

OBITUARY

Rosella E. Esslinger

Dec. 20, 1908 - May 13, 2005

Rosella E. Esslinger, 96, Norton, died Friday at the Andbe Home.

Mrs. Esslinger, the daughter of Nicholas and Angeline (Wurtz) Gieber, was born Dec. 20, 1908, in Strawberry.

She was raised in the Clifton area and attended the Strawberry school.

On Aug. 17, 1937, she married Melvin Mathew Esslinger in Clara. They lived in Norton County, where they farmed.

She was a member of the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church and altar society. Her hobbies were sewing and crocheting.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, a daughter, JoAnn, and a grandson, Mark.

Survivors include a son, Dean and Linda Esslinger, Norton; a daughter, Donna Jean Begnoche, Salina; two foster sons, Charles and Debbie Schoenberger, Great Bend, and John Schoenberger, Chicago, Ill.; nine grandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren.

Mass of the Christian burial was held today at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church with Father Vincent Thu Laing officiating. Burial was in Norton Cemetery.

A memorial has been established to the Andbe Home. Contributions may be sent to the home at 201 W. Crane, Norton, Kan. 67654.

Enfield Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Club ends year with review of activities

By BEVERLY KINDLER

Members of Mid Century Federated Club concluded their club year with a catered dinner at the home of Karen Cox.

Lois Myers and Virginia Will, members of the social committee, were hostesses.

The members decided to be in charge of the PLINKO game during the Norton County Fair. The club received a \$100 contribution for doing so this year.

Members also decided to provide a class subscription to "Kind News" for Julie Schrum.

Geraldine Packer reviewed the club year as she presented the "Club History".

This review showed that members had volunteered 4,591 hours helping with community projects like recycling, working at the Thrift Shop, collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, delivery of Meals on Wheels, assisting with Daffodil Days, serving as Ambassadors for the Norton Area Chamber of Commerce and assisting Norton CARES.

Members also volunteered time for church events and activities — choir, bellchoir, funeral dinners, women's organizations, fellowship dinners, living nativity and community Thanksgiving Service and Christmas dinner.

The main fund-raiser is the annual pie sale. Each member contributes two pies, and in two hours, 50 are sold, mostly as pieces. The profit is about \$325.

In lieu of a gift exchange in December, club members contributed to the Norton Cemetery Improvement Fund. The club also contributes to Post Prom, the American Field Service program and the Leadership America Conference.

During the year programs have included Kachina dolls, "Aging Eyes — Concerns and Care" and "Big Brothers Big Sisters".

Club members hosted the annual Joint Federated Dinner, a Fine Arts Tea and provided a display of stitchery at the Norton Public Library.

The club received recognition from the sixth district for Arts, Public Affairs and Special Projects.

Jean White installed officers for the next two-years with a rose ceremony. Officers are: Beverly Kindler, president; Darlene McEwen, recording secretary; Lynn Nelson, treasurer; and Leta Donovan, corresponding secretary. Members also received roses as they were challenged with responsibilities for a successful club.

Oak furniture always popular

American oak furniture is selling at premium prices in the antique market as this old-fashioned finish continues to rise in popularity.

Some of the buyers have sentimental attachments to the furniture with which their childhood homes were furnished but others are young and are just drawn to the style or color.

In the late 1800s an oak bedroom suite could be purchased for \$20, dining room sets for less than \$50. Coveted pieces were, and still are, library tables with ball and claw legs, big roll-top desks full of enticing pigeon holes, fancy hall trees complete with hat hooks and a brass pan to catch umbrella drips. Oak office furniture from law offices, courtrooms, libraries or schools is sought after and used far differently than their designers ever anticipated.

Ornamentation adds to value, so press back chairs and fancy table pedestals, carved edges and serpentine fronts bring more money. Original bevel-edged mirrors also add to value.

Prices have changed a bit in the last 100 years. Now-a-days a round oak dining room table in good repair can go for \$600, any oak chest will bring \$200 to \$300 and a roll-top desk, a china cabinet with original curved glass, or an oak Hoosier kitchen cabinet will go far beyond \$1,000.

Examine the wood closely when considering a purchase of any oak piece. Because this was economy furniture when it was first marketed, some interesting hybrids, shortcuts, and downright discombobulations have been found.

To create furniture that was sturdy, attractive and affordable, manufacturers sometimes chose to use oak in combination with other woods.

Whether you like or dislike such variations, be sure of what you have before you make an offer.

Veneers were common on oak pieces. Elm was used where a curved edge was desired since it bent and warped easily and did not split.

Many so-called oak iceboxes are actually made of elm. Hickory was commonly used where strength was important to a thin design as in a bow back chair or rockers on a rocking chair. Cheaper chestnut and pine were used for drawer sides and for the backs of buffets. All these woods had the advantage of grain that could look like oak. Some people search out

Collector's Chat

Liza Deines



the pieces made with mixed woods; others disdain them. Remember, what you collect is up to you, despite what the fashion might be.

