## BITUARIES

## Gerald Bretton

### December 25, 1936 - October 17, 2010

Gerald "Dick" Bretton died Oct. 17 in Kirwin at the age of 73. He was born Dec. 25, 1936, in Phillips County to Gerald and Helen (McDonald) Bretton.

Dick was a truck driver for the Phillips County Road Depart-

Survivors include three sons: Curtis Bretton of Kirwin, Randy Goodermuth of Hays and Brad Goodermuth of Del City, Okla.; three daughters: Teresa Starkey and Lisa Hall, both of Kirwin and Jackie Mickelson of Ellis; one brother, Bob McDonald of Logan; two sisters, Bette Townsend of Norton and Alva Horn of Colby; 11 grandchildren and 10 greatgrandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 10:30 a.m. in the Ollifff-Boeve Memorial Chapel, Phillipsburg, with Pastor Becky Saddler officiating. Burial will follow in the Kirwin Cemetery at Kirwin.

Memorial contributions may be given to Hospice Services or to Kirwin Extra Hands.

Olliff-Boeve Memorial Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

### By CYNTHIA KINDALL

On October 5, Mike Weaver from the Nicodemus Historical Society in Nicodemus, was our guest at the Norton County Geneology group.

Those attending were Jean and Warren White, Betty Bivens, Carolyn Bivens, Lavonne Otter, Jenise Walter and Warren Heaton, Joann Wolf, Jim Moore, Allen and Cindy Kindall, Beverly Kindler and Jessica Bivens were guests.

Interesting facts we learned were that the National Historical Land site is actually 161 acres. Weaver manages 3-and-a-half to four acres by the Nicodemus Historical Society and one-fourth acre is actually owned by the Historical Society.

After the Civil War was over, the slaves had been broken up from their families and there were no jobs like they had worked prior to the War. "Civil War is over, we are free," was the cry. As the African Americans were never appreciated after the Civil War, the cry was "free land!" during the homestead act of 1862, granting them free land.

They came as colony groups to settle. Nicodemus is the oldest and only remaining all black town west of the Mississippi River established during the reconstruction period after the Civil War.

They came from Georgetown, Lexington and Kent in Ken-

The writing was on the wall, let's get out of the south — by coming to free land in Kansas, they had the opportunity to self-

In 1885 there were 35 homes, a livery stable, two churches, a general store, post office, hotel and real estate office plus two schoolrooms. Then the railroad bypassed, after this the businesses moved to Bogue.

The first school in Graham County was in Nicodemus.

The National Historical Site was established in 1996.

In 2011 the Emancipation will be 133 years old, and started with the freedom of slaves in the West Indies This has evolved into the Nicodemus Homecoming.

The Kansas Black Farmers Association of Nicodemus has formed a flour co-operative and is producing pancake mix.

### By JAKE DURHAM

There was plenty of action on the Village Green as the senior Pitch Teams were drilling the recruits in close order drill. The numbers were low but the enthusiasm was high, meanwhile, inside the Golden Girls and the Grand Mothers were handing out welcome cookies to celebrate the opening day of the new season. The Fortune Teller was busy reading face cards and predicting up coming election results while the Hat Man and Wild Bill were reading the Ojai Board to determine if there was a lucky line to sign in on. The clock on the wall was approaching the magic hour but there was one team short when a couple of K-State routers on their way home from Lawrence entered through the south and they were immediately given the last number as the Brown Eyed Girl shouted, "begin to commence", and the action was underway.

Getting a quick lead was on most everyone's mind as the bidding seemed to be fast and furious. The Ladies from Lyle struck first with the high round honors and the initial lead. As usual, the leader board changes rather quickly as they took the honors and a narrow lead after round two.

The top five scorers were: 1. Bill Glennemeier and Dave Sheley; 2. Larry Smith and Jerald Jackson; 3. June Jolly and Margaret Magers; 4. Mary Jane Wahlmeier and Jackie Porter; 5. Norman Walter and Doug Spatz. Other teams were: Myron Veh and Frank Ward; Eleanor Jensen and Joyce Sumner; Barbara Whitehead and Ridge Roberts.

