

People in Our Community

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Elaine Bryan accompanied Wayne and Betty Grafel of Culbertson, Neb., to Aurora, Neb., on Wednesday, where they attended funeral services for LaVerna Sallans on Thursday morning at the Higby-McQuiston Funeral Home. Mrs. Sallans died on Nov. 8. Burial was at the Aurora Cemetery. Among others attending were Bill and Shirley Jones, Doug Jones, and Jeff and Linda Prather, Quinter; John R. and Phyllis Grafel, and Don and Joan Grafel, Herndon; and Bonnie Weber, Gilbert, Ariz.

Karen and Larry Smith spent the weekend with their daughter, Theresa Smith in El Dorado. On Saturday evening they attended the musical "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" at Bluestem High School. Theresa is vocal teacher at the school and was director for the musical.

Luetta Pollnow accompanied her daughter, Kay Matheny, to Dodge City on Friday, where they spent the weekend with their great-grandsons and grandsons, Judson and Jackson Johnson, while their parents were out-of-town.

— Thanksgiving Sunday Brunch Buffet Nov. 22, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. LandMark Inn. Call 475-2340 for reservations.

Rusty and Sharon Addleman returned home Nov. 2, after accompanying Allen and Neta Jeffus of Topeka to New York City. They enjoyed visiting Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty, attending two Broadway plays, "Billy Elliot," which won 10 Tony Awards and was named best musical for 2009, and also "Next to Normal," along with other sights.

Dr. Brett and Karen Young of Dallas, visited on Friday with his grandparents, Dale and Eris Young, and other relatives.

— Happy 50th Anniversary, Bob and Yuki.

Buck and Brady Vernon, and Darrell and Tyler Johnson of Frederick, Colo., were weekend houseguests

of Buck's grandparents, Loyd and Mary Waldo. They came for pheasant season opening.

Bethany College students Destry Jackson, daughter of Dewayne and Aurelia Jackson of Norcat, and Gabe Moore, son of Monte and Kelly Moore of Oberlin, have joined the Blue Dozen, the Swedes' pep band. Associate Professor of Music Doug Talbott is director.

— Correction: Airport expansion equals more jobs. Jobs equal more people. More people equal fewer taxes. Pd. pol. adv. Marcia Lohoefer.

Winning highs in pinochle last week were Doris Fringer, Elden Haas, Kelva Dryden, Henry Edgett, Max Carman, Dewaine Stapp and Veanna Carman. Lows went to Henry Edgett, Dorothy Moore, Norma Anderson, Veanna Carman and Neil Marshall. Pitch highs were won by Henry Edgett and Neil Marshall with lows going to Dorothy Moore and Elden Haas. Bridge winners were Charlotte Meints, Ila Ray, Cynthia Matson and Marie McKisson.

Britta, David and Michael Noren each performed their two piano pieces at the State Kansas Music Teachers Auditions in Lawrence on Saturday, Nov. 7. All three received a rating and a critique. They are the students of Cheryl Metcalf.

Weekend guests of Bob and Terri Woolsey were Major Tanner and Kaori Woolsey and Joana, Minot, N.D.; and Tyler and Becky Woolsey and Mary Jane, Hays. They also spent time with Tucker and Tonya Woolsey, Trae, Taita, Trenneddy and Talulah in Quinter.

Kayla Unger has returned home and is recuperating satisfactorily following back surgery in Wichita. Doyle and Karol Styles took her to Wichita, then brought her home.

Virginia Almqvist of Smith Center visited on Wednesday with her sister, Cecelia Brown, and both attended funeral services for Glenva Nichols.

Decatur grad finishes Iron Man race on coast

Jaron Tate's 15 minutes of fame, which began when he was named one of the Biggest Losers on the television show in 2006, has been extended.



Jaron Tate

Recently, the Arkansas Biggest Loser, son of John and Edie Tate of Oberlin, completed an Iron Man race on the East Coast. It took him 12 hours, 56 minutes to swim 2.4 ocean miles, then bike 112 miles and finish with a 26.2-mile run. To earn the title, he had to finish in under 17 hours.

The swim course and bike course took place at Wrightsville Beach, through the northern section of Wilmington, N.C. The two-loop run course started and finished at the battleship North Carolina. Competitors crossed three bridges on each of the two 13.1 mile loops. Mr. Tate had to complete three smaller triathlons under a time requirement to enter.

