

OBITUARIES

Michael Wente

May 9, 1966 - May 6, 2011

Michael Duane Wente was born May 9, 1966, in Norton, to Rodney Lee and Sharon (Bird) Wente. He died Friday, May 6, in the Gove County Medical Center at Quinter at the age of 44. He was a set-up foreman for Formation Plastics in Quinter.

As a small child, Mike was baptized in the Church of Christ at Hoxie. He lived in Quinter with his family and graduated from Quinter High School with the class of 1985. After attending Colby Community College for two years, Mike worked and lived in Norton for twenty years before moving back to Quinter in 2008.

On Jan. 2, 2010, Mike was united in marriage to Doreen (Stadelman) Deines in the Church of the Brethren at Quinter.

Mike was a true patriotic American and worked as a Volunteer Fireman, both in Norton and Quinter. He centered his life around family and always followed his boys' activities and enjoyed being a pageant dad

for Shawna. He enjoyed Chiefs' football, Royals' baseball, Nascar races and K-State games.

Those left to mourn his passing are his parents, Rodney and Sharon Wente, Quinter; his wife, Doreen, of the home in Quinter; his sons, Anthony and Jarrett Wente, Norton; a step-daughter, Shawna Deines, Quinter; brother, Marlan Wente and wife, Rache, Quinter; two sisters, Tricia Dick and husband, Gerald, Phillipsburg, and Melanie Miller, Hays and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, May 11, at 11 a.m. at the Church of the Brethren in Quinter, with Pastor Keith Funk officiating. Burial will be in the Baker Township Cemetery in Quinter.

Memorials are suggested to the Quinter Fire Department and can be sent in care of Schmitt Funeral Home, 901 S. Main, Quinter, KS, 67752.

Arrangements are by Schmitt Funeral Home of Quinter.

Club News

Norton After-5 club

The Norton After-5 Club would like to invite all area women and their guests to attend the May dinner and meeting on Thursday, May 19, at 6:30 p.m. at the Town and Country Kitchen on East US-36. The cost for the dinner and meeting is \$8 per person. Reservations should be made by Tuesday, May 17, by calling Claire Ann Eppinger (877-2785).

"BOUQUETS OF SPRING" is the theme for the evening. The special feature for the evening is "FLOWER BOUQUET", pre-

sented by Ruby Pflieger of Garden Gate Floral. Ms. Pflieger will share ideas in arranging beautiful spring bouquets.

The Norton After-5 Club is proud to welcome as its speaker for the evening, Sally Cable, Glenwood Springs, Colo. Ms. Cable speaks on life's battles in "BOUQUET OF WISDOM".

The Norton After-5 Club is non-denominational and represents clubs throughout the United States and Kansas. All area women are invited to attend.

Beta Alpha Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma INT.

By Julie Thompson, Secretary

The meeting of the Beta Alpha Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International was held on May 2. Members met at the Norton County Museum where Joe Ballinger provided an informative tour. He emphasized that they have tried to keep museum displays very focused on history relating to Norton County. Members enjoyed learning some of the earliest history of Norton. In the basement they viewed artifacts recovered from the archaeological dig completed in the 1980's. Of special interest was the new DKG display created by Margaret Wetter, Terry Hillman and Sandy Worden.

Following the tour, the group met at the Episcopal Church for a salad supper. Co-hostesses Nancy Sebelius, Lynn Hehn and Sally Clydesdale had decorated creatively with a Cinco de Maya theme.

President Alberta Slaby called the business meeting to order.

Seventeen members were present. The minutes were read and approved. The treasurer's report was presented. For communications "Thank You" notes were received from Norton and Northern Valley Post Proms. Money the Fun Way Prize was won by Tiffany VanDerVeen.

There was no unfinished business. For new business, members decided to provide baskets of candy in the three Norton buildings for Teacher Appreciation Week. It was noted that another organization has remembered Northern Valley teachers. Nancy Sebelius, Sandy Worden and Alberta Slaby will serve on the scholarship committee.

