

OBITUARIES

Joan F. Whitney

Sept. 22, 1928 - July 27, 2012

Joan Faye Scheetz Whitney was born Sept. 22, 1928, and died July 27, 2012 at the age of 83 at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney, Neb.

Joan Scheetz was born in Norcatour to Fred A. Scheetz and Alta F. Thompson Scheetz, the oldest of three children. She attended schools in Norcatour and Norton, and Marymount College in Salina.

She and Eddie W. Whitney were married at the Catholic Rectory in Norton on Aug. 25, 1947. They lived in Omaha, Neb. before returning to Norton where Eddie joined Fred and Bill Scheetz, his father-in-law and brother-in-law, at Scheetz Motor Company.

They became parents to Mark C. Whitney and Kevin M. Whitney. Joan owned and operated the Cottage Style Shop, a women's clothing store, in Norton for many years. She and Eddie loved to travel and had friends and family across the country that they visited whenever they had the opportunity. They made several trips abroad. She belonged to the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church and the Altar Society in Norton and en-

joyed her friends in the Tuesday bridge group.

Joan was preceded in death by her parents, brothers Bill Scheetz and David Scheetz and her son, Kevin Whitney.

Joan is survived by her husband, Eddie W. Whitney, of the home; son, Mark C. Whitney and his wife Torre, of Norton; daughter-in-law Marnie Whitney of Olathe; grandchildren, Elijah Whitney and Corrie Price and their son Boston of Kansas City, Mo.; Marissa Niemeyer and her husband, Tony, of Edgerton; step-grandchildren, Teresa Douthit and son, Grant, of Manhattan; Chad Douthit and wife, Tonya, and son, Oliver, of Basehor; Megan and husband, Chuck Downey and son, Carter, of St. Francis; sister-in-law, Mary Scheetz and many dear cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Memorial contributions can be made to the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Norton, the Norton American Legion Auxiliary and the Mary Elizabeth House of Hays.

Foster-Aschenbrenner Engagement



Jerry and Patty Foster of Jennings announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Peggy Foster, to Mark Aschenbrenner, son of LeRoy and Lois Aschenbrenner of Ogallah.

The bride-to-be is a 2003 graduate of Jennings High School. She completed her Master's of Science in Family Studies and Human Services at Kansas State University in May 2009. She is currently employed by Salina School District, USD 305, as an Early Child-

hood Special Education Preschool Teacher.

The groom-to-be is a 2005 graduate of Trego Community High School. He completed his Bachelor of Business Administration at Fort Hays State University in May 2010. He is currently employed by Ballou Pavement Solutions Inc. as a Staff Accountant in Salina.

An Oct. 13, 2012 wedding is planned at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Ellis and reception at Trego County Fairgrounds in WaKeeney.

A big rural brainstorm is coming

By Ron Wilson

Huck Boyd Institute

There's a storm forming in south central Kansas. Looks like a strong one. But there's no need to take cover and there's no alert issued by the National Weather Service. This isn't a thunderstorm. It's a brainstorm - specifically, a big rural brainstorm, generated from the creative mind of rural advocate Marci Penner. It's today's Kansas Profile.

Marci Penner, whom we've featured before, is an author and founder of the Kansas Explorers Club, the Kansas Sampler Foundation, and the We Kan! initiative. Marci, based at Inman, has long been an advocate of rural Kansas.

Marci and others came up with the idea for a special type of gathering. It wasn't a conference or a seminar. It came to be called the Big Rural Brainstorm, and it was held in Newton in February 2012.

As articulated by Marci, the goal of the gathering was to "bring together people from every aspect of rural life in order to find common possibilities and create innovative grassroots solutions that are achievable, especially by volunteer-led communities."

As with other Marci projects, it was driven by possibilities. The planners asked, "What if we brought a couple of hundred passionate rural Kansans together, stirred up the energy, and looked at common issues from a completely different point of view? What if we all were committed to a "renewed rural" and we amped up our collective energies and focused on ideas that could result in grassroots action--some by the time we leave? What if the room was full of PowerUps to mix with all

those who have been working at this for years? And, what if we had a lot of fun doing this?"

Those questions led to a special type of gathering. This was not your grandfather's conference. It was different from the meetings put on by representatives of government agencies. This was planned by private sector, non-profit rural advocates. Instead of one big corporate sponsor, there were lots of small sponsorships from individuals and local businesses.

Some 200 rural Kansans attended the Big Rural Brainstorm. They came from Kansas communities large and small. People even came from communities as small as Olsburg, population 189; Morrowville, population 164; and Morland, population 159 people. Now, that's rural.

As promised, it was different from just another conference. Here is a list of the keynote speakers...Oops, there were no keynote speakers. All participants had the opportunity to speak up, network and brainstorm together, in groups large and small.

The Big Rural Brainstorm began with self-introductions of people who described why they love their rural communities. The format which followed consisted of diverse breakout sessions, StandUp reviews, appointments, and group discussions on particular rural topics. Discussion topics included rural housing, utilizing the elderly, technology, rural tourism, foodies, linking inventors and investors, education, rural grocery stores, and more. Participants were encouraged to think big and bold. Of course, there was food and fun along the way, including Lost Trail Root Beer floats.

The Big Rural Brainstorm definitely brought together diverse perspectives on rural issues, but what about that element of action which is all-too-often missing from the conferences people attend? Marci and the planners had ideas on that as well.

They organized the program so that, on the final morning, many participants were invited to come forward and declare specific action steps they would take when they returned to their home communities. A sampling of those actions included starting a community garden and community foundation, developing a rural entertainment network and internship programs for businesses, and doing an inventory of PowerUps.

For more information, go to www.kansasampler.org.

The storm has cleared over south central Kansas. It was a strong one, alright, but it wasn't a thunderstorm or tornado. It was a brainstorm. We commend Marci Penner and all those involved with the Big Rural Brainstorm for making a difference by stimulating creative thinking and moving people to action. Besides rain, that's the type of storm we need in rural Kansas.

And there's more. A major part of the Big Rural Brainstorm had to do with PowerUps. What are PowerUps? We'll learn the answer to that question next week.

Duplicate Bridge

The results of Duplicate Bridge played Wednesday night at