

BIRTH

Ava Ann Stallbaumer

Jeremy & Brooke Ann Stallbaumer Auburn, Alabama, announce the arrival of their daughter Ava Ann on March 13, 2011 at East Alabama Medical Center in Opelika, Alabama.

Ava weighed 5 lbs. 6 oz. and was 19" long.

Grandparents are Gerard & June Stallbaumer, Seneca



A. Stallbaumer

Kansas & Dr. Tom & Denise Dragastin Washington, Kansas. Paternal

Great-grandparents are Patricia Stallbaumer Seneca, Kansas & John & Anna Marie Kuckelman Axtell, Kansas.

Maternal Great-grandmother is Ann Davis Winfield, Kansas.

Vietnam Vets offering education scholarship

Vietnam Veterans of America Hays Chapter 939 is announcing they will once again be awarding three \$500 scholarships for college or trade school. Residents of the following counties are eligible: Barton, Cheyenne, Ellis, Finney, Grant, Lane, Ness, Norton, Osborne, Pawnee, Phillips, Rawlins, Rooks, Rush, Sherman, Thomas, Trego and Wallace.

Application deadline is May

16. Recipients of the scholarships will be announced May 20. For further information regarding the scholarships, interested persons may write to: Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 939, PO Box 1224, Hays, KS 67601.

Students may wish to contact their school officials to see if they are in receipt of an application packet.

Girl Scouts of the USA celebrating anniversary

Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low assembled 18 girls from Savannah, Georgia, on March 12, 1912, for a local Girl Scout meeting. She believed that all girls should be given the opportunity to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually. With the goal of bringing girls out of isolated home environments and into community service and the open air, Girl Scouts hiked, played basketball, went on camping trips, learned how to

tell time by the stars, and studied first aid.

Within a few years, Daisy's dream for a girl-centered organization was realized. Today, Girl Scouts of the USA has a membership of over 3.2 million girls and adults!

Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland joins in this celebration of leadership development for girls, and we're looking forward to the next 99 years!

Elmwood racing season will kick off on April 23

By Darin Racek

After illness sidelined him for most of the 2010 season, promoter Jerry Bantam is back and ready to promote Elmwood Part Speedway for 2011. The season on the fast 1/2-mile track begins on Saturday, April 23 and concludes with the annual Vintage Car special (along with Sprints and SportMods) on Sept. 3 and 4. There will be a special night of Flat Track Motorcycle racing on Saturday, Aug. 13. The 305 Sprint Cars, Modifieds, Stock Cars, Hobby Stocks, and Northern SportMods will be the classes on most nights, all sanctioned by the International Motor Contest Association. The rules and specifications for the 305 Sprint Cars can be obtained by contacting Jerry Bantam. The specs for the other classes may be viewed at www.imca.com.

The pit gates will open on race nights at 4 p.m., The grandstand gates will open at 6 p.m., and the races will start at 7 p.m. Admission will be \$10 for adults 19 and older, \$5 for students aged 13-18, and free for 12 and under with paid adult admission. Pit passes are \$25.

Driver registrations are \$60, but if completed and returned before April 1, are only \$45. Registration forms can be obtained by contacting Jerry Bantam, but the registration form found on www.mccookspeedway.com will also work. Forms need to be sent to

Racing, 201 W Taft St, Norton, Kansas 67654.

Elmwood Park Speedway is on the south edge of Norton in Elmwood Park, on the east side of U.S. Highway 283. For more information, contact Jerry Bantam at 785-877-5353. Bantam can also be emailed at frakrstr@ruraltel.net. The track's website address is nepra.squarespace.com/.

2011 Elmwood Park Speedway schedule: Races start at 7 p.m. Central Time

Classes: IMCA 305 Sprint Cars, IMCA Modifieds, IMCA Northern SportMods, IMCA Stock Cars, and IMCA Hobby Stocks

SCHEDULE

- Saturday - April 23
- Saturday - May 21
- Saturday - June 11
- Saturday - July 9
- Saturday - July 30 (Fair race)
- Sunday - July 31 (Fair race)
- Saturday - August 13 (Flat Track Motorcycle races)
- Sunday - August 14
- Saturday - August 20
- Saturday - September 3 (Vintage Car races, with Sprint Cars and SportMods)
- Sunday - September 4 (Vintage Car races, with Sprint Cars and SportMods)

Office not limited to just deeds

From the Norton County Register of Deeds

The Register of Deeds Office is responsible for recording documents that relate to real estate. Everyone knows that Deeds are recorded in the Register of Deeds Office, but do they also know that there are many other instruments found at the Register of Deeds? These include mortgages, mortgage releases, affidavits, power of attorneys, surveys, water appropriations, oil and gas leases, oil and gas extensions, affidavits of production, easements, federal and state tax liens, financing statements and many more.

Many people that use the Register of Deed's records include surveyors, lawyers, title people, oil men, taxpayers, genealogists, and other county offices.

When recording documents, there are three things to look for to be recordable. The instrument needs to have original signatures, needs to be properly notarized and needs to have Norton County legal descriptions. Instruments that have a legal description for another county are recorded in the county of the legal description.

Deeds to be recorded need to have a Sales Validation Questionnaire along with the deed, before the deed can be recorded, unless it is clearly stated on the deed that no questionnaire is required due to one of the exceptions.

