

People in Our Community

Mary Lou Olson, society editor

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Duane and Carol Witt, of Great Bend, spent the weekend with Joy Votapka when they came to attend funeral services for Phyllis Lohofener. They left on Tuesday to visit Sharon and Dave Smith at Curtis, Neb.

Regina Stanley returned home Sunday from Alexandria, La., after spending two weeks with her daughter, Sarah, and husband Andy Hurla and helping with the new grandson, Joseph Andrews, born on Jan. 23.

Those that attended the City Hall Day ceremony in Topeka, on Jan. 28, when Justin Gee received a plaque and \$250 savings bond as district winner of the "If I were a Mayor" essay contest (see Dictator page) were his parents, Kenny and Colleen Gee and brother, Jacob, and his grandmother, Helen Gee, Oberlin, and Robert, Beverly, Robbie and James Keys, Topeka. While in Topeka, the Kenny Gee family enjoyed a guided tour of the State Capitol, given by Rep. Joe Patton from the Topeka area.

—Check out the latest fashion jewelry for Valentine's Day at The Oberlin Mercantile Company.

Kay Gaskill returned from Lakewood, Colo., Friday after visiting her daughter Lori, husband Ray Kriegbaum, and their two-year-old son Max, for several weeks. The couple has a new son, Orion, who was born Jan. 21. He weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces and was 20 inches long. Bob Gaskill visited them the weekend of Jan. 31-Feb. 1 and made the acquaintance of their new grandson.

Winning highs in pinochle at Golden Age Center the past week were Max Carman, Ivis Hanson, Dorothy Moore, Kelva Dryden, Veanna Carman and Henry Edgett. Lows went to Floyd Edgett, Veanna Carman, Henry Edgett and Ivis Hanson.

Pitch highs were won by Dorothy Moore and Henry Edgett with lows going to Floyd Edgett and Barb Solko. Winning highs at bridge were Cynthia Matson and Annette Miller. Senior potluck Sunday, 12:15 p.m.

Among area students who were named to the fall 2008 semester honor roll at the University of Kansas included Danica May, Oberlin, daughter of Richard and Delayne

May, Liberal Arts undergraduate senior; and Kristin Wark, Rexford, daughter of Vicki Allison, Liberal Arts Undergraduate senior.

—Valentine French and Seafood Buffet Sat., Feb. 14 6-8 p.m., LandMark Inn. Call 475-2340 for reservations.

Joy Votapka accompanied Lisa Votapka to Topeka last Tuesday where Lisa had a meeting on Wednesday. They were Tuesday supper guests of Tara Votapka in Manhattan, then spent the rest of the time with Nancy Ellis in Topeka. They returned home Thursday.

Dr. Ryan R. Unger attended Dr. John Brimhall's seminar "Six Steps To Wellness," from Jan. 23 to 25 in Mesa, Ariz. Several guest speakers included Dr. Brian Eric LeCompte, Genetics, Genomics and Epigenetics; Dr. Don Bellgrau, Immunology, the latest research for the best results and prevention; Dr. Ryan Maloney, Low Level Laser science; Dr. Robert Ornelas, Nutri-West Nutrition and body contouring; Dr. Lynn Toohey, Nutritional Protocols in weight loss, detoxification and body contouring; and Dr. Jeff Maitland, Craniosacral technique.

Other protocols highlighted included the use of Erchonia Low Level Laser, Detox Foot Baths, Adjustor, Percussor and Nutri-West Nutrition to remove the six interferences of health.

Eva Bryan has returned to the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center from Decatur County Hospital.

—Valentine Sunday Brunch Buffet Sunday, Feb. 15, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. LandMark Inn. Call 475-2340 for reservations.

James and Kimberly Witt, Ashley and Whitney spent Saturday in Kearney, Neb., to visit Chris and Keely Wilson, Julie and Harmony and make the acquaintance of their new grandson, Derek Anthony Wilson, who was born Friday at the Good Samaritan Hospital.

