

THE OBERLIN HERALD —

Obituaries

David James McGee

David James McGee, 81, a retired Oberlin businessman, died Feb. 10, 2009, at the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center.



D. McGee

He was born Aug. 11, 1927, in McCook, the son of Walter W. and Olive (Wade) McGee. He was reared in Oberlin and attended Oberlin schools. During his senior year, he worked for Francis Furniture, owned by Stewart and Mary Francis. He served in the U.S. Navy, then finished high school in 1947 after returning from the service, and continued working at the furniture store.

He married Eva Corcoran in August 1948, and they had three children. The family moved to Denver, where he worked as a floor covering mechanic for several years. They later moved to Norton, and he worked for Isaac Furniture and also installed floor covering for Francis Furniture in Oberlin. He and his wife later divorced.

He married Hilda (Madden) Tyrrell on June 3, 1967, and his family grew to include her two sons. They lived in Norton for five years then moved to Oberlin in 1972. The couple purchased the furniture store from Mary Francis, renaming it McGee Furniture and Floor Covering. They retired in 1989 and later moved to the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center, where she died on Jan. 15, 2007.

He and his wife, Hilda, were baptized members of the Norton Christian Church and later became members of the United Church of Oberlin.

Survivors include his children, Kathleen and Garth Conroe, Montrose, Colo.; Mike and Sharon McGee, Houston, Texas; and Patricia Horning, Wichita; two step-sons, James and Mary Tyrrell, and John and Shawna Tyrrell, Cameron, Mo.; a sister, Enid Foland, Almena; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; a step-grandson; and two step-great-grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by his parents and an infant brother, Lowell Wade McGee.

Funeral services were held Saturday morning at the United Church of Oberlin with Pastor Judi Stricker officiating. Burial was at the Oberlin Cemetery with military rites by the Oberlin American Legion Post.

A memorial was established to the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center. Contributions may be sent to Pauls Funeral Home, 121 N. Penn, Oberlin, Kan., 67749.

Doris Alene Black

Doris Alene Black, 83, a longtime Oberlin resident, died Feb. 7, 2009, at the Cedar Living Center in Oberlin.

She was born June 7, 1925, in rural Oberlin, the daughter of Earl and Mabel (McClellan) Wilson. She grew up in the Traer and Oberlin communities, attended rural grade school, and graduated from the Decatur Community High School in 1942. She taught rural school and also taught in Dresden for three years and later sold World Book Encyclopedias.

She married Harold Ockerman in August 1946, and he preceded her in death. She married Edwin Black on Aug. 2, 1985, in Farmington, N.M. She was a member of the Assembly of God Church in Oberlin.

Survivors include her husband, Edwin Black, Oberlin; a son, Wilson and Betty Ockerman, Kirkland, N.M.; two step-children, Lyle Black, Beverly Hills, Calif.; Sharon Mockry Stevenson, Oberlin; two brothers, Gordon Wilson, Oberlin; Floyd Wilson, Mesa, Ariz.; three grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; a step-granddaughter; and three step-great-granddaughters.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, a daughter, Judy; a brother, Muriel, a sister, Bernice Meixner, a step-son, Lee Mockry; and a step-grandson, Monty Mockry.

Funeral services were held Thursday morning at the Oberlin Assembly of God Church. The Rev. Royce Leitner officiated and burial was in the Oberlin Cemetery.

A memorial was established to the church. Contributions may be sent to Enfield Funeral Home, 215 W. Main, Norton, Kan., 67654.

Leo Boutz

Leo Boutz, 79, a native of Jennings, died Feb. 11, 2009, at the Cloud County Health Center in Concordia.

He was born Oct. 13, 1929, at Jennings, the son of Albert and Theresa (Walkemeyer) Boutz. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict. He worked as a farm hand for Elmo St. Pierre from 1959 to 1995.

