

# People in Our Community

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Col. Delbert Townsend, (retired), a 1938 graduate of Decatur Community High School, suffered a broken hip and arm in a fall. His address is 9602 Wedgewood Place, Fort Washington, MD, 20744-5718.

LeRoy and Sharon Stevenson, Cedar Bluffs; her daughter and family, Ronda and Jeremy Pinkerman, Abby, Mia and Sidney, Dakota Dunes, S.D., and his parents, Arlo and Anita Pinkerman, Stromsburg, Neb., enjoyed a week in Branson, Mo., over the holidays.

Hall's Clothing Store is going out of business after 60 years in downtown Norton. The men's store was started by Carroll Hall, formerly of Oberlin, and was sold to George Jones. Steve Streck has been owner since 1993.

Buzz and Cynthia Matson visited on Friday with Howard and Sharon Kessinger in Marysville.

**Boys State benefit pancake and sausage feed, Thursday, Jan. 21, 5-7:30 p.m., American Legion Post.**

Gary and Jeanie Gawith were in Salina on Dec. 9 when their grandson, Edward Mike Gawith, was born. His parents are Matt and Monica Gawith of Salina.

Heidi (Van Vleet) Sidman and her husband, Daniel, have moved to Atwood from Boonville, Mo., and she has been hired as the new communications director for Rawlins County. She was reared at Herndon and graduated from Herndon High School in 1998. Her husband is working for Carlson's Choke Tubes in Atwood. Mrs. Sidman is the daughter of Pam Van Vleet of Oberlin and the late Merald Van Vleet.

Emily Timm of Ludell received a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Kansas State University. She is the daughter of Cheryl Timm of Ludell and the late Kenneth Timm. She is working as a sales associate at GTM Sportswear in Manhattan.

**50% off winter merchandise at The Dresser. New spring fashions arriving daily.**

Winning highs in pinochle at the Golden Age Center last week were Kelva Dryden, Henry Edgett, Ardis Roe, Max Carman and Veanna Car-

man. Lows went to Doris Gilbert, Norma Anderson, Max Carman, Ardis Roe, Henry Edgett, Elden Haas, Doris Fringer and Dorothy Moore. Pitch highs were won by Elden Haas and Henry Edgett with lows going to Neil Marshall and Max Carman. Bridge winners were Annette Miller and Shirley Simpson.

Scott Fikan, son of Ron and Colleen Fikan of Atwood, earned a master's degree in accounting and finance from Kansas State University at commencement exercises in December. His mother is the former Colleen Ketterl, a 1977 graduate of Decatur Community High School.

The Dr. Roger E. Cody Music Scholarship for \$200 was recently awarded to Katie Cox, a senior music major from Geneseo, Ill. This scholarship was established to honor Dr. Cody, professor emeritus of music, who retired in 1995 after teaching nearly 30 years at Truman State University at Kirksville, Mo. He was the long-time director of jazz ensembles. He is a 1956 graduate of Decatur Community High School and the son of the late Elden Cody and Elaine Cody Thomas.

Ralph D. Unger, Decatur County Commissioner, and his wife Norma traveled to Topeka on Thursday to attend the monthly meeting of the Kansas Workers Cooperative for Counties Board of Trustees on which he serves. It provides workers compensation coverage for over 65 Kansas Counties. He represents the Northwest District Counties on this board and currently serves as the chairman of the Investment Committee. They returned home on Friday afternoon.

Golden Plains Senior Isaac Broeckelman has been selected to play in the 8-Man All-Star football game in Beloit on June 12. He led the team in rushing last fall which helped lead the Bulldogs to their second consecutive Bi-District game as Western Kansas Liberty League champions and district champions. Coaches were Travis Smith and Travis Betz. His parents are Joe and Cathy Broeckelman of Selden.

Jordan Tally, a student at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture at Curtis, Neb., was named to the 4.0 honor roll for the fall semester. He is the son of Eugene and Tonya Tally of Oberlin.

## Cadets to honor leader

The Army Reserve Officers Training Corps Wildcat Battalion at Kansas State University plans a memorial service at 1 p.m. today at the All Faiths Chapel on campus for Lora Elizabeth Marietta, a cadet from Oberlin.

Miss Marietta, a senior in psychology and pre-occupational therapy, died in a car crash over the holiday break.

Erich Schwartz, director of religious affairs in the K-State Office of Student Life, will preside over the service, which will feature reflections on Miss Marietta's impact on the battalion, the university and the lives of her fellow cadets.

Miss Marietta was a cadet battalion commander. In addition to

family and friends, ranking military officials are expected to attend.

In the Task Force Dodge Regional Ranger Challenge at Camp Dodge, Iowa, last month, she earned the top physical fitness test score for a woman. Her score of 342 was well over the Army maximum of 300.

In high school and on into college, she competed in power lifting competitions. In 2007, while a sophomore at K-State, she placed third in her weight class at the U.S.A. Power Lifting Collegiate National Championships in Killeen, Texas.

Her parents are Alan and Judith Marietta of Oberlin. Funeral services were Dec. 26 in Oberlin.

