

OBITUARIES

James Harvey Harper

April 24, 1949 - April 30, 2012

James Harvey Harper, son of Melvin Harvey and Betty Jean (Cayton) Harper, was born April 24, 1949 in Oakley and passed away at his home in Norton on April 30, 2012 at the age of 63.

Jim graduated from Norton Community High School with the class of 1968 and attended Colby Community College. He served in the U.S. Army as a member of the military police from 1969 to 1972 and following his discharge, he was a civilian law enforcement officer. He lived in several communities, including Savanna, Ill. and Aurora, Ill. before returning to

Norton.

Jim was a member of the Masonic Lodge and the Eagles. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and music.

Survivors include Jim's fiancée, Wanda Daniels, Norton; three daughters, Cheri Sandburg, Shelly Hopson (husband Jim) and Christen Coble (husband Rod); three special sons, Nick Daniels (wife Sommer), Robert Daniels (wife Kaley) and Aaron Daniels; one brother, Lynn Harper, Norton; two sisters, Melaine Molzahn (husband Dennis), Independence, Mo.; Marilyn Harper, Shawnee; five

grandchildren; other relatives and friends.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents.

A funeral service was held on Friday, May 4, at 1:30 p.m. at Enfield Funeral Home.

Burial was at the Norton Cemetery with military honors by Harmonson-Redd American Legion Post #63, Norton.

Memorial contributions can be made to St. Jude's Cancer Research.

Condolences may be sent to www.enfieldfh.com.

Arrangements made by Enfield Funeral Home of Norton.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The schedule for Meals on Wheels for May 14 through July 8 is as follows:

May 14-20, Immanuel Lutheran Church-Contact: Fonda Lawrence (877-3145)

May 21-27, Child Study Club-Contact: Amy Menaugh (877-3238)

May 28-June 3, Knights of Columbus-Contact: Chriss McDiffett (877-2216)

June 4-10, American Legion Auxiliary-Contact:

Marcia Wiltfong (877-2459)

June 11-17, Norton Lions Club-Contact: Jon Boxler (877-5128)

June 18-24, Women's Council Christian Church-Contact: Carmen Lesh (877-2310)

June 25-29, Community volunteers

June 30-July 1, 20th Century Federated Club-Contact: Lottie Wiltfong (877-5286)

Norton poet to be published by institute

G. Eldon Wright, Norton, won honorable mention in the free poetry contest sponsored by Famous Poets Institute For Advanced Poetic Studies located in Talent, Ore.

Wright's poem, named "Kansas," fittingly enough, finished in 51st place, which doesn't sound all that impressive on its surface, but it put him in the top one percent of the 6,978 entries submitted.

"My poem 'Kansas' and the dedication to my great-great-grandparents, David and Nancy McClung Wright, who had homesteaded in Brown County Kansas in 1869, will be in the

19th edition of the new 'Great Poems of the Western World,' Wright said.

The book will be printed in July.

Wright's honorable mention winning poem is as follows:

KANSAS

The wind sighs through the elm trees

Dry land so far from the seas
Dark houses where you will find the only sound

The whispered whistle of the wind as it rushes over ground
Chickens walk out of doors

The clank of a milk bucket as gramps does his chores

Husks here and there from

last fall's corn

The distant sound of a cow searching for her new born

The great American desert was its name.

FYI

Dorothy Snyder, who is 102 years old, fell at her home in Lenora last Wednesday and was taken to Kearney, Neb., where she underwent surgery on her right leg. She has returned to the Norton Hospital Swing Bed Unit and would enjoy cards and visits from her friends.

KanCare concerns addressed through governor

Kansas Governor Sam Brownback is asking the Kansas Legislature to fund a robust communication and education program about changes taking place with KanCare, the administration's proposed plan to reform the state's Medicaid system. The package also includes additional funding to streamline billing procedures to ensure a smooth

transition for Kansas Medicaid providers to the new KanCare system.

The Governor's Budget Amendment #3 proposes spending \$1 million to provide statewide education for members and providers prior to the implementation of KanCare next January.

Hair raising



Holly Puga of Holly's Clubhouse shaved the head of Randy Clydesdale Tuesday afternoon as the end result to a Relay For Life fundraiser. The Clubhouse team name is Kids Who Care and each daycare child spoke with their fathers about being in the Best Dad contest. Five fathers participated, including Randy Clydesdale, Cory Puga, Brandon Peterson, Chase Lozar and Steve Vance. The father who brought in the most donations got his head shaved. Clydesdale won the honor of Best Dad, a t-shirt, a shave and a Pizza Hut gift certificate. Over \$135 was raised by the team to help fight cancer and the reason for the head shave, as Randy reminded the children, was for all those cancer patients who lose their hair.

- Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Fighting for freedom with rifles and bibles

By Ron Wilson,
Huck Boyd Institute

Have you ever seen a Bible with a barrel and a bullet? That doesn't sound like any Bible I know, but there was a time when a Sharps rifle was called a "Beecher Bible." Today, an active church bears this historic name. The church is located in rural Kansas, north of the Native Stone Scenic Byway.

