

Girls State delegates chosen by auxiliary



W. Ashley T. Dorshorst M. Metcalf K. Wentz

Five Decatur Community High juniors were chosen on Wednesday evening to attend Sunflower Girls State by the Oberlin American Legion Auxiliary.

Delegates include Whitney Ashley, daughter of Kent and Tenna Ashley; Tricia Dorshorst, daughter of Duane and Patricia Dorshorst; Marci Metcalf, daughter of Joe and Lolita Metcalf; Katrina Wentz, daughter of Dwight and Mary Wentz; and Kim Wessel, daughter of Bill and Carol Wessel.

The girls will attend the 64th annual session of Sunflower Girls State on the University of Kansas campus from June 4-9. They will



K. Wessel

join some 460 young women who are completing their junior year of high school to "Learn by Doing" the political system and government of Kansas.

Rebecca Sullivan, Paola, 2006 governor of Girls State, will preside. She will be assisted by Janet Threlfall, Girard, as lieutenant governor. Claudia Satterlee, Winfield, is the director.

Speakers will include Gov. Kathleen Sebelius; Ron Thornburgh, secretary of state; Norma Swanson, department president of the American Legion Auxiliary; and other state, county and city officials.

Shelter to sponsor play on domestic violence

Fort Hays State University will present a play, "The Vagina Monologues," at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 2, 3, and 4 at the Felten-Start Theater in Malloy Hall on the campus.

"Members of the Decatur County Stand Against Violence task force feel that this information should be made available to the community as we feel certain that others would want to see this theater production," said Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler of Oberlin Faith Lutheran Church.

She said the group is joining with others to form a tri-county task force, "Support Abuse Free Environments — Decatur, Rawlins and Cheyenne counties."

Eve Esler, author of the play, found while interviewing 200 women, a continuing thread emerged. All had been sexually as-

saulted, so she decided to help fight the problem by writing this play. She named her mission V-Day (Until the Violence Stops).

Ninety percent of the proceeds from the play and other events held on campus will be donated to Northwest Kansas Domestic and Sexual Violence Services, formerly known as the Northwest Kansas Family Shelter.

The other 10 percent will go to provide assistance to "Comfort Women" placed into sexual slavery by the Japanese government during WW II. The women are asking the Japanese government to apologize for this atrocity, but so far, the Japanese have not responded.

Tickets are \$10 for anyone who is not a Fort Hays State University season ticket holder and \$5 if you are. They will be sold at the door.

Student receives scholarship

Drew Martin, a senior at Decatur Community High School, received a \$2,500 Leadership Scholarship from Kansas State University during ceremonies held recently.

Pat Bosco, associate vice president for institutional advancement and dean of student life, made the presentation. Drew's parents are Lee Martin and Jean Martin, Oberlin. During K-State's an-

nual Scholarship Day, students and their parents were guests at a banquet. Throughout the day, they attended meetings with academic deans and student life officials.

Mr. Martin is a three-year member of the National Honor Society at Decatur Community High School and president of the senior class. He will be attending K-State this fall, majoring in engineering.



Drew Martin

Agronomist is honored

Ty Gerlitz, agronomy specialist for the Decatur Co-op Association in Oberlin, was recognized recently by Croplan Genetics as a member of the firm's Eagle Squadron.

The group represents the top 10 percent of over 3,500 seed salespeople nationally in the cooperative system. Mr. Gerlitz was recognized over the weekend at an Eagle Squadron event in Bloomington, Minn. Scott and Cyndi Dolan of Oberlin also attended.

Croplan Genetics is the full-line seed company owned by Land O'Lakes Inc., Arden Hills, Minn. Marketing in 33 states, they provide the seed-product component of the Total Farm Solutions system offered by cooperatives. It is the fourth-largest farm seed company in the country, offering a diverse project line that includes alfalfa,

canola, corn, soybeans, sunflowers, sugar beets, sorghums and inoculation.



Ty Gerlitz

Grain storage available

Grain stored by farmers at the Hi Plains Co-op at Edmond is now eligible for loans since the facility has been approved by the Commodity Credit Corp., according to the U.S.

Farm Service Agency office in Oberlin.

Approval was received on Jan. 11, changing the capacity from 4,930,000 to 6,031,000 bushels.

Club News

Auxiliary holds potluck

The American Legion Auxiliary met at the post on Feb. 8 for a potluck supper with Girls State candidates and their guests.