The next meeting will be held Oct. 3, at the home of Terry Hillman. The program will be Scrapbooking for Beginners. the meeting was adjourned with the club collect. At the conclusion of the meeting, members took food donations to God's Pantry.

FYI

The Long Island Alumni CATERED Banquet and Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 28, at 6:30 p.m. in the Long Island Gym.

Reservations must be made by May 14. The cost of the banquet is \$10 per person and payment is to be sent to Grace Grau, 1080 W 100 RD, Phillipsburg, KS, 67661.

If paying by check please make it payable to Long Island Alumni Catering.

The Long Island School will be opened earlier if you want to visit before and/or tour the school building. All Long Island graduates and former students and their spouses and guests are invited.

The Honored Classes will be 1931, 1941, 1951 and 1961.

We hope you will make your reservations and we will see you there.

★★★★★
American Legion Post #304 of Long Island, will be conducting Memorial Day services on May 30. The guest speaker this year is Gale Hays and the "Taps" player will be Alex Tharman. Services will run as follows:
Stuttgart - 9 a.m.; Prairie View - 9:30 a.m.; Luctor - 10 a.m.; Woodruff - 10:45 a.m.; Long Island - 11:15 a.m.

★★★★★
Little KidsTrack Meet at the Norton Track in Elmwood park 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 14.

★★★★★
There will be a Mud Drag benefit held for the Bill Goscha family this Saturday at the center of the Norton Speedway. The Mud Drags will begin at 1p.m. Come for an afternoon of mud and fun and help out a local family.

Bubble gum in my hair!



Eisenhower Elementary School kindergarten classes presented their year end concert in front of friends and families on Tuesday, May 3, in the school lunch room. Music teacher, Joyce Morel, led the children in song and directed their instrument playing abilities.
- Telegram photo by Harriett Gill

All the world is blooming

Pieces of life's puzzle Liza Deines



Our grudging investment in April showers has finally paid double dividends in dogwood blossoms and daffodils. The Master Gardener knew exactly what was needed to decorate this lovely spring world with May flowers as promised by the poets. All the flowering trees are bursting into bloom, pink, white, fuchsia, lavender. Yellow forsythia and white spirea bushes cluster in every yard, their graceful branches draped in tiny flowerets. If you're fortunate, you catch a whiff of heavenly lilac scent as you drive past a bush of burgeoning purple clusters. Even though it is still cool, damp and rainy, the page turns and spring is determined to make an appearance. Mankind can neither hurry nor delay the Gardener's plan for His world.

Man may have developed ways to force flowers and trees into early fruition in glass houses warmed artificially, but somehow, greenhouse plants are never quite as hardy as those grown in sun warmed soil, watered with the rains of heaven. Hothouse flowers soon wither and die in spite of their premature beauty. Much as I enjoy receiving flowers from a

florist shop, I would much prefer walking once again with Mama in her garden, choosing the choicest of the flowers for her daily bouquets.

An old-fashioned flower from my childhood, shivering Naked Lady Lilies, short-lived but lovely, also popped up last week all around Lee's Summit. Fickle as they are unexpected, those ladies are here one day and gone the next with no notification of either action. Call them Madonna Lilies or Resurrection Lilies if you will, but I will never forget what fun my straight-laced father had when he could come in and announce that our yard was full of naked ladies!

One of the prettiest spring treats to grace Kansas City the last couple of years has been the "Tulips on Troost" promotion. Troost Avenue, one of the oldest avenues

in the city, had become sadly run down and neglected until the residents were organized to plant tulip bulbs in the medians and along the curbside areas. This year the project came fully into being when all those tulip bulbs burst forth in glory. The entire neighborhood has benefited from the project in an unexpected way when businesses in the area, inspired to clean up around their properties, influenced residents to do the same. It's amazing how just a little bit of beauty spreads.