The Beecher Bible and Rifle Church is located in the town of Wabaunsee in the northern Flint Hills of Kansas. The origins of the church go back to May 1854, when Congress passed the Kansas-Nebraska Act which provided that Kansas would become a free state or a slave state, depending on the vote of the people of Kansas. Pro- and anti-slavery factions flooded into the state to influence the vote.

In New England, "Kansas Fever" ran high. The people of New Haven, Conn., raised money to send 60 colonists to Kansas.

Before the Connecticut-Kansas Company left for Kansas, a meeting was held in New Haven. A Yale professor pledged \$25 for a Sharps rifle for the Company. Then Henry Ward Beecher, the great minister from Brooklyn, N.Y., pledged that his congregation would give the money for 25 rifles if the audience would give another 25. People in the crowd responded with great excitement, and soon 27 had been promised. Mr. Beecher sent a check for the rifles, and with the money came 25 Bibles.

Newspapers throughout the country proclaimed, "Bibles and Rifles for Kansas." It was from this event that the Sharps rifle came to be called a "Beecher Bible" and the colony from Connecticut came to be known as "Beecher's Rifle and Bible Colony."

In 1856, the Company left New Haven and traveled by steamboat, train and wagon to Wabaunsee, which the company called "The New Haven of the West." Local legend, which cannot be substantiated, has it that the rifles traveled through the slave state of Missouri in boxes marked Bibles, perhaps with a layer of Bibles over the top of the guns. Henry Ward Beecher was quoted as saying that Missourians would understand the rifle better than they would understand the Bible.

In 1857, members of the Colony and other settlers organized "The First Church of Christ in Wabaunsee." After two years of raising funds, mostly in New Haven, for a church building, they started construction of the sturdy stone church that we see today. The new church was dedicated in May 1862. It

became one of the largest and most influential Congregational churches in Kansas.

After 1917, as the population of the area dwindled, it was no longer possible to keep a resident minister. Eventually the old stone church was practically deserted. The last entry in the official record book was made in 1927.

In 1950 residents of Wabaunsee formed a new church group and began to hold weekly services. This was said to be the first inter-racial Congregational Church in Kansas, a fact that impressed many as a fitting tribute to the Connecticut-Kansas Colony.

Today, the Beecher Bible and Rifle Church is an independent, non-denominational congregation. Services are still held every Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in the original stone building, which is located in the rural town of Wabaunsee with a population of probably fewer than 100 people. Now, that's rural.

Lynn Roth, a former missionary and retired schoolteacher from nearby Wamego, is the primary preacher. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It does include stained glass windows which the congregation made themselves. For more informa-

tion, go to www.wabaunsee.com.

Have you ever seen a Bible with a barrel and a bullet? During the era of Bleeding Kansas, the Sharps rifle came to be called a Beecher Bible, and the Beecher Bible and Rifle Church bears that historic name. We honor those brave founders who made a difference by fighting for the cause of freedom with both rifles and Bibles.

The Wine Cooking and Tasting Class for Sat., May 5, 2012 has been rescheduled as well as Pestinger Beverage Beer Gathering for May 12 has been rescheduled.

If you would be interested in attending these events, please send your email address to post63@ruraltel.net or call 877-5662 and leave a message.

Word Search — Sensational Salads

B D F U N D S F Y T O A W N
C C M D V G C N D F C H X L
W Z A S K M R R O A Z Q S E
I C E B E R G A A T L E H S
S S E R C R E T A W U A M S
R R K I H N E D G O M O S O
K I O X K C A M N A I Z R T
I G G M U A E Q I K X J E C
Q M J T A S L R S L P I Z T
W J T B C I P E S E L A M B
A E B L A D N R E A W N Q J
L I U R X P I E R F F D K U
B N O T S O B R D M P X K G
J H J H T W O D I A T X C T

Bib	Dressing	Lamb	Mix	Salad
Boston	Iceberg	Lettuce	Oak leaf	Toss
Croutons	Kale	Mesclun	Romaine	Watercress

B D F U N D S F Y T O A W N
C C M D V G C N D F C H X L
W Z A S K M R R O A Z Q S E
I C E B E R G A A T L E H S
S S E R C R E T A W U A M S
R R K I H N E D G O M O S O
K I O X K C A M N A I Z R T
I G G M U A E Q I K X J E C
Q M J T A S L R S L P I Z T
W J T B C I P E S E L A M B
A E B L A D N R E A W N Q J
L I U R X P I E R F F D K U
B N O T S O B R D M P X K G
J H J H T W O D I A T X C T

HUGE Christian and Family Book Sale!!
NORTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Friday, May 11 - 4:00 p.m.-9 p.m.
Saturday, May 12 - 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

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May 4-5
May 9

Showing at the
NORTON THEATRE
The Avengers
(PG-13) 2 Hours, 30 Minutes - Presented in Digital Sound
Friday and Saturday: 7:00 and 9:35 p.m.
Sunday: 2:00 and 5:00 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Wrath of the Titans
1 Hour, 50 Minutes
(PG-13)

Only premiere passes accepted for The Avengers; Non-premiere passes accepted for Wrath of the Titans

The Avengers is Premiere Admission Price of \$7.00 and \$6.00 - No Sunday Discount
Wrath of the Titans is General Admission Price of \$6.00 and \$5.00 - \$3.00 on Sunday

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