"His wife, Tara Jo, had official permission and ran beside him for five of his hard run miles," said his father. "What a lady! This would have been much harder without her. She has placed some of the race pictures on Facebook, and NBC sent

a (crew for a) follow-up." "Biggest Loser camera crews planned to record some of the race," Mr. Tate said. "Present plans by NBC are to feature Jaron's race on the *Biggest Loser* program the night before Thanksgiving at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 25.

After losing 163 pounds in 2006, he has worked as a Certified Personal Trainer and group fitness instructor in his hometown of Hot Springs. He also travels the country inspiring everyone he meets to strive to become a better version of themselves. He has counseled hundreds of people to personal fitness goals and motivates thousands through his speeches to business and civic organizations.

"He has mentioned his next goal might be the invitation-only granddaddy of all the Iron Man races in Hawaii," his father said. "I'd like to be there..."

Jaron is a 1996 graduate of Decatur Community High School. He is a brother to Jay Tate and a grandson of Lois Carlson, both of Oberlin. He and his wife have a daughter, Abigail, 4 1/2.

Rotarians hear about airport

Greg Lohoefer spoke about the airport project for the program at the Nov. 10 meeting of the Oberlin Rotary Club at The Gateway. He was introduced by Jay Anderson, program chair.

Mr. Lohoefer said that a key to economic development for this area is the extension of the airport runway to 5,500 feet. There is a lot of support for this addition, with the possibility of matching money from the Kansas Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration.

The inability of larger planes to land at the Oberlin airport has discouraged some businesses from moving to this area, he said. Oberlin citizens will vote by mail by Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2009, for or against a proposed ordinance which would bar the city from spending money on the project.

Mr. Lohoefer told members to check the newspaper for updates and information on the election.

Marty Melia of the Goodland Rotary Club was a guest.

Program is canceled

A program on underage drinking which had been scheduled for Thursday at The Gateway, has been

canceled, according to Tammy Sporn of the Decatur County Farm Bureau office.

Oberlin couple honored as outstanding citizens

Greg and Mary Jo Lohoefer were honored at Oberlin Modern Woodmen's 37th Annual Community Recognition Banquet held Nov. 5 at Faith Lutheran Church.



Mr. and Mrs. Lohoefer

The DCHS Singers provided entertainment. In the absence of Marie McKisson, Betty James of Selden and Shawn Carney of Colby, led the program.

Both Greg and his wife, the former Mary Jo Witt, grew up in Decatur County and attended Oberlin schools. He attended Fort Hays State University on a wrestling scholarship and she was a music major. They married in 1975 and raised two children here. Their daughter, Leigh Ann, is a physician assistant and is married to Clint Johnson. They live in Kansas City, Mo. Son Adam and his wife Jenny live in Olathe, where he is a design engineer.

Mr. Lohoefer farmed several years with his father-in-law, Duane Witt, then started working with his father, Ray Lohoefer, at the Decatur County National Bank. In 1985, he opened his own business, Financial Consulting and Investigations, now located in the Business Enhancement Entrepreneurial Center downtown.

Over the years, he has worked with Oberlin Kids Wrestling Club and Swim Club, was sponsor and coach of the summer youth ball program, served on the Decatur County Hospital Board, and was an original member of the Economic Development Corp. board. He is a member of the Oberlin Rotary Club, Oberlin Country Club and the Decatur Tomorrow Steering Committee. He has served as a council member of Faith Lutheran Church and was youth sponsor for five years.

Mrs. Lohoefer is a member of Chapter BH, PEO, Alif Be Khe Club, the Decatur Professional Women, the Red Hat Society Haughty Hatters, Decatur Tomorrow Action Team, the Oberlin Community Band and the Oberlin Country Club. She served as a 4-H project leader

and on the Decatur County Extension Council, and is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, where she served as Girls State chairman. She also worked with the Oberlin Swim Team and Oberlin Kids Wrestling Club, as well as being a sponsor and coach for the Summer Youth Ball Program.

Mrs. Lohoefer taught piano for 28 years and has been an accompanist for the Oberlin School District for more than 30. She has been organist at Faith Lutheran for over 30 years and also served as choir director and a Sunday School teacher. She is a member of the Kansas Music Teachers Association, the North Central Kansas Music Teachers Association, the Kansas Music Educators Association, Phi Kappa Phi and Alpha Gamma Delta.