In somewhat the same way, an all volunteer group provides and plants flowers in street planters and barrels in Norton. No funding but contributions, no officers, dues or dull meetings. They just show up, like robins in the spring, garden gloves and trowels in hand, and start working to beautify their hometown. They beg, borrow and might even steal bedding plants, seeds, bulbs, fertilizer and compost to keep the project going. They faithfully drag hoses and water all summer long. All of Norton is the better for their willing efforts.

Planting bulbs in autumn is an excellent exercise in patience as

opposed to the instant gratification that seems to be the norm nowadays. One must work, water, weed, and wait through a weary winter before seeing the results in early spring. But, oh, so worth the wait! What a happy way to teach children the joy of watching something wonderful develop in God's good time. Daffodils, narcissi, and hyacinths, as well as tulips, provide pleasure year after year and there never seem to be too many. Don't forget to plant a few more bulbs come September.

Somehow we are never content with the Creator's perfect plan for the seasons. Autumn lingers on the hillsides with flames of glory while we long for the first snow. Winter brings that snow and we grouse about cold, dark days. Spring is so long arriving and then it fleets out on winged feet. Quick! Get out in the yard, clean those flower beds, smell the new baby grass, plant seeds until you run out of dirt. Enjoy, enjoy, enjoy spring, for simmering summer is on the way.

MY MAMA SAID: Get your sunbonnet on; it's time to plant the garden!

Ag Valley Co-op annual meeting is scheduled

The Board of Directors of Ag Valley Co-op has voted to redeem the equities of the patrons born in 1935. The check represents the patrons equity for their years of support and loyalty to their local cooperative and we want to express our sincere thanks for their business.

Ag Valley Co-op, with headquarters in Edison, Neb., has paid back \$2,352,511 in cash in the last 12 years for the redemption of equities. That total does not include cash patronage or estate

retirements. Ag Valley Co-op is proud of that accomplishment.

Ag Valley Co-op will be holding our Annual Meetings on Monday, June 6, at 6:30 p.m. at the Maywood Community Hall; Tuesday, June 7, at noon at the Norton American Legion Hall; and Tuesday, June 7, at 6:30 p.m. at the Ella Missing Center in Arapahoe.

Ag Valley will also be dispersing PATRONAGE REFUND CHECKS at the Annual Meetings. The distribution of 100% cash pa-

tronage will total \$1,030,779.

Our entertainment this year will be Gary McMahan. Colorado cowboy and entertainer. Gary McMahan is a walking page of American history. Gary McMahan is a nationally recognized cowboy poet, singer, songwriter, national-champion yodeler, and humorist. Gary has recorded six albums, and has received the most prestigious award in Western mu-

sic: the National Cowboy Hall of Fame Wrangler Award. Gary is a native of Greeley, Colo. and has made his living doing everything from cowboying to guiding to performing.

Reservations will be taken for the Annual Meeting by calling Linda at 1-800-228-1352. Thank you for supporting Ag Valley Co-op this past year.

May 6- May 11

Showing at the
NORTON THEATRE
Thor
2 Hours, 17 Minutes (PG-13)
Presented in Digital Surround Sound
Friday and Saturday: 7:00 and 9:20 p.m.
Sunday: 5:00 p.m. and 7:20 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Soul Surfer
1 Hour, 52 Minutes (PG)

Let's Go to the Movie

All passes accepted for Soul Surfer, No passes accepted for Thor

Thor is Premiere Admission \$7.00 & \$6.00 - No Sunday Discount
Soul Surfer is General Admission \$6.00 & \$5.00 - Sunday Tickets \$3

Premiering in Norton - Friday, May 20
Pirates of the Caribbean 4: On Stranger Tides (PG)
May 26: Kung Fu Panda 2:

COMING SOON

This ad is brought to you by The Norton Telegram

Steve and Robin Somers would like to invite the public to the Graduation Ceremony and Open House of Steven and Laura Somers from Chosen Generation Home-school Class of 2011

~ Steven and Laura Somers ~
Saturday, May 14 at 2:00 p.m.
at Crossroads Church
313 W. Lincoln, Norton, Kansas

Call in your club news
and social events to
Harriett at 877-3361