The first step to record an instrument is to figure and collect

the fees. Fees depend on the instrument and the number of pages to be recorded.

Deeds, mortgages, easements, and affidavits are \$8 for the first page and \$4 for each additional page.

Mortgage releases or mortgage assignments are \$7 for the first page and \$2 for each additional page. When there is more than one mortgage book and page released on the Mortgage Release, there is an additional \$5 per book and page. For a mortgage to be recorded there are also mortgage registration fees. These are figured by taking the amount of the indebtedness X .0026 or 26 percent.

Financing statements are \$15 for the first 10 pages and \$1 each additional page.

Military discharge DD-214s are recorded free of charge for those who have served in the military. However, individuals need to bring these documents in to the office, as the military does not do that for them.

These fees are set by statute and are the same from office to office across the state of Kansas.

The next step is to stamp recording information on the instrument which includes: time, date, book and page. The document is then indexed by time and date in the reception book, and alphabetically by date in the grantor and grantee books. Also, the instrument is indexed in the numerical indexes by legal description. By

indexing in these different ways, the document can be found when needed.

Acopy of the instrument is then taken and entered in the record book currently being used.

Legal descriptions used in cities are lots, blocks and additions. For lands not platted, Quarter, Section, Township and Range are used, and then further described if need be beginning at, for example, Southwest Corner of Southwest Quarter thence 500 feet east, thence 500 feet north, thence 500 feet west and 500 feet south to the place of beginning.

The legal description is checked to make sure that it closes or forms a rectangle. Ownership is also checked to be sure the name at the Register of Deeds is the same name on the deed. Sometimes, a property may have been transferred to a trust, and the current deed transfers as individuals. The Register of Deeds Office would call and ask you, 'did you realize this property was in a Trust and not you as an individual?'

When the process of recording has been completed, the document is mailed back to the Company or the individual who brought the instrument to the office.

If there is not a completed Sales Validation Questionnaire, or the instrument is not properly notarized, or if the instrument does not include original signatures, or not enough fees etc., the office calls.

Sometimes, there is no phone number available, so everything is sent back and noted with what additional information is needed in order to be able to record it.

The records of the Register of Deeds date back to 1874 when Final Receiver Receipts were issued from the land office in Kirwin. Each parcel of land can be searched to see who owned the property over the years.

Genealogists like to do research from the records of the Register of Deeds to see if their ancestors have owned property in Norton County, by using the Grantor-Grantee books for certain periods of time that they know their relatives lived in the area.

The books in the late 1800's have beautiful cursive handwriting that is sometimes hard for people to read today, as they are used to computer generated print.

There is a lot of history in those books at the Register of Deeds Office.

All recording fees and mortgage registration fees are kept in Norton County except for the .01 percent of mortgage registration fees that are remitted to the State Treasurer for Heritage Trust Funds.

The Register of Deeds position is currently held by Wanda Vincent. Marie Moritz is the part-time Deputy Register of Deeds.

Signs of spring sprouting up all over

Collector Chat Liza Deines



to wear them home in the mild afternoon sunshine.

There have been so many snow days for area schools they're no longer a novelty; students and teachers are now facing makeup days, if not weeks, threatening to stretch clear into summer.

Little Robin Redbreast decided to return in spite of changeable weather. Bird songs awaken me each morning, chirping away on my balcony rail, complaining that their bird feeder is empty. Still, they seem plump and cheery, running with their distinctive hippy hoppy gait across frosty lawns.

It isn't quite warm enough for their food of choice, earthworms, to rise to the top of the soil but something tasty must remain in fallen pine cones, for they munch and nibble on them. The Canadian geese who occupied our drainage ditch all winter have departed, honks and all, so it is nice to see some feathered friends returning.

Last week we even spotted a clutch of baby bunnies in a nearby park. I hope Mama Bunny has a secure hidey-hole for them lest they freeze their little pink noses in midwiddle.

Thunderstorms, purloined from April, drizzle or pour, accompanied by cold, dreary fog. It smells like spring rain but oh, it feels like winter all the way. Those intermittent rains, however, added to snow moisture, will undoubtedly be a boon to dedicated gardeners and farmers alike. In addition, a good hearty deluge washes away the grungies left by snowmelt and scrubs the gutters clean of winter litter, tidying up the world for the beauties to come.

Severe outbreaks of gardening fever are occurring with each warm day. At our home this contagious condition was aggravated by the annual arrival of seed catalogs. My dad would be perusing the new Jackson Perkins hybrid roses while Mama, on the other hand, totted up how much she could spend on lily bulbs and new iris varieties and still have enough to buy vegetable seeds.


For LeRoy it was the appear-

ance of seed potatoes and onion sets at Pure Prairie that caused the fever to burst forth. Only known cure for gardening fever is the planting of something that promises to thrive and turn green quickly.

Some years we could only avoid serious symptoms by starting tomato seedlings under a homemade plastic green house strategically placed in a sunshiny south window.

Take courage, dear friends, for we are seeing a few shy buds peeking out on the flowering trees and an occasional foolhardy pale green sprout reaching tentatively toward the sky. Soon winter wheat will cast its green velvet coverlet over the fields, hyacinths will perfume morning air and starry daffodils will splash golden glow with wild abandon

As they say, wait for it, wait for it . . . and one bright morning it shall be spring!



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