He married Arlene McElhiney on March 24, 1981. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Arlene, Concordia; a son, Fred and Judy Boutz, Parkville, Mo.; a daughter, Wida Egan, Manhattan; a step-daughter, Nancy French, Denver; two step-sons, Earl French, North Little Rock, Ark.; and Thomas French, Denver; four sisters, Doreen Course, Salina; Freda Morgan, Oskaloosa; Frances Mosier, Norton; and Flora Edwards, Washington; four brothers, Darrel Boutz, Zealande; Everett Boutz, Jefferson City, Mo.; Glen Boutz, Mulvane; and Homer Boutz, Colorado Springs; seven grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and three step-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters and two brothers.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at the First United Methodist Church in Concordia with the Rev. Sandra Moore officiating. Burial was at the Pleasant Hill Cemetery at Concordia, with military rites by the Concordia Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion.

Memorials were established to the Disabled American Veterans or the Veterans Medical Center, Topeka. Contributions may be sent to Chaput-Buoy Funeral Home, 325 W. 6th St., P.O. Box 606, Concordia, Kan., 66901.

Joyce Dee Christensen

Joyce Dee Christensen, 79, a native of Dresden, died Feb. 13, 2009, at her home in Sierra Vista, Ariz.

She was born Nov. 24, 1929, at Dresden, the daughter of John H. and Jennie (Jennings) Muirhead. She was reared at Dresden and attended Dresden Consolidated School. She graduated from Jennings High School and the University of Colorado in Boulder.

She married Christian Christensen on Aug. 17, 1952, in Dresden. She was an elementary school and music teacher and worked for the U.S. Census Bureau. She was a member of Highland Park Community Church in Casper, Wyo.; and Phi Delta Kappa.

Survivors include her husband, Christian, Sierra Vista; a son, Kevin and Amber Christensen, Illsheim, Germany; two grandchildren; and a brother, Keith and Helen Muirhead, Dresden.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Kenneth Muirhead.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the Jennings United Methodist Church. Pastor Carrie Buhler will officiate and burial will be at the Dresden Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday at Pauls Funeral Home in Oberlin and from 8 a.m. until service time at the church in Jennings on Saturday.

Memorials were established to the Dresden or Jennings United Methodist Churches. Contributions may be sent to the funeral home, 121 N. Penn, Oberlin, Kan., 67749.

Flossie H. Millage

Flossie Hoffman Millage, 95, formerly of Oberlin, died Feb. 8, 2009, in Belton, Mo., at the Olathe Medical Center.

She was born in Oberlin on Dec. 14, 1913, the daughter of Frank and Maude Hoffman. She was reared on the family farm west of Oberlin. She attended Mount Pleasant School and Oberlin schools. She later attended business school in Topeka. During business school she worked at the café at the capital building, then continued for more than 20 years in that profession in several states.

She married Ray Millage in 1948, in Denver. They continued to live in Denver until 1955, when they moved to the family farm west of Oberlin, where they lived until retirement in 1970. They spent winters in Yuma, Ariz., and summers in Greer, Ariz.

Survivors include a daughter, Tami and Mike Richards, Belton, Mo.; four grandchildren; an adopted granddaughter; four great-grandchildren; an adopted great-granddaughter; a brother, Albert and Patti Hoffman, San Marcus, Calif.; and a sister, Theodora and Bill Jackson, Nevada City, Calif.

She was preceded in death by her

husband in 2004; her parents; and a sister, Noni Lawrence.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday at New Life Community Church; 16111 Vicie Ave., Belton, Mo., 64012.

Memorials may be sent to Hope Lutheran School, 6308 Quivira Rd., Shawnee, Kan., 66216. Floral arrangements may be sent to 9006 Grandview Dr., Overland Park, Kan., 66212.

Caroline Irene Pettera

Caroline Irene Pettera, 96, a longtime resident of Herndon, died Feb. 10, 2009, at the Rawlins County Health Center.

She was born on Oct. 29, 1912, in Ludell Township, Rawlins County, the daughter of Joseph T. and Amelia (Vap) Pettera.