One of Mr. Lohoefer's most recent achievements was spearheading the building of the new Golden Age Center, theater and bowling alley. Mrs. Lohoefer also worked with Dr. Gary Fredrickson on a campaign to buy new seats for the theater.

The couple was presented with the award, along with a certificate for \$100 to be donated to a favorite charity.

Todd Edward Jones and Suzanne Cahoj were welcomed as new members of the Modern Woodmen Half Century Club.

Among projects the Oberlin Chapter has accomplished during the past year are raising \$2,715 for the new theater, which was matched by the home office; purchasing \$250 in food, cleaning supplies and personal hygiene items for their Care and Share Project; serving cake and coffee at Decatur County Good Samaritan Center and presenting residents with several DVD sets for "Make a Difference Day; planting a large tree at Zodrow Park; serving refreshments to the workers at the senior center and providing \$500 worth of paint and supplies for the project.

Area band plans concert

The Oberlin Area Concert Band, directed by Neal Russell, will present a Christmas concert at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 29, in the high school auditorium.

Selections will include "The Center Ring," "Just a Closer Walk with Thee," "Divinum Mysterium," "Big Bang Spectacular," "Celebration and Song," "I've Got the Recession Depression Blues," "The Lighter Side of Christmas," "Up On the Housetop," "Christmas Music for Winds" and "Saint Nicholas Suite."

Members of the band are Chris-

tie Morris, Rhonda May, Evie Caldwell, Charissa Huff, flute; Darbi Rouse, oboe; Pam May, Cheryl Metcalf, Brooke McCorkle, clarinet; Joan Glading, alto sax; Nakita Bose, tenor sax; Robyn Rouse, bassoon; Lonnie Weyeneth, Joanne Wendelin, Chris Nelson, trumpet; Kathy Almqvist, Donnie McCorkle, French horn; Ken Morris, Tim Larson, trombone; Mary Jo Lohoefer, Katie Glading, baritone; Robert Rouse, Paul Wood, tuba; and Gary Anderson, Mike Ford, Joy Russell, Darrin Glading, percussion.

Woman receives award

Brooke Nelms, granddaughter of Eileene Grose of Oberlin, received the first John Wright Respiratory Therapist Legacy Award, named for the former respiratory manager of Children's Hospital and Medical Center in Omaha.

The award recognizes her as someone who has contributed her passion and knowledge toward the advancement of the respiratory care profession while touching the lives of children, families and co-workers, the hospital said.

She has been at the hospital since February 2005. Her parents are Mark and Kim McConville of Indianola.



B. Nelms

Thanksgiving service set

The Decatur County Ministerial Association will sponsor the annual Community Thanksgiving Service at 4 p.m. on Sunday at the Oberlin United Church, 109 N. Griffith.

The service will include music and scripture. Members of area churches will share their musical gifts, and donations will be taken for the Decatur County Food Pantry, along with an offering for the Ministerial Association, which

oversees the Food Pantry and the Samaritan Fund.

A coffee fellowship will follow the service. Pastor Judi Stricker will be the host pastor. Everyone is invited.



A Huge Thank You

goes out to the following business participants who donated auction item(s) for the Norcat United Methodist Church Bazaar and Soup Supper held October 24th.

- Cabin Antiques
- Coffee, Tea and Me
- Custom Trophy and Engraving
- Decatur County Implement
- Home Planning Center
- Prairie Petals
- Raye's Grocery
- R&M Service Center
- Rocking R

- Shear Creations West
- Seeds of Creation
- Southwest Implement
- Stanley Hardware
- The Carpet Center
- The Dresser
- The LandMark Inn
- The Museum
- Ward Drug

Your donations are greatly appreciated. **Thank You!!!!**
Norcat United Methodist Church Bazaar Committee.

Club News

Members model attire

Members of the Monday Evening Club arrived at the home of Ann Anderson on Nov. 9 "dressed to the nines," with attire ranging from the elegance of a bygone day to the contemporary.

Hostesses were Marcia Lohoefer, Mary Ann Erickson and Nanette Zander. It was said that the term "dressed to the nines" came from the nine yards of fabric once required to make a suit.

Since the 2000 decade will end Jan. 1, program leader Cindy Sauder passed out New Year's Eve caps and noisemakers and asked members to think back 10 years to New Year's Eve 2000 and remember how their evening was spent. Memories included

the "Y2K" threat to computers, stockpiling food and water and celebration parties. She read a list of predictions and noted how few of them had come to pass.

