has had three full-time technicians, including the director who was also a technician.

The county commissioners are looking for another director and Mr. Nielsen asked them last week if they could find another full-time technician.

"I think that if we got another full-time technician it would help out a lot," he said. "Then the commissioners could really concentrate on finding the right person for the director position."

Mr. Nielsen said that some of the volunteers are emergency medical technicians and some are first responders, but all have other jobs.

With only 13 volunteers, it makes for a tight schedule because three people need to be on call for each of the two shifts. A shift runs from either 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. or from 6 p.m. to 7 a.m.

He said the volunteers can take their shift at the ambulance barn and get paid for it, or they can be elsewhere and get paid if they are called out.

If they take their shift at the barn, they can inventory the ambulances or familiarize themselves with where the equipment is.

To be a volunteer either as a technician or as a first responder, a person has to take a class that lasts about six months.

Mr. Nielsen said he went to class one day a week, plus one Saturday a month from October to May, when he became an emergency medical technician.

The cost of the schooling is paid by the county, which asks those taking the course to volunteer on the ambulance in return.

A new class will be starting in Phillipsburg.

Norton County commissioners are looking at the cost of starting a class here but need to know if there is enough interest here to pay the expense of bringing in an instructor, which will cost up to $6,000.

He said, while in class, a technician learns patient care, including how to recognize symptoms, how to treat the patient, what to look for in certain injuries and how to run the equipment.

Mr. Nielsen encourages anyone who wants information on being a volunteer, or people who just are curious, to go to the ambulance barn and see what a volunteer does. He's usually there from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., unless he gets called out.

"The service is something that the people in Norton County need," he said. "We couldn't do it without the volunteers and I'd rather see too many volunteers at the scene than not enough."

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Happy New Year Everyone!

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Many thanks for your loyal patronage.

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Another Year

is on the Wing...

We hope it's filled with beauty and all good things.

Thanks for a banner year.

Jay's Woodwork Shop
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Coming to Norton!

The Award Winning Musical

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

Featuring: Stanton Nelson, Long Island, Kansas

Norton High School Auditorium

Sunday, January 11 at 2:00 p.m.

Presented by: The Theatre of the American West

REPUBLICAN CITY, NEBRASKA

Tickets on Sale at: First State Bank—Norton, Hill City and Plainville

Ticket Prices: Adult-$9.00 in advance and $10 at the door
Student-$6.50 in advance and $7.50 at the door
Children 12 and under-$4.00 in advance and $5.00 at the door
First State Bank Golden Passport Members-$8.00
An additional $1.00 off admission price with donation to local food pantry at time of purchase
(IN NORTON-GOD'S PANTRY)I

DEATH NOTICE

Betty Johnson

Betty Johnson, Lenora, died December 28, 2003.

A parish wake service will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday at the St. Joseph auditorium in New Almelo. Mass of the Christian burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday at the St. Joseph Catholic Church in New Almelo. Interment will be in the St. Joseph Cemetery.

READERS

— Your advertising message in this space for only $3.95 per line. 12/29

Carmen Sidman, Norton, received a bachelor of science degree in journalism advertising from the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Commencement ceremonies were held Dec. 19 at the Health and Sports Center.

— For Theatre schedule call 877-2075. 12/29

Courtney Fredde has been named to the Fort Hays State University Dean's Honor Roll for the fall semester.

— Pitch Tournament 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 4, Norton American Legion.

CORRECTION

The Norton Telegram *will correct or clarify anything that is wrong in a news story. Call our office at 877-3361 to report errors. We believe news stories should be fair and factual, and want you to tell us about any failure to live up to this standard.*