She is survived by a sister, Veronica Olson, Denver. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brothers and sisters, Sister Joseph Baniti, Francis, Joseph, Bertha, Herman, Gertrude, Anna, Louis, John and Marie.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Saturday at St. Mary's Assumption Catholic Church in Herndon. The Rev. Daniel Scheetz officiated and burial was at the church cemetery.

Memorials were established to St. Mary's Building Fund. Contributions may be sent to Williams Funeral Home, 109 N. Second, Atwood, Kan., 67730.

Josephine Jo Vernon

Josephine Jo Vernon, 78, a sister-in-law of Marjorie Vernon of Oberlin, died Feb. 8, 2009, at her home in Corpus Christi, Texas.

She was born Nov. 17, 1930, in San Francisco, Calif. She served in the U.S. Marine Corps.

She married Ralph Vernon on Feb. 6, 1993. She was a charter member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Corpus Christi.

Survivors include her husband, Ralph, a 1948 graduate of Decatur Community High School; four daughters, Donna and Bill Bazar, Mary and Glenn Kelly, Kathy and Billy Fleming and Debbie and Paul Farris; a step-daughter, Jane and Steve Hanifin; a step-son, Roger Vernon; a twin brother, Joe and Eleanor Hazen; a brother, Morris and Vivian Hazen; and a sister, Rachel and Joe Sargenti; seven grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and one step-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Sam and Dora Hazen, her sisters Esther Bowden, Tillie Klein and Belle Reinke, all of California, and a grandson, Lloyd Bazar.

Memorial services were held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church on Thursday.

A memorial was established to the church sanctuary fund or donor's choice. Contributions may be sent to Ralph Vernon, 7205 Mansions Drive, Unit B-2, Corpus Christi, Texas, 78414.

Condolences may be sent to www.seasidefuneral.com.

Sylvia Wachendorfer

Sylvia J. Wachendorfer, 72, of Selden, mother of Jan Badsy of Oberlin, died Feb. 20, 2009, at the Citizens Medical Center in Colby.

She was born June 21, 1936, on a farm in Rawlins County, the daughter of Ralph and Eleanor (Kundysek) Urban. She was reared on the family farm southeast of Atwood and attended country school near her home.

She married Darrel Lamb of Atwood, in 1957, and they had five children. She married Henry Focke Jr. of Atwood, on Aug. 2, 1970, and they had two children. She lived on the family farm north of Atwood.

She married Dennis Wachendorfer of Selden, on May 7, 1977, and they lived on a farm west of Selden.

Survivors include four sons, Craig Lamb, Atwood; Darrel Dean Lamb, Leesburg, Va.; Charles and Sarah Focke, Kearney, Neb.; Chad Focke and his fiancée, Mandy Morgan, Selden; two daughters, Jan and Ken Badsy, Oberlin; and Kim and Dennis Franklin, Atwood; three step-children, Karen Focke, Atwood; Dan and Melissa Wachendorfer, Selden; and David Wachendorfer, Roseville, Calif.; a brother, John and Agnes Urban, Colby; two sisters, Mary and Harry Depe, Trenton, Neb., and Donna Frandsen, Oberlin; two sisters-in-law, Jacqueline Urban, Atwood; and Willa Urban, Oberlin; 16 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two husbands, Henry Focke in 1975 and Dennis Wachendorfer in 1999; an infant daughter, Ethel Margaret Lamb, a daughter, Jennifer Ann Lamb; three brothers,

Bennie, Franklin and Delvin Urban; and one sister, Roberta Urban.

Funeral services were held Friday afternoon at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Selden. The Rev. Dan Scheetz officiated and burial was at the Selden Cemetery.

A memorial was established to the Selden City Park. Contributions may be sent to Pauls Funeral Home, Selden, or Pauls Funeral Home, 121 N. Penn, Oberlin, Kan., 67749.