What designers now call a faux finish was once a rather shady technique to make cheaper wood resemble oak.

Called "tiger" in the catalogs, the oak-like grain was achieved with combs, feathers, rollers and other painting devices. "Fumed" oak was a darker oak finish first created with tobacco juice rubbed into the unfinished wood, later achieved with chemicals. Some referred to this as "mud" oak but it proved to be popular when dull or rubbed finishes were in style. In 1908 the Sears and Roebuck catalog advertised solid oak furniture with "high gloss golden finish" and the days of dark oak were over.

My parents owned a golden oak dining room set. Although it was the plainest style Sears sold, it stood up to 50 years of family living.

Mother told me once that the dining room set had been moved 22 times over the years. It was the only furniture that survived the tornado and with a little refurbishing, it is now in the home of my niece, Colleen, still serving its original purpose.

A lot of happy memories center around that round oak table where meals were eaten, jigsaw puzzles were worked, homework was done, wardrobes were designed and sewn.

On rainy days all I needed was that table and the button box and I could play for hours with my button people — fancy Southern belles, military platoons, herds of horses, or troupes of dancing girls — who lived in the land of oak grain.

Oak furniture has come into its own after a long transition from utilitarian to collectible. It can't be beat for endurance and basic style.

But it's the nostalgia factor that counts most for those who treasure a piece or two of Mama's good old "Sears & Sawbuck" golden oak.

ONE OF OURS: Thanks, Todd Burd, for "Puttin on the Ritz" for Norton. This is one "bird" that wings his way home once in awhile and it's certainly a treat. Bring your friends and come again, Todd.

BIRTH

Jack Browne

Steve and Julie Browne, Leawood, are the parents of a son, Jack Wurster Browne. He was born May 12, weighing 6 pounds 12 ounces.

Grandparents are David and Norma Browne, Norton, and Bob and Kathy Ramsey, Kansas City, Mo.

Great-grandmother is Olive Kasper, Kansas City.

HANSEN MUSEUM

By LEE FAVRE

Tom Peterson, Colby, has an elaborate art form now on display at the Dane Hansen Museum throughout the month of May.

His intricate fretwork won him the "Artist of the Month" honor at last year's Craft Fair.

Items include portraits of John Wayne and Johnny Cash, Native Americans, western scenes, patriotic cutouts, and many religious works such as "The Lord's Prayer", "The Last Supper" and of crosses cut into different wood types. All are pains-takingly carved out with tiny woodworking tools, and then framed atop fabric to reveal the finished art in more clarity.

Quilt art may be seen in the gallery area.

Molly Anderson, Minden, Neb., has completed nearly 50 art quilts in a way that is unique to her. Beginning with hexagons, Ms.

Anderson builds colors into a painting of sorts and then adds appliqué, embroidery, beading, and fine stitchery to embellish and finish the quilt. Her quilts will be on display through July 3.

The Science Comedy Performance at the school auditorium last week was a success. The audience was the Logan Grade School classes, about 50 students from Kensington, 30 from Lenora, and other people, who just wanted to attend. This program was brought to Logan by the Bureau of Lectures as a learning and performing arts program, sponsored by the Hansen Museum.

Other events sponsored by the continued education program will be Water Aerobics (June 14 through Aug. 4), Joy of Painting (June 11-12), and the Earl Kuhn Watercolor Workshop, (Aug. 4-7.)

Mark your calendars for these and other coming events.

PINOCHLE

By JAKE DURHAM

They were arriving early and picking their spot on the sign-in sheet.

A look over the field and it was easy to see that the competition was pretty evenly matched with seasoned players, all ready for the challenge. This was going to be a hotly contested tournament.

It was hard to tell the pushers from the bidders as making the trump suit was of vital importance, but in the game of Pinochle, an abundance of meld can be an equalizer and of course, the eight hundred point game was on everyone's mind as there hadn't been one this year. As the final score was posted, it was the team of Julia Roeder and Larry Harman who captured the honors. The team of Brooks and Brooks, Todd and Doyle that is, captured second round honors but the team of Roeder and Harman were able to hold the lead by a narrow margin. The team of Eleanor Jensen and Joyce Summer captured the honors on round three and doubled their score as the team of Todd and Doyle Brooks moved into the lead and now the teams of Todd and Doyle Brooks and the team of Roeder and Harman were the only teams carrying a 100 point per-round average or better.

At the halfway mark the team of June Jolly and Margaret Magers captured the honors as the team of Julia Roeder and Larry Harman once more moved into the lead, followed by the team of Todd and Doyle Brooks in 2nd, Darren McMullen and Jason Amlong in 3rd, June Jolly and Margaret Magers in 4th and rounding out the top five was the team of was the team of Brett and Doug Gallentine.