Herschel and Jody Betts attended a meeting of past Rotary governors of this district at Abilene on Saturday. Among others attending were Gayle and Ruth Bainter, rural Dresden, and Odetta Marietta, Russell.



Nikolaus and Lisa Martin

Couple exchange vows at St. Patrick church

Lisa Marie Kitten and Nikolaus Austin Martin were married at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 27, 2008, at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Plains, with Father Angel Dy officiating.

Parents of the couple are Bernard and Shari Kitten, Plains; and Robert and Liane Martin, Herndon.

Grandparents of the bride are Warren and Ruth Angell, Plains; and Andrew and Mary Kitten, Slaton, Texas. Grandparents of the bridegroom are Raymond Kircher, Oberlin; and the late Eleanor Kircher, and the late August and Ann Martin.

The bride wore a white taffeta gown by Sottero-Midgley. Crystal beading accented the bodice and the asymmetrical dropped waist, as well as the rest of the gown and its chapel-length train, both of which featured numerous gathered sections to create small drapes. She carried a bouquet of white roses interspersed with baby's breath to create a snowy effect evocative of the season. Her earrings were pearl and crystal; and she wore a feather, pearl, and rhinestone hair comb beneath a veil featuring hand-sewn beading which coordinated with that of her gown.

Kristin Massoth, Prairie Village, sister of the bride, served as matron of honor; Andrea Kitten, Houston, cousin of the bride, was bridesmaid. Both wore deep red taffeta gowns and carried bouquets of burgundy roses, white gladiolus, and berries.

Paul Marusak, Farmington, N.M., served as an attendant. He wore a black tuxedo with a dark red vest and tie and a burgundy rose boutonniere on the lapel.

The bridegroom wore a black tuxedo with a dark silver vest, a black tie, and a white rose boutonniere on the lapel. He carried the pocket watch given by his great-great-grandfather to his great-grandfather on his twenty-first birthday. Adam Ketterl, Atwood, served as best man. His brother, Kirche Martin, Indianola, Neb.; and Brandon Winter, Mount Hope, were groomsmen.

All wore black tuxedos with dark silver vests and ties and burgundy rose boutonnieres.

The mother of the bride wore a floor-length satin gown in navy, while the father of the bride wore a classic tuxedo in black. The bridegroom's mother wore smoky blue and black, and his father wore a black tuxedo with vest and tie.

Kiana Martin, Indianola, Neb., niece of the bridegroom, was flower girl and wore a white gown which had been passed down from her mother.

Wyatt Angell, Hugoton, cousin of the bride, served as ring bearer. He wore a tuxedo with vest and tie to match the bridegroom as he carried the bride's vintage-inspired white gold diamond ring and the bridegroom's grooved and beveled titanium band. The bride and her father walked down the aisle of the poinsettia-filled church to an organ rendition of Handel's "Arrival of the Queen of Sheba" from the oratorio Solomon, and the newly married couple exited the church to Mendelssohn's "Wedding March." Guests showered the couple with wheat as they made their way to the bridegroom's 1961 Ford Galaxie.

The reception was held in the Liberal Elks Club and included an hors d'oeuvre dinner followed by a dance and special performances by Lucas Maddy, Manhattan, and Janae Jones, Lubbock, Texas, cousin of the bride.

The centerpieces created the image of small flames burning in the midst of snowy ground, with berries, spruce, and pine cones providing accents. The four-tier wedding cake featured delicate drapes of white frosting around the sides, while the bridegroom's cake was a rod and piston consisting of a machined aluminum rod stand and a round three-layer cake for the piston.

The couple enjoyed a ski honeymoon in Red River and Taos, N.M., before beginning their new life together in Oxford, England, where the bride is a graduate student.