The Pledge of Allegiance and blessing were led by Phyllis Metcalf, who was hostess. Five girls, Marci Metcalf, Whitney Ashley, Katrina Wentz, Tricia Dorshorst and Kim Wessel, were guests. The auxiliary voted to send all five girls to Girls State. Ron Bryan will sponsor one in memory of the late Karen Bryan

and Tricia Dorshorst was chosen.

Mary Lohofener was commended for her time working with these girls. Angela Corcoran presented a bill for postage for the Valentine box sent to the platoon in Iraq. She reported that it was so appreciated and another box will be sent soon.

A thank you was read from Calmerly O'Neil Hospital for Veterans in Topeka for a donation to be used for snacks for veterans.

Benefit soup supper served

Chapter BH, P.E.O. Sisterhood, met at 8 p.m. on Feb. 7 at Decatur Community High School following the soup supper. The supper was served to raise funds for Senior Girl Awards for local graduates and for other P.E.O. educational projects.

The group voted on the amount to be sent to support the P.E.O.

Educational projects and the Sunflower Grants program.

President Mary Lohofener read her president's letter, which outlined the chapter's accomplishments and special events of the past year.

The next regular meeting will be March 9 with Eris Young. New officers will be elected and installed.

Women hold Valentine tea

Fifteen women met at the Landmark Inn on Feb. 8 for the Valentine dessert and tea of Widows and Friends.

Doris Sloan read, "More Time to Live" and "If You Grow Up in a Small Town" for devotions and the group sang "Happy Birthday" to Louise Pollnow.

Attending were Mary Ann Amack, Bertha Schwisow, Ruby

Wennihan, Joan Neidenthal, Eula Juenemann, Cecil Hess, Doris Sloan, Luetta Pollnow, Phyllis Screen, Virginia Spratling, Evelyn Olson, Mildred Holmdahl, Connie Olson, Eileene Grose and Louise Pollnow.

The group will meet on March 8 at the Pizza Hut for an 11:30 a.m. luncheon.

Club members enjoy tour

Zeta Nu Club met Thursday, Feb. 9, at Creative Dimensions for a tour with 12 members present.

Following the tour, the business meeting was held at the home of Marian Fraker where refreshments were served.

The March meeting will be held at Cedar Living Center where March birthdays of residents will be celebrated. Committees were named for next year. President Eloise Smith won the hostess gift.

Reservations due for dinner

Reservations for the dinner theater at the Gateway, sponsored by the Oberlin Arts and Humanities Commission, are due by Thursday.

The evening will begin with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, followed by a program of patriotic music by "The Blue and Gray Brass Brigade."

Tickets are available for \$25 each by calling Ella Betts, (785) 475-3557, or Mary Henzel, 475-3329. Season ticket holders will be admitted with one per season ticket or two for a family ticket, but they also need to call for reservations.

Rotary members hear goals

Terry Woodbury of Kansas Communities LLC, a consulting firm, told members of the Oberlin Rotary Club of goals which the firm is helping a steering committee set up for Oberlin for the next 10 years when the club met on Feb. 7 at The Gateway.

He spoke about values and the uniqueness of the community and noted that the many different classifications of Rotary members con-

tribute to the characteristics of the community. He said that a town must be able to depend on the qualities of its leaders as well as listen to its citizens and focus on the qualities which the community does well.

Guests were Ron Inman, Brad Metcalf and Megan Carter. Junior Rotarians from Decatur Community High School were Jeremy Tally and Jason Thomas.

Pancake benefit set Saturday

A benefit pancake feed will be served from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Saturday in the high school cafeteria before the regional wrestling tournament, sponsored by Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce

Proceeds will go for the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce Farmer/Rancher Appreciation Day. Matching money will be provided by the Smoky Hill Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

New Arrivals

Zachary S. Moore Elizabeth A. Moore

Eric and Bridgette Moore of Manhattan are the parents of twins born Feb. 8, 2006. Zachary Stephen weighed 5 pounds, 11 ounces and was 18 3/4 inches long, and Elizabeth Anne weighed 6

pounds, 4 ounces, and was 19 inches long. They have two sisters, Gabi and Callie. Grandparents are Mike and Judy Moore, Overland Park; and Randy and Judy Ostmeyer, Oberlin. Great-grandparents are Toby Ostmeyer, Oakley, and Mr. and Mrs. Dorven Beckman, Grinnell.



Z. Moore



E. Moore

Area farmers honored by conservation district

Ten area farmers were honored with conservation awards at the 61st annual meeting of the Decatur County Conservation District last Monday at The Gateway.

Vernon Ketterl, district chairman, presided and made introductions. Entertainment was provided by the DCHS Singers, under the direction of Susan Nelson.