High round scorers were: June Jolly and Margaret Magers, Bill Glennemeier and Dave Sheley, Larry Smith and Gerald Jackson, Mary Jane Wahlmeier and Jackie Porter, Eleanor Jensen and Joyce Sumner. Highest single round score was twenty points by Glennemeier and Sheley.

Sharon Bennett has moved to The Beaver City Manor. She would enjoy hearing from friends. Sharon Bennett, c/o Beaver City Manor, 905 Floyd Rm 110, Beaver City, NE, 68926.

The family of Marylou Long are celebrating her 80th birthday on Nov. 14 with a card shower. Cards can be sent to: Marylou Long, P.O. Box 2, Lenora, KS,

have their Pancake Feed, Saturday, Oct. 30 from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Norton Senior Center. Charge will be \$4 for adult, 12 and under are free.

The Norton Lions Club will

There were three tables at Duplicate Bridge on Wednesday. There was a three way tie for first place. First place winners were: Bob Jones, Karla Latimer, Jackie Porter, Joyce Sumner, Jack Graham and David Graham.

## Accident Log

October 15: An unlicensed juvenile driver from Lenora, was west bound in a 1993 Ford Ranger pickup, on Lenora Rd when he came around a curve apparently too fast. He lost control and went sideways. At some point the tire on the driver's side of the pickup went flat and came off the vehicle. The pickup spun approximately 180 degrees and went down in the south ditch and rolled onto its top. Extensive damage was done to the vehicle. Two juvenile passengers and the driver were transported by Norton County Ambulance

to Graham County Hospital and Norton County Hospital. The accident was investigated by Under Sheriff Rich Wenzl.

October 17: Carlos Montes, Garden City, was north bound in a 1998 Ford F250 pickup on Highway 283 when a deer ran from the ditch. He was unable to avoid contact with the deer. Damage was done to the passenger side of the vehicle. No injuries were reported. The accident was investigated by Under Sheriff Rich Wenzl.



Yvonne and Greg Sumner, 1970



Yvonne and Greg Sumner, 2010

# Couple will celebrate 40 years

The children of Yvonne and Greg Sumner request a card shower for their parents to celebrate their 40th wedding an-

The couple were married on

Oct. 31, 1970 at St. Rose Catholic Church in Great Bend.

They have made their home on the family farm north of Nor-

Their family includes: son,

Todd and Deanna, grandchildren Brooke and Brady of Norcatur; daughter, Amy, and Mark Archer, grandchildren, Andrew and Gracie Mae of McPherson; daughter Michelle and Ryan Homolka,

grandchildren, Sumner and Sophie of Ellsworth.

Cards will reach them at 5709 Road W14, Norcatur, KS 67653

# Help decorative pumpkins last

Waiting until just before Halloween or Thanksgiving to buy a pumpkin can seem old-fash-

Given how early pumpkins go on display and how long they stay there, today's varieties appear to have real staying power. The supply implies the orangey orbs might as well be helping with decorations, rather than waiting for weeks on a store shelf.

Plant breeders are, in fact, always working to develop pumpkins with a longer shelf life. You have to remember, though, that store displays aren't static. Replacement stock keeps coming in until the season is almost over. Pumpkins that go bad disappear. To help eager buyers identify

pumpkins with the best odds for lasting, here is a list of characteristics to check. The best pumpkins

last a week. Stemmed: This is most impor-

tant for outdoor pumpkins. Lost stems leave a depression behind that will collect water, snow, and/

Home ed Tranda Watts, **Extension** specialist

or ice and then promote spoilage. That's why no one should ever carry a pumpkin by its stem, even while they're shopping.

Dry-stemmed: Almost all commercial varieties now have green stems, so mature stem color no longer matters. If a stem is leaking sap, however, that indicates the pumpkin is fully mature. Size, rind color and shape aren't usable criteria anymore, either. But, buyers still can try to pierce the rind with a thumbnail. That's easy with wise, the pumpkin will shrivel.

Blemish-free with no soft spots: This characteristic does not include the bumps and hard pimples that are natural for some varieties.

