

OBITUARY

Kenneth W. Neiltopp

Aug. 16, 1921 - May 27, 2007

Kenneth William Neiltopp, 85, Norton, died Sunday at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney, Neb.

The son of William Robert and Sylvia Maybelle Jacobs, he was born Aug. 16, 1921, in Norton.

He grew up in Norton and attended Norton schools, graduating in 1939. He served in the U.S. Navy, spending time at several naval bases during World War II.

On Sept. 20, 1944, he and Eunice VanGreuning were married in Gainesville, Ga. They made their home in Norton where he was a television technician.

He was a member of the First United Methodist Church and Methodist Men, Harmonson-Redd American Legion Post No. 63, and the United Commercial Travelers. He had served as the Civil Defense Director and was a

past volunteer fireman with the Norton City Volunteer Fire Department for 16 years. He was an active volunteer at the Thrift Shop and was an avid collector of barbed wire, coins, and tobacco tins.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include: his wife, Eunice, Norton; one daughter, Tammy and Rich Miller, Norton; three grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at the First United Methodist Church, Norton. Burial was in the Norton Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the church, 805 W. Wilberforce, Norton, Kan. 67654.

Enfield Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Couple to wed

June 9

Cindy McKenna, Norton, and Patrick Shirley, Norcatur, are engaged to be married.

Parents of the bride are Beth Heikes, Norton, the late Paul Goethals and step-father, Kevin Heikes, Lenora. Ms. McKenna is the granddaughter of the late Reva and Lawrence Smith and Rose and Edward Goethals.

Mr. Shirley's parents are Dennis and Judy Shirley, Oberlin. He is the grandson of Doris Sloan and Merle Shirley, Oberlin and the late Cleland Sloan and Fay Shirley.

Ms. McKenna is a graduate of Norton Community High School. She is a para-educator at the school.

Mr. Shirley graduated from Decatur Community High School. He is a farmer and rancher.

The wedding will be held June 9 at the United Methodist Church, Oberlin.

Farmers keep eye on the sky

Every western Kansas farmer becomes a meteorologist of sorts simply through necessity. Weather is an integral part of the life of a rural community. I one time heard a gentleman at a national conference say "Let's not sit with those Kansas people — all they ever talk about is the weather." Perhaps we are guilty of focusing too much discussion on an element we can neither change nor control, but you see, our entire economic cycle can turn on one good rain or one bad hailstorm.

It's a common saying among wheat farmers that a crop is lost ten times before harvest. Winter wheat is planted in the fall of the year, it sprouts up, turns a beautiful yellow green by early December and depends on the snows of winter to be a moisturizing and warming blanket. In the spring it begins to grow only if there was moisture to carry it through the cold season. Spring rains are supposed to fall for nourishment but a late spring frost can cause irreparable damage. In May the heads begin to form and fill with grain. There is always the possibility of dreaded mosaic disease or the bugs that love green wheat. By far, however, the threat that can make or break a harvest is hail.

Do you wonder that Kansas farmers don't jaunt off to Las Vegas to gamble? They gamble all year every year; sometimes winning, sometimes losing, but always planting again.

As a child I remember my par-

Child of the 40s

Liza Deines



shook the house. What Mama thought was hail turned out to be every window in the house imploding as the roof was torn away. Rain and jagged hailstones pounded furiously down into the rooms as roaring, twisting winds lifted and smashed interior walls and furniture. Constant thunder accompanied by horrific lightning created a terrifying sound, louder than anything I'd ever heard before. Then, as suddenly as it came, the twister lifted and passed over, the sound died, and it was just raining heavily.

ents watching the clouds forming the night our home was ripped off the face of the earth by a Kansas twister. A lowering, darkness, tinged with a strange greenish cast began to appear late in the afternoon, accompanied by distant rumblings of thunder. Far off flashes of lightning lit up the western sky. During an uneasy supper we watched the horizon darken into premature night.

When we went out on the back porch the air felt thick and heavy. Wind was rising out of the north and strange pocked clouds roiled in the northwest. "Hail," Dad said. He didn't need to say more. We had enough wheat farmers not only in Trego County but in the family that the word struck fear even to the heart of an 11-year old "town girl". It was the night of June 26; a bumper wheat crop stood tall and golden ripe in the fields just ready for the combines.

The two of them stayed up quite late waiting for the storm to break, expecting a bad thunderstorm with hail. The climax of the approaching storm came around midnight. I awoke to a breathless silence; then suddenly a deafening crash

Twenty-two minutes — that's just how long it took to lose a home, a crop in the field, our buildings and livestock. Granted, this was an unusual year. Hail, disastrous on its own, is not always accompanied by a tornado. This storm dealt a real double whammy to our little community and left us in recovery mode for years. Today, fifty years later, the trees still show scars and splits from the ordeal. They never put the tower back on the Courthouse and some lots still stand vacant where buildings once stood. Many wheat crops have come and gone through the years, some great, some bad, but always, always planted.

Every farmer knows the phrase, "Well, there's always next year..." The land remains. The sun will shine, the rains will come, new seeds will sprout. Hope remains.

4-H NEWS

Norton County Extension will be hosting a project workshop for 4-H'ers on Tuesday, June 5 at the Norton County 4-H Building.

The 4-H members who wish to participate are asked to call the Extension Office at 877-5755 by June 1 to pre-register. Youth may take more than one session as long as the time frames do not overlap.

The sessions offered will be basic bread making, 9 a.m. to noon; paper sack scrapbook

(more advanced), 9 a.m. to noon; pop bottle rocketry, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; advanced bread making, 1 to 4 p.m.; photo box scrapbook, 1 to 3 p.m.; and pop bottle rockets, 3 to 5 p.m.

The 4-H lifeskills judging can be also done by any 4-H member from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 5 p.m. at the 4-H building that day.

There is a \$3 fee for the bread classes; participants in the bottle rocket launchers should bring an empty 2 liter plastic bottle and/or a 35 mm film canister with lid.

Logan woman awarded

scholarship



Amber Houser

Amber Houser, a 2004 graduate of Logan High School, has been awarded the Victor E. McMulkin Memorial Scholarship for the 2007-2008 school year.

Miss Houser, the daughter of Marjorie Richards, Edmond, will be a sophomore at Colby Community College where she is studying veterinary technology with a specialization in equine medicine.

This summer, Miss Houser will serve an internship at Norton Animal Health Clinic.

The McMulkin Scholarship was established in 1979 by Ruth McMulkin in honor of her husband who had been a farmer and Norton County resident all his life.

Northern Valley inducts scholars

The Northern Valley Chapter of National Honor Society held its induction April 26. Six new members were inducted during the formal ceremony with family, friends and faculty in attendance.

New members include Joni Hilburn, daughter of Jace Hilburn and Julie Hilburn, Almena. Joni's activities have included volleyball, track, student council, KAYs, FFA and Husky Pals.

Amanda Hopkins is the daughter of Bradley and Launa Hopkins, Almena. Her activities have included track, cross country, student council, dance, cheerleading, Husky Pals and Junior Pride.

Kelsey Kinderknecht is the daughter of Toby and Lisa Kinderknecht, Norton. Kelsey has been active in volleyball, basketball, track, student council, KAYs and forensics.

Hannah Ponstein is the daughter of Harland and Beth Poinsettia, Long Island. Hannah is active in vocal, scholars' bowl, Teens for Christ, Young Women's Bible Study and her church youth group.

Stephanie Tubbs is the daughter of Kevin and Mim Tubbs, Almena. She has been active in volleyball, track, student council, scholars' bowl, vocal and

Teens for Christ. Jesi Zillinger is the daughter of Douglas and Jana Zillinger, Logan. Jesi is active in FFA and forensics at school. She is also in the American Paint Horse Association, Kansas Pinto Horse Association, Northeast Kansas Hunter Association, Kansas Western Horse Association and the United States Eventing Association.

Members of National Honor Society are: Kelli Cole, Henry Griffiths, Jessica Holmes, Jena Jessup, Ashley Kingham, Andrea Lowry, Melody Miller and Abbie Ponstein. Club advisor is Robbie Griffiths.

READERS

— STEAK and SEAFOOD night, Thursday 6-9 p.m. American Legion. Members and guests. 5/29

Jakki Puent, 2007 Norton Community High School graduate, accepted a \$1,200 Miller Black and Gold Academic Award and a \$500 Award of Excellence in English. She is on the Honor Roll.

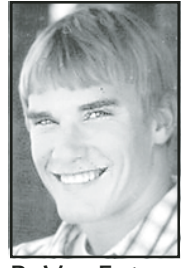


Jakki Puent

Miss Puent, daughter of James and Annette Puent, Norton, plans to major in English at Fort Hays State University.

Lakin Tuxhorn, daughter of Jim Tuxhorn, Norton, and Monica and Allan Dunavan, Smith Center, accepted a \$500 Copper Academic Award. She is a 2007 graduate of Smith Center High School. She plans to attend Fort Hays State University where she will major in nursing.

Blake Van Eaton, 2007 Norton Community High School graduate, accepted a \$1,000 Fort Hays State University Achievement Award and a \$700 Fort Hays Bronze Academic Award.



B. VanEaton

BIRTH

Carter J. Gaer

Carter Joseph Gaer was born April 30, at Norton County Hospital. He weighed 8 pounds 3 1/2 ounces and was 21 inches long.

His parents are Kelly and Elaine Gaer, Norton. He has a sister, Keeley, age 4. Grandparents are Bernie and Patty Garibay, Manhattan; Galen Gaer, Harlan, Iowa; and Bruce and Linda Burger, Harlan.

Great-grandparents are Louis Borg, Manhattan; Martha Anastasi, Harlan; and Bernadine Gaer, Harlan.

Reesa Volgamore, 2007 Norton Community High School graduate, accepted a \$700 Fort Hays Bronze Academic Award and a \$500 Award of Excellence in communication disorders.



R. Volgamore

While in high school, she was involved in tennis, Kansas Association for Youth, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Students Against Destructive Decisions, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Catholic Youth Organization and was a Jay Singer accompanist.

Miss Volgamore, daughter of Mike and Jan Volgamore, Norton, plans to major in communication disorders.

MARKETS

At close of business May 29

Wheat	\$4.49
Milo	\$3.30
Corn	\$3.72
Soybeans	\$6.94

Prairie Wind Eyecare
Will Be **CLOSED** June 4-8 for Remodeling
Thank you for your patience

114 N. Kansas, Norton, KS
PH 785-877-5115

The Norton Telegram... News you need!

SIGN UP NOW FOR SOME SWIMMING FUN

Norton County Hospital will Sponsor:
"WATER AEROBICS"
30 Min. Low Impact Session: 5:00-5:30 p.m.
60 Min. Higher Impact Session: 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Classes will be held each Tuesday and Thursday for 8 weeks Starting Tuesday, June 5 at the City Pool
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL PHYSICAL THERAPY AT 877-3351 FROM 8-4 P.M. - REGISTRATION WILL BE FIRST NIGHT OF CLASSES

Showing at the **NORTON THEATRE**
PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: AT WORLD'S END
2 Hour, 25 Minutes — (PG-13) (PREMIERE)
\$7.00 for Adults; \$6.00 for Children 12 and Under
Show Times: Fri. & Sat.: 6:30 & 9:30
Sunday and Monday (Memorial Day) 4 & 7 p.m.; Tues., Wed.: 7 p.m.

SHREK THE THIRD
(PG) (PREMIERE)

Let's go to the Movie

May 25-May 30

No movie passes accepted for either movie

Local team wins Norton Bridge Tourney

one and found the answer to better scoring as there seemed to be more positive reactions from round to round.

As the scores were finally tabulated, the team of Brooks and Hemphill had maintained the lead by amassing a total score of 8,500 points.

The second place team after round one, Dewaine Stapp and Leone Purton, had held that position. They actually improved their situation, and were only 600 points off the lead.

The team of Sam and Bonnie Manning had moved from fifth

place to third and was only ten points behind team number two. The team of Annette Miller and Marie McKisson had moved from eighth to fourth and the team of Norman Walter and Joyce Sumner rounded out the top five positions.

There were no slams bid in round two and Beverly Klein and Merrice Brooks substituted for the team of Richard and Marcia Wiltfong. The third and final round could see some dramatic changes as many teams will undoubtedly push to the limit.

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