## Man named top sprayer

Travis Votapka was named the most efficient spraying operator for the Crop Production Services division which covers the western half of Kansas, west of Hays, the Panhandle of Oklahoma and the state of Colorado.

During 2009, he sprayed over 47,000 acres with chemicals for area farmers, which also placed him in the top five sprayers in the nation.

His prize will be to spend four

nights on a five-day trip anywhere in the United States that he chooses.

"Crop Production Services has 850 stores in this country, and we are very proud of Travis," said Manager Bob Stanley of Oberlin.

His parents are Dan and Lisa Votapka and he is a grandson of Joy Votapka, all of Oberlin. Travis is a 2003 graduate of Decatur Community High School.

## Rotarian visits Washington

Program Chair Ken Schultz spoke about his trip to Washington to visit the World War II Memorial with a group of World War II veterans at the Jan. 12 meeting of the Oberlin Rotary Club at The Gateway.

The trip was sponsored by the Kansas Central Prairie Honor Flights, which raised \$200,000 for the veterans to make the trip.

Sen. Bob Dole visited with the veterans. Among other sites they visited were Arlington National

Cemetery, the Vietnam War Memorial and the Holocaust Museum. He said that more than 400,000 service members died during World War II.

The Rotary Radio Day fund raiser will be held Sunday, March 7.

Guests were Sarah Fredrickson and Martin Burton. Junior Rotarians from Decatur Community High School were Kira Meitl and Lakin Brown.



Reagan and Katelyn Coulter

## Couple exchange vows in double-ring nuptials

Katelyn Jae Spresser and Reagan Andrew Coulter exchanged wedding vows at 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, 2009, at the Christian Church in Hoxie. Pastor Lane Purcell officiated the double-ring ceremony.

Parents of the couple are Dennis and Shawn Spresser, Dresden; and Kirk and LuEllen Coulter, Colby. Grandparents of the bride are Gary and Clara Gillum, Jennings, and Don and Bernadine Spresser, Leoville. Grandparents of the bridegroom are Verleen Fuchs, Hoxie, and the late Herb Fuchs; and the late Elvin Coulter.

The bride was escorted down the aisle by her father. She wore a strapless, full-length ball gown covered with lace and adorned with handbeaded pearls and crystals. Her cathedral train also covered with a pearl and crystal lace trim.

The maid of honor was Amanda Rall, Manhattan. Bridesmaids were Kelsey Rhodes, Selden, sister of the bride; Kendra Spresser, Dresden, sister of the bride, and Lea Coulter, Bennington, sister of the

bridegroom. The flower girl was Halee McKenna and Dillon Koehn was the ringbearer.

Candlelighters were Lily Schamberger and Tacy Coulter.

Serving as best man was Sam Munderloh, Colby. Groomsmen were R.J. Ladenberger, Trevor Seibert and Mike Juenemann, all of Colby.

Ben Rhodes, brother-in-law of the bride, and Brittney Ritter provided music for the ceremony.

Ushers were Chris Kaiser, Bennington, brother-in-law of the bridegroom; Kade Spresser, Dresden, brother of the bride, and Todd Ziegelmeier and Joe Meier, Colby.

Reception, supper and dance followed the ceremony at the Leoville Parish Center with Mr. and Mrs. Gary Garrett as hosts.

Following a honeymoon to Kansas City, they are living in Weatherford, Okla., where they attend Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

## Sixth grader wins top honors in spelling

Kade Grafel, a sixth grader, captured top honors at the Oberlin Elementary School Spelling Contest on Monday by correctly spelling the word "proposition."

He is the son of Dan and Melinda Grafel of rural Oberlin.

Runner-up was Evan Shobe, a

fifth grader, who went down on the word napkin. His parents are Sara and Jake Weyeneth, Cedar Bluffs, and Mark Shobe, Arkansas.

Principal Duane Dorshor pronounced the words to the fourth, fifth and sixth graders in the contest.

## 4-H members enjoy bowling

By CALLIE UEHLIN

The Maverick 4-H Club held its monthly meeting on Jan. 10. Members met at Colby Bowl for their Christmas party. For roll call each member stated his/her favorite Christmas present. Members present were Taylor, Madison, and Landon Macfee, Rachel and Danica Ritter, Haley Schiessler, Jamie and Jean Soderlund, and Chance and Callie Uehlin. Connor McHugh attended as a guest.

The club discussed the recent fundraiser of selling pastries and possible future fundraisers. It was decided that the club would participate in County 4-H days with a

club skit. The club members were also reminded that they need volunteers to work at the theater. At the end of the meeting the club signed some thank you cards, ate pizza, and bowled.

The next 4-H meeting will be at 5 p.m. on Feb. 14 at the Ambulance Barn. This will be a Sweetheart Party. Each member is to bring Valentines to share with the club members, and each family is asked to bring a dozen cookies to distribute for a community project.

Maverick 4-H club greatly appreciates everyone in the surrounding communities that purchased pastries from our fund raiser. Thank you for supporting Maverick 4-H.

## Club News

### Club has new member

Pi Alpha Club met Jan. 11 at Sappa Valley Manor with Cecil Hess as hostess and Elaine Bryan as co-hostess.