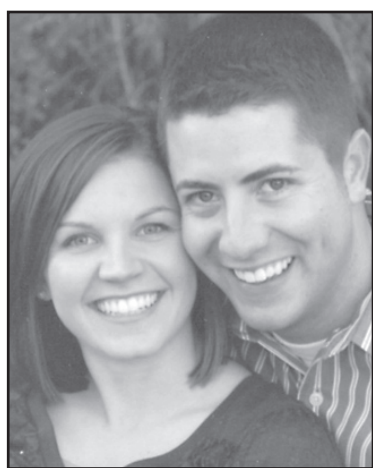
Couple sets March wedding

Leah Michelle Marietta and Travis Anthony Carreño plan to be married on Saturday, March 21, 2009, at St. John's Lutheran Church, with a reception to follow at The Gateway civic center in Oberlin.

Parents of the couple are Alan and Judith Marietta, Oberlin, and Anthony and Patricia Carreño, Topeka.

The bride-elect is a 2004 graduate of Decatur Community High School and a 2008 graduate of Kansas State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in kinesiology.

She is a graduate student at Wichita State University in physical therapy.



Travis Carreño and Leah Marietta

Her fiancé graduated from Seaman High School in Topeka and from Kansas State in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in social science. A second lieutenant in the Army, he is stationed with the Reserve Officers Training Corps Wildcat Battalion at K-State.

Nuptials set for March

Michaela Anne Starner and Jacob Lee Brooks of Kearney, Neb., plan to be married on Saturday, March 7, 2009, in Kearney.

Parents of the couple are Jim and Shanna Brooks, Clayton; Sharon Starner, Sidney, Iowa, and the late Michael L. Starner Sr.

The bride-to-be is a high school graduate at Sidney, Iowa. She is a 2007 graduate from Peru State College with a degree in biology teaching. She teaches 7-12 biology in Elm Creek, Neb.

Her fiancé graduated from Prairie Heights School at Jennings, then graduated from Northwest Kansas Technical College in 2002, with a degree in technical engineering and an associate of applied science from Colby Community College. He is employed as a computer aided drafting technician at Miller and



Jacob Brooks and Michaela Starner

Associates Consulting Engineers in Kearney.

New doctor speaks at Rotary

Dr. Obed Saint Louis talked at the Feb. 3 meeting of the Oberlin Rotary Club at The Gateway. He was introduced by Ken Schultz, program chair.

Dr. Saint Louis said he began providing medical care at the Decatur County Hospital and the Oberlin Clinic on Feb. 2.

He was born in Haiti but reared in Brooklyn. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Kansas State University and his medical degree

from American University of the Caribbean at Plymouth, Montserrat. He did a residency at the University of Kansas Medical Center, later serving in the U.S. Army, when he was stationed at Fort Riley.

He said he worked for an oil company before completing his medical degree.

The club welcomed him to Oberlin. Guests were Junior Rotarians Sam Stapp and Jacob Fortin from Decatur Community High.

Club makes plans for 4-H Day

By HALEY SCHIESSLER
The monthly meeting of the Maverick 4-H Club was held on Feb. 8 at the ambulance barn.

President Taylor Macfee called the meeting to order. Gatlin Hissong led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Alexis Hissong, for roll call, asked, "What is your favorite candy?"

There were 17 members present: Taylor, Madison and Landon Macfee, Alexis and Gatlin Hissong, Sierra and Sage Lohofener, Haylee Hillman, Caleb and Luke Koeperich, Kelly Bryan, Chance and Callie Uehlin, Jamie and Jean Soderlund, Rachel Ritter and Haley

Schiessler. Caleb Koeperich gave the treasurer's report. This year the club will be doing the Cha-Cha Slide for their dance routine for 4-H Day.

The next council meeting will be on Monday, March 2, and 4-H Day is at 5:30 p.m. Friday, March 27, at the Oberlin Elementary School. Beef weigh-in will be on April 4 and hog weigh-in is April 18. June 21-24 is 4-H camp and applications are due April 27. Luke Koeperich led us in the 4-H pledge.

The next meeting will be at 5 p.m. Sunday, March 8, at the ambulance barn.

Club News

Women study missions

Oberlin United Methodist Women met on Feb. 4 at the church with 19 members and one guest, Roberta Schillig, present. Hostesses were Marian Fraker and Judy Davis and devotions were given by Elaine Bryan.