The team of Mary Jane Wahlmeier and Norman Walter took the fifth round honors but it was the team of Todd and Doyle Brooks regaining the lead once again. The crucial sixth round was

coming up and it was getting to be crunch time and every bid was most important. The team of Elden Billips and Billy Keiswetter took the honors with the highest single round honors of the evening as the team of Julia Roeder and Larry Harman moved back into the lead for the third time. It was looking like a two-team race between Roeder and Harman and the team of Brooks and Brooks but in reality there were at least ten teams in the push. The team of Darren McMullen and Jason Amlong took the seventh round honors as everyone took time to read the tote board as the seventh round scores were posted. The team of Roeder and Harman were still in first place with the team of Norm Walter and Mary Jane Wahlmeier moving into second, Ron and Sondra Kester moving into third, Todd and Doyle Brooks into fourth and rounding out the top five was the team of June Jolly and Margaret Magers.

As the scores were posted, the lead changed several times and as the last score was posted the team of Julia Roeder and Larry Harman had held the lead for the championship. It had been a hard fought fight as the lead had changed several times. The Champions received their accolades with dignity and humility as they had been there on previous occasions and promised to return for a hopeful back to back championship.

Top ten teams in order were: 1. Julia Roeder and Larry Harman; 2. Ron and Sondra Kester; 3. Norman Walter and Mary Jane Wahlmeier; 4. Todd and Doyle Brooks; 5. Myron Veh and Dick Hemphill; 6. Darren McMullen and Jason Amlong; 7. Bill Glennemeier and Rodney Stapp;

CORRECTIONS

In the May 13 edition of *The Norton Telegram*, Kay Holste was listed as a recent graduate of Kansas State University. Her complete name is Courtney Kay Holste. She is the daughter of Jay and Kathy Holste.

This was a reporter's error.

In that same issue in a story about the last year in the Jennings school, it said the board would

meet Wednesday. That meeting was held May 11.

This was an editing error.

☆☆☆☆☆
The Norton Telegram will correct or clarify anything that is wrong in a news story. Call our office at 877-3361 to report errors. We believe news stories should be fair and factual, and want you to tell us about any failure to live up to this standard

Piano students play for residents

The piano students of Carol Erlenbusch and Denise Meyer held their piano recital Sunday at the Whispering Pines Retirement and Assisted Living Center.

Students of Mrs. Erlenbusch who performed were Jared Bohl, Christopher Fisher, Alissa Otter, Kaitlyn Bohl and Shelby Mulford.

Mrs. Meyer's students were Kylie Nuzum, Kylee Kindall, Rachel Slipke and Landon Slipke

READERS

— Steak and seafood night, Thursday and Saturday, 6-9 p.m. American Legion. Members and guests. 5/17

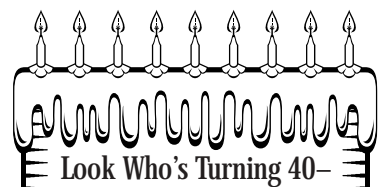
Weddings, funerals, engagements, and births. You'll find it all in...

THE NORTON TELEGRAM



MARKETS

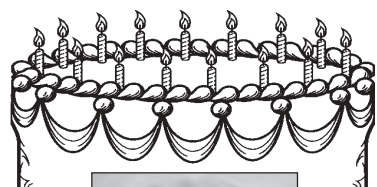
At close of business May 16
Wheat \$2.89
Milo \$2.75
Corn \$1.79



Look Who's Turning 40—



Happy Birthday Dale Ray!! WE LOVE YA! YO FAMILY



Live is Great—y Ruth is eighty On May 20th Whoop de doo Her children request a Card Shower Ruth Quinn 804 Ogden Oxford, NE 68967

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8. Brett and Doug Gallentine; 9. June Jolly and Margaret Magers; 10. Elden Billips and Billy Keiswetter.

Other teams not previously mentioned were: Dave Sheley and Jack Mechsner; Elden Vincent and Weldon Brooks; Dee and Thelma Bushnell; Arnold and Dorothy

Zillinger
As the evening wore down, there were several teams who were determining their crucial points during the tournament as the sounds of "The King" could be heard in the background. The last tournament of the season was May 15.

NORTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Vacation Bible School

Tuesday May 24 thru Friday, May 27

This year's theme will be "Wonder Working Power of Prayer". The children in attendance will learn the Lord's Prayer and hear stories about Nehemiah and Lydia. The storytellers will be in costume and the scenery will take the children back in time.

Mission class will be led by Adina Ness and JoAnn Colip. Adina is originally from Romania and now lives in Wisconsin with her family. The VBS youth will learn about the orphan children who live in orphanages in Romania and Adina's mission work as a dentist.

The Christian Church's VBS is for all children ages 4 years old through 6th grade, (grade the child will be in this fall) and will run from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. for three evenings with the program on the fourth night. The special closing program will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, May 27 with a hot dog fellowship following.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PREREGISTER PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 877-2871 OR CO-DIRECTORS: Nancy Hager, 877-3841 or Melba Witt, 877-3660.

A REGISTRATION TABLE WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE CHURCH ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AND ALSO THROUGHOUT THE WEEK OF VBS

Come Join Us for An EXCITING, Christian, Learning Experience!!!