President Gerry Neff conducted the business meeting. Mrs. Hess gave devotions titled, "The Winter of Life — Something to Think About."

Twelve members were present and Mrs. Neff welcomed Rachelle Lytle as a new member. Marty Olson won the hostess gift.

Plans were made for the club to

entertain at Cedar Living Center at 2:30 p.m. on Feb. 11 to honor residents who have birthdays. Joy Russell will plan the program.

A "Show and Tell" program, with members bringing special or prized items, proved to provide an interesting and entertaining evening.

The next regular business meeting will be held Feb. 8 at the home of Marty Olson with Virginia Spratling assisting.

### Auxiliary hears speaker

Deanna Castle gave an interesting program about her second trip to Mexico to help build a house for a family when the American Legion Auxiliary met Jan. 13.

She stressed how her eyes were opened after spending a few days there, including the things people take for granted such as electricity, running water and bathroom facilities.

President Angela Corcoran

conducted the meeting and Phyllis Metcalf, in the absence of Lois Lamb, gave the prayer followed by the flag salute and preamble. Roll call was answered by three officers and three members.

The president reported membership at 84.8 percent. Members are urged to get their dues paid in order to boost it to 100 percent. Mrs. Corcoran was hostess.

### Group plans soup supper

The Prairie Chapel United Methodist Women met with Coleen Rippe on Jan. 13.

President Cheryl Metcalf opened the meeting with the group singing, "In the Garden of Prayer," followed by prayer for those mentioned. Devotions were given by Rowena Cathcart, taken from Guideposts. Lucille

Townsend gave the Prayer Calendar Moments and distributed new program books, telling of programs for the year.

There will be a soup supper from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the church on Sunday, Jan. 24. Mrs. Metcalf gave the program on Prayer and Self Denial, using material from Response and Program.

## Magic show set at Gateway

The Keith West Magic and Illusion Show will bring "the glitz and glamour of Las Vegas" to The Gateway at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 30.

At the age of 10, West said, he got the magic bug. He started reading and studying the art. His first public show was when he was 12 at a children's festival in his hometown of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

He has done his show in more than 40 states and many times in Las Vegas. He has performed in casinos, at universities, country clubs, company banquets and fund

raisers. He has also performed for the Omaha Symphony and for corporate meetings.

The show combines the best of magic and mind-boggling illusions with the wit and comedy of Mr. West and showgirl Ms. Madeline. Audience members will be welcome to join them on the stage and become part of the show.

Admission is by Oberlin Arts and Humanities season ticket or \$10 for adults and \$5 for students at the door. For information, call Ella Betts, (785) 475-3557, or Mary Henzel (785) 470-0218.

## Arizona gathering planned

The Arizona gathering for present and former Decatur County residents will begin at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 23, at the home of Max and Marlene Miller, 11124 E. Sugar Creek Drive, Gold Canyon, Ariz., 85118.

Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. for \$10 at the door. Reservation deadline is Monday, Feb. 15.

Call Billie and Rex Morton at (520) 625-0130; write to 1223 W. Calle Macillo, Sahuarita, Ariz., 85629, or e-mail rbmorton2@gmail.com.

Hosts, besides the Millers and Mortons, will be Denny and Betty Campbell, Oro Valley, Ariz.; Dwayne and Betty Jones, Green Valley, Ariz.; and Duane and Marilyn Waldo, Saddlebrook, Ariz.

## Free band concert Tuesday

The Decatur Community High School band and jazz band will give a concert at 7:30 p.m. next Tuesday in the high school auditorium.

Director Sarah Bricker said that they will be playing numbers from the Great Bandstanders, including

"Shenandoah" and "First Suite in E Flat." Among selections by the jazz band will be "Tuxedo Junction" and "Who's Sorry Now."

The public is invited to the free concert.

## Watercolor workshop set

Artist Anna Seeber Shaw will teach a watercolor workshop at 1 p.m. on Saturday at the Oberlin Covenant Church.

This is a continuation of a series of stand-alone workshops which

she is teaching for beginning and intermediate watercolor artists.

Call her at (785) 475-2707 or Mary Henzel (785) 470-0218 to register.

## New Arrival

Edward Mike Gawith

A son, Edward Mike, was born Dec. 9, 2009, to Matt and Monica Gawith of Salina. He weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces and was 20 inches long. Grandparents are Ed and Janelle Hernandez, Salina; and Gary and Jeannie Gawith, Oberlin. Great-grandparents are Bernie and Virginia Major, Mentor; Mike and Bernita Gawith, Stockton; and Bonnie Dolan, Oberlin.



E. Gawith



## Magic and Illusion Comedy

Keith West and Madeline will present Magic and Illusion Comedy at Oberlin Gateway Center

Sponsored by Oberlin Arts & Humanities Commission  
Season Ticket event or \$10 adults,  
\$5 students grades 1-12

Saturday, January 30, 2010  
7:30 P.M.

For information call:  
Ella Betts 785-475-3557  
or Mary Henzel 785-470-0218



This program is presented in part by the Kansas Arts Commission, a state agency, and by the National Endowment for the Arts, a Federal agency which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