Kansas Banker Awards were presented by Marilyn Noone of First National Bank, to David and Judy Ketterl, Vernon and Kari Ketterl, and James and Kimberly Witt. She presented the Windbreak Award to Tracy Hartzog and her mother, Geraldine Temple. The Grassland Award was presented to John Brown for the Willcoxon and Brown farming operation by Vernon Ketterl.

Other bankers present were Gary Walter, Linda Wade, Doug Brown of The Bank; Jesse Carter, Farmers Bank and Trust; and Anita Ketterl, First National. The meal, prepared by The Gateway staff, was courtesy of the Decatur County Bankers Association.

Vernon Ketterl and Carl Wahlmeier were re-elected as supervisors

of the district. Other supervisors are Ron Bryan, Lawrence Jennings and Elden Huff. Linda Wade won an afghan door prize provided by the Farm Credit of Western Kansas.

Trophies were presented to poster winners who qualified for state competition in November by Kari Ketterl. Winners were Stephanie Noone, daughter of Bill and Marilyn Noone, Jennings; Gabe Anderson, son of Richard and Maureen Anderson, Oberlin; and Cheyanne Soderlund, daughter of Gene and Cheryl Soderlund, Oberlin.

Other first-place poster winners were Drake Rowh, son of Jason Rowh, Jennings, and Mandy Rowh, Damar; Hannah May, daughter of Roland and Pam May, Oberlin; and Samantha Anderson, daughter of Richard and Maureen Anderson.

Second-place winners were Morgan Jansonius, daughter of Ron and Sheila Jansonius; Konner Fortin, son of Jason and Gwen Fortin; and Miki Dorshorst, daughter of Duane and Pat Dorshorst, all of Oberlin; and Amanda Marshall, daughter of Troy and Debbie Marshall, Norcatur.

Gardeners plan projects

The Decatur County Master Gardeners met last Monday with Byron Hale, county extension agent, to plan their next educational projects and decided to continue with their annual free "Gardenmania" teaching seminars.

The group decided to present mini-seminars throughout the day at the Home and Garden Show on Saturday, March 18, at The Gateway in Oberlin.

Each hour, on the hour, a certified Master Gardener will present a topic of his or her choice in room 3 next to the arena. A list of topics and speakers will be posted. People can

pick and choose according to interest and come and go as their time allows. Master Gardeners not involved in speaking will help in other areas, such as material preparation and slide presentations.

Attending the planning session were Dr. Steve and Judith LaBash, Shirley Shields, and Sandy Fair. Connie Simonsson and Gaylord Shields were unable to attend.

Gary Sanden will be a new Master Gardener in training beginning this month at Colby. The course is taught by K-State Research and Extension. Anyone interested in the program should call Mr. Hale.

Area insurance man honored

Agent Curt Wahlmeier of Norton recently received honors from American Family Insurance.

The son of Carl and Linda Wahlmeier of Jennings, he became an agent for the company in July. He was recognized for achieving the level of Life Diamond Agent recently at a 2005 awards banquet. In January, District Manger Ed

Graham named him not only District Agent of the Month, but also State Rookie of the Month and State Agent of the Month for his outstanding sales. He ranked sixth on the Top Ten company list.

His office is at 111 W. Washington, Norton, with a satellite office at 105 S. 3rd, Hill City.

Food benefit set by Lions Club

The Oberlin Lions Club will operate a food stand in the cafeteria on Saturday during the Regional Wrestling tournament at Decatur Community High School. Proceeds will benefit the Kansas Lions Band Student Scholarships.

The menu will include chicken and noodles, vegetable beef soup, chili, ham sandwiches and bar cookies. A full-meal deal is available. The Lions invite the public to come and enjoy a good meal and the wrestling.

THERE IS A DIFFERENCE®



We know agriculture

Since 1907, MNB has helped ag producers grow and prosper throughout the area. Today, our commitment is the same as it has always been, ag financing from generation to generation. For all your ag financing needs contact MNB, we believe in the next generation.

MNB
McCook National Bank



220 Norris Avenue • McCook, NE 69001
www.mnb1.com • 800-595-9286

Member FDIC and Equal Opportunity Lender

Happy 90th Birthday William Carter!



Reception for family and friends Saturday, Feb. 18, 3-5 p.m. at Jennings United Methodist Church

We wish to honor **Bill and Pat Schwab** with a card shower for their **50th Wedding Anniversary** on February 24th. Cards will reach them at: R.R. 1 - Box 31 Norcatur, KS 67653

February 24, 1956 Dave and Sue Rohleder