The club will celebrate the November birthdays of residents of Good Samaritan Center at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 19, with music by Michael Milbauer of McCook, and refreshments. Members discussed the importance of voting on the airport issue.

The Christmas meeting will be held Dec. 7 at the museum among the decorated Christmas trees, with music by the DCHS Singers. Hostesses will be Sharon Addleman, Kay Gaskill and Karol Styles.

Officer visits chapter

State Officer Jan Keeley of Great Bend visited Chapter BH of PEO Sisterhood in her official capacity as corresponding secretary on Nov. 12.

She held an officers' workshop at Sappa Valley Manor for local officers Peggy Roe, Marlene Moxter, Joy Russell, Betsy Haag, Tonya Tally, Linda Glaze and Robyn Rouse. State officers visit each chapter once every four years.

At 7:30 p.m., officers and members of Chapter BH met at the home of Karen Thompson for

their regular meeting. Mrs. Keeley shared the state president's message, "Membership, Memories and Motivation."

PEO is an international organization that promotes the education of women through scholarships, grants and loans. Several local women have benefited from PEO educational monies. PEO also sponsors Cottey College in Nevada, Mo. Chapter members enjoyed meeting Mrs. Keeley and visiting with her following the meeting.

Club makes ornaments

Pi Alpha Club met Nov. 9 at the newly-opened Golden Age Center with Joan Evans and her daughter, Kristy, as hostesses. Mrs. Evans read "Thanks For What" and "Fallen Leaves" for devotions.

The evening was spent making Christmas ornaments to decorate a museum Christmas tree with Gerry Neff and Joy Russell in charge. Members will meet at 1 p.m. Nov. 21 to decorate the tree

at the museum.

Eight members were present and donations were taken for the Angel Tree. Rosella Meitl won the cross-stitch hostess gift.

The annual Christmas Tasting Tea will be held Dec. 14 in the parlor of the Decatur County Museum with Mrs. Russell as hostess and the second half of the club roster in charge. A \$5 gift exchange will be held.

Four join post auxiliary

Four new members, Judy Groneweg, Sherry Bergling, Melissa Chambers and Linda Bunney, were welcomed as new members when the Oberlin American Legion Auxiliary met on Nov. 11 at the post home. President Angela Corcoran presented them with badges and pins.

Thirteen members were present. The president opened the meeting and Chaplain Lois Lamb gave the prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Pre-amble.

Sid Metcalf was guest speaker and told about his time of serving our country and how it made an impression on him, especially when he sees the American flag.

He explained his position in the American Legion as leader of the Honor and Color Guard. His talk, along with the grade school program and parade for veterans in the morning, made a memorable day for all who took part. Mr. Metcalf was introduced by Vice President Carol Morford.

Carol Allen reported that 70 percent of members had paid their dues. Lois Lamb and Phyllis McCarty were hostesses.

The next meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 9 with a soup supper and white elephant bingo. All members are urged to attend. Officers will make the soup and others are to bring something to go with soup.

Widows and Friends meet

Widows and Friends enjoyed lunch together on Nov. 11 at the ReLoad.

Present were Charlotte Meints, Martha Fringer, Phyllis Screen, Mildred Holmdahl, Doris Sloan, Mary Ann Amack, Millie Lippelmann, Cecil Hess, Doris Fringer, Laurene Van Otterloo, Norma Richards, Eileene Grose, Virginia Spratling, Bertha Schwisow and Nadean Stony.

In honor of Veterans Day, Mrs. Amack read, "A Prayer for the Armed Forces."

A noon potluck dinner will be held in Fellowship Hall of the United Methodist Church for the Dec. 9 Christmas meeting. Each member is to bring a covered dish and their own table service. In the spirit of Christmas, everyone is also invited to bring an item for the Food Pantry.

The children and grandchildren of Dewaine Stapp

Will honor him on his 80th birthday with an open house from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Golden Age Center on Friday, November 27.

All family and friends are invited to attend.

Happy 45th Anniversary Mom and Dad We Love You!



The family of Jim and Leanna Bryan would like to honor them with a card shower to help them celebrate on November 28.

Mailing address is:
1767 1200 Road
Oberlin, KS 67749