Pastor Doug Hasty gave the program on the United Methodist Women's study theme for 2009 entitled, "Who's at the Table?" He was assisted by Pat Abbey, Violet Shaw and Judy Davis. His topic was "Food and Faith: Where Would Jesus Sit?"

Members were asked to visualize the situations of women and children living in third-world countries who are often homeless, uneducated and living in

poverty.

Pat Wright said that the care boxes for students would be packed by the youth group on Feb. 11 and that "World Day of Prayer" would be held Friday, March 6, at Sacred Heart Church.

A total of \$125 was collected at the Day of Prayer and Self-Denial meeting held at noon on Jan. 7.

Mrs. Wright thanked those who helped with the December Cookie Party, where \$317 was raised.

Lesson leader for the Wednesday, March 4, meeting will be Jody Betts. Hostesses will be Mary Ann Amack and Pat Abbey, and devotions will be given by Marian Fraker.

Club enjoys guest speaker

Pi Alpha Club members met at the Golden Age Center on Jan. 26 with Ila Ray as hostess. Pat Wright won the hostess prize.

Mrs. Ray introduced Gisela Fisher, who gave an interesting talk on a prison fellowship based on faith. She ministers once a week at the Work Ethic Camp north of McCook and had previously ministered at the Norton prison. A \$20 donation was given to her to help with travel

expenses.

President Marty Olson conducted the meeting, which included the collect and flag salute. Roll call was answered by 13 members. Mrs. Ray gave devotions, "Flour Sacks," followed by prayer. The club will entertain at the Good Samaritan Center for the February birthdays.

Members will meet on Friday at the Frontier Restaurant with Estella Waldo as hostess.

Group exchanges cards

Prairie Chapel United Methodist Women met at the home of Cheryl Metcalf on Feb. 4. Roll call was answered by seven members with a valentine exchange.

President Cheryl Metcalf opened the meeting. Devotions were given by Rowena Cathcart with a poem and thought for the

day, followed by prayer for those who were mentioned. Members told about the books they are reading.

Phyllis Metcalf presented the program, "Prayer and Self-Denial: Creating Communities through Information Technology," with members assisting.

New Arrivals

Alaxis Marie Jensen

Jeremy and Loni (Marietta) Jensen, Newton, are the parents of a daughter, Alaxis Marie Jensen, born at 9:37 a.m. on Jan. 22, 2009, at the Newton Medical Center. She weighed 5 pounds, 9.4 ounces and was 18 inches long. Grandparents are Alan and Judith Marietta, and Don and Deb Macfee, all of Oberlin. Great-grandparents are Wayne and Odetta Marietta, Russell.



A. Jensen

Joseph Andrew Hurla

Andy and Sarah (Stanley) Hurla of Alexandria, La., are the parents of a son, Joseph Andrew Hurla. He was born at Christus-St. Frances Cabrini Hospital on Jan. 23, 2009. He weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces, and was 20 inches long. Grandparents are Joe and Regina Stanley, Oberlin, and Frank and Mary K. Hurla, Tonganoxie. Great-grandmothers are Helen Foresman, Kansas City, and Cleopha Hurla, Tonganoxie.



J. Hurla

Derek Anthony Wilson

Chris and Keely Wilson, Kearney, Neb., are the parents of a son, Derek Anthony Wilson, born Feb. 6, 2009, at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. He weighed 8 pounds, 9 ounces and was 21 inches long. He has two sisters, Julie Beth and Harmony. Grandparents are Charlie and Sandy Kincade, Norton; James and Kimberly Witt, Oberlin; and the late Julie Witt. Great-grandparents are Evelyn Wilson, Hays; Larry and Carolyn Schultz, St. Francis; Eugene and Beverly Witt, Danbury; and Keith and Mary Lou Olson, Herndon. Great-great-grandmothers are Martha Schultz, St. Francis, and E.J. Query, Bird City.



D. Wilson



In Honor of

Presidents' Day

the

Decatur County Courthouse AND Decatur County Landfill

will be closed on Monday, February 16

Open regular business hours on Tuesday, February 17