Joan Ann Wessel

Joan Ann (Ryan) Wessel, 70, a longtime resident of Selden, died Friday, Feb. 13, 2009, in the Progressive Care Unit of Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney, Neb., from complications associated with multiple myeloma.

She was born May 25, 1938, in Coffeyville, the daughter of Wilbur M. and Floy V. (McKinney) Ryan. She was reared in Caney and graduated from Caney public schools in 1956. After graduation, she attended Coffeyville Community College for one year and then Kansas State University, majoring in education. She received her degree in 1960. For three years, she taught home economics in Alton, where she met Leroy John Wessel.

They were married on May 25, 1963, on her 25th birthday in Osborne, at St. Aloysius Catholic Church. They lived in Victoria, Oakley, and Benkelman, Neb., before moving to Selden in 1966.

After their youngest child entered school, she worked as a substitute teacher and an Avon representative before taking a position as a Certified Nurse Aide and Rehabilitation Aide at Lantern Park Manor in Colby. From 1986 to 1992, she served as the administrator for Oakley Manor. She then worked for Decatur Health Systems in Oberlin in Materials Management until her retirement in 2008.

She was an active member of the Sacred Heart Parish, taught religious education, served on the parish council and assisting in the celebration of the Mass as a song leader, lector and Eucharistic minister. She was also a member of Sweet Adelines, International.

Survivors include her husband, Leroy, of the home; two sons, Joe Wessel, Satana; and John Wessel, Carbondale; three daughters, Floy Wessel, Emporia; Pam Wessel, Wichita Falls, Texas; and Rebecca Surmeier, Emporia; six grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Vigil service will be held at 7 p.m. tonight at Pauls Funeral Home in Selden. Mass of the Resurrection will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Selden. The Rev. Rick Story will officiate and burial will be in the Selden Cemetery.

A memorial was established to the church or the Multiple Myeloma Association. Contributions may be sent to Pauls Funeral Home, Selden, or Pauls Funeral Home, 121 N. Penn, Oberlin, Kan., 67749.

Markets

Feb. 16 closing markets
Wheat, \$5 bushel
Corn, \$3.23 bushel
Milo, \$4.63 hundredweight
Soybeans, \$8.47 bushel
Sunflowers, \$12.65 hundred-weight

Sell your unwanted items with a classified ad. 475-2206

Courthouse

These transactions were taken from the records in the offices of the Decatur County clerk, sheriff and register of deeds:

DISTRICT COURT Limited Actions
Credit Management Services vs. Randy and Lynda Peters, \$910 plus costs and interests.

JAIL BOOKINGS
The following were booked into the Decatur County Jail:
Feb. 10: Ryan Agan, 24, McCook, driving under the influence, Red Willow County Sheriff's Office.
Feb. 12: Levi Jones, 23, Oberlin, warrant for probation violation, Ellis County Sheriff's Office.
Feb. 12: Brent Stenho, 28, Bertrand, Neb., failure to appear, Oberlin Police Department.

REGISTER OF DEEDS
Joseph M. Gross to Joseph M. Gross Trust, NE/4 of Sec. 33, T1S, R28W.
Elmer J. Kathka to Gerry N. Tally and Theresa M. Tally, joint tenants, a tract 240' x 300' SW/4 of Sec. 1, T23S, R29W.
Warren L. and Lynn K. Tacha to Clint A. Krizek, Lots 28-32 inclusive, Blk. 8, Original Town of Jennings.

Bus and Coach International to Marian J. Votapka, N. 20' of Lot 11, S. 40' of Lot 12, Blk. 4, Johnston Addition to the City of Oberlin.

City Hall

MUNICIPAL COURT
Thursday, Feb. 12: Mike Beaudette, Oberlin, dog at large, \$90; Kharchenko Oleksandr, Downers Grove, Ill., speeding 44 in a 30 mph zone, \$119.

POLICE BLOTTER
The Oberlin Police Department worked these calls:

• On Thursday, a representative of the former 180 House reported several items missing from the house. These including an Xbox 360 game station, valued at \$225; around seven games, valued at \$300; and a combo VHS and DVD player valued at \$100. All were removed from the house between Monday, Feb. 2, and Thursday, Feb. 5.

Chief Wade Lockhart said he received another call that other items were missing, too. He said he asked the firm to fax him a list of the missing items, but nothing has been received. A moving truck was at the house on Thursday, Feb. 5.

• Received a call on Thursday from Nikki Murray to report identity theft. Chief Lockhart said someone acquired Mrs. Murray's personal information in 2003. She just received a bill about an account in Detroit that isn't hers, but is in her name.

• Officers Troy Haas and Brad Burmaster arrested Levi Jones, 23, in the 200 block of West Oak on an Ellis County bench warrant on Thursday. The warrant was for probation violation and there was no bond.

Town Crier

Today: Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., ambulance barn.

Thursday: Open bridge, 1 p.m., Golden Age Center.

Saturday: Anna Seeber Shaw art workshop, 2 p.m., Oberlin Covenant Church.

Museum benefit chili feed, 5 to 7 p.m., Old Bohemian Hall.

Sunday: Teens for Christ, 6-8 p.m.

Singles dance, 7 to 11 p.m., Swing-N-Country, Oberlin American Legion.

A representative of the Northwest Local Environmental Protection Group will be at the county Health Department once a month for free well evaluations, including testing water for bacteria and nitrates. For details, call 475-8118.

The Decatur County Food Pantry is open from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday at the United Church, 109 N. Griffith. Gifts of cash, nonperishable food and household items are always needed.

Monday-Friday: At 1 p.m. at

the Golden Age Center (Grapevine Cafe), Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, pinocle; Tuesday, pitch; third Thursday of the month, senior bridge, open. Quilting, puzzles, games daily.

SENIOR MENU
Senior lunch at the Golden Age Center (Grapevine Cafe), 217 N. Penn, weekdays at 11:30 a.m.

Today: Chili with beans, hot buttered apples, crackers, cinnamon rolls.

Thursday: ham, sweet potatoes, pineapple, bread, cake with frosting.

Friday: turkey a la king, cook's choice vegetable, broccoli salad, biscuits, mixed fruit.

Monday: sausage patties, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, bread, peaches.

Tuesday: ham and beans, cottage-cheese salad with vegetables, cornbread, strawberries and bananas.

Next Wednesday: tuna and noodles, stewed tomatoes, apricots, bread, pudding.

Corrections

A story about Gail and Kay Marcuson on the OH! page of the Feb. 11 issue of *The Oberlin Herald* gave Mrs. Marcuson's parents as Perry and Ada Perry. It should have been Perry and Ada Dillane. This was a proofing error.

A story on a county commission meeting in the same paper listing Abby Hissong as being reappointed to the Decatur County Fair Board. Actually, her husband, Dr. Travis

Hissong, is the board member. This was a reporter's error.

☆☆☆☆
The Oberlin Herald will correct or clarify any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at 475-2206 to report errors. We believe that news stories should be fair and factual, and appreciate your calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

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WEATHER

Forecast
Today: A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 36. Breezy, with a north wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. **Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 18. North wind between 10 and 15 mph.
Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 42. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 20.
Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 50. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 16.
Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 48. **Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 20.
Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 52. **Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 25.
Monday: Sunny, with a high near 56.
From the National Weather Service.

National Weather Service
(Information below for period ending 8 a.m.; maximum temperature for previous day.)

	Hi	Low	Precip.
Feb. 9	51	27	.16
Feb. 10	54	23	T
Feb. 11	57	22	0
Feb. 12	52	16	0
Feb. 13	46	15	T, .5 snow
Feb. 14	29	8	.25, 2.20" snow
Feb. 15	30	6	0

Precipitation totals for the week, 0.41; for the month, 0.41; for the year 0.60; one year ago, Feb. 2008, 0.81
For 24-hour weather radio broadcast, tune scanner to 162.4 mhz.
By Melvin Martin - NOAA Cooperative Weather Observer.