Instead, it's the results of injuries that have damaged pumpkin tissues and perhaps provided access for bacteria or led to scarring. We started getting more smooth varieties when pumpkin painting first became popular. A lot of people still like the bumps and warts, though. Some think they're more naturalistic-looking. Others use them to make decorations

Cured: Which can be difficult to assess if store owners didn't check into that, so can't answer questions. Holiday fans who select their pumpkin in a field, however, should cure it for about 10 days, preferably in temperatures of 80-85 F and a relative humidity of 80-85 percent. Just doing the best you can at creating those conditions will help.

immature pumpkins and difficult don't like to be wet. And, although State Research and Extension Ofwith those that are ripe. The rind they like being cool, harvested fice or Tranda Watts at twwatts@ pumpkins with a painted face. has to be hard enough to keep pumpkins respond badly to cold ksu.edu. Carved jack-o-lanterns do well to moisture from escaping. Other- weather. They start to degrade

when temperatures fall below 50 degrees. They turn into mush overnight when they freeze.

That's something to keep in mind when you look over a pumpkin display. Store owners may be having indoor space problems, but they still need to find ways to store their pumpkins well. After all, a century ago, you would have had your own pumpkin harvest. And, you would have put it in the attic, because your basement or root cellar was too damp.

Keeping pumpkins dry and cool is also something to keep in mind when you're using pumpkins outdoors. To keep them in good shape, you'll need to keep them out of expected rainfalls and bring them in whenever the nights are cold.

If you have related questions, Dry and cool: Cured pumpkins feel free to contact your local K-

## Family requests a card shower

The family of Mariann Kay Earlley of Wilsonville, Neb. is requesting a card shower in honor of her 70th birthday, Oct. 25.

She was born Oct. 25, 1940, in Alcester, S. D. to William and Anna Vruegdenhil and grew up in Akron, Iowa. Mariann moved to Nebraska

when she married Elden Earlley of Wilsonville on Oct. 5, 1963.

Mariann and Elden's family includes: daughter Dawn Wright

Cook's choice entree, hash

Chili with beans, mixed fruit

with banana, crackers, cinnamon

Baked chicken, mashed po-

Spanish rice with hamburger,

Ham, sweet potatoes, coleslaw,

Send Club News

to Harriett at

hgill@nwkansas.com

green beans, broccoli and Cauli-

flower salad, bread, applesauce.

tatoes with gravy, corn, bread,

brown casserole, peas and carrots,

**Senior Menu** 

Oct. 25:

bread, peaches.

Oct. 26:

Oct. 27:

Oct. 28:

Oct. 29:

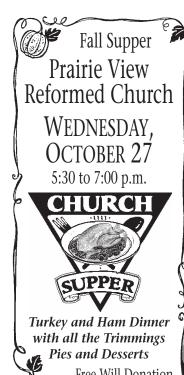
bread, pineapple.

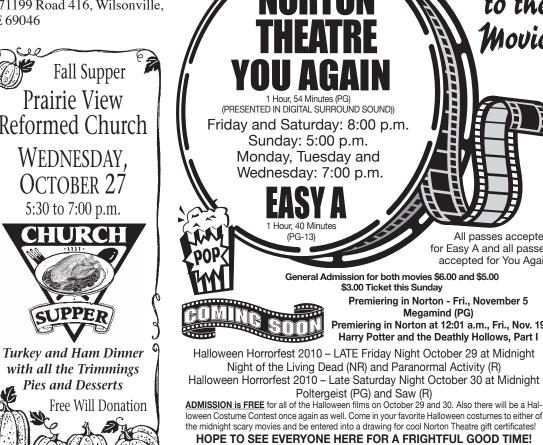
mandarin oranges.

roll.

and husband Bill, grandsons Remington and Sterling Wright, all of Scott City; daughter April and husband Jerry Ondrak of Wood River, Neb.; daughter Alison Earlley of Hazard, Neb.; daughter Amber and husband Jason Sarnecki of Salina; and daughter Marla and husband Dan Brown of Kearney, Neb. Cards may be sent in her honor

to 71199 Road 416, Wilsonville, NE 69046









This ad is brought to you by The Norton Telegram

02 10-22-10 Social.indd 1 10/22/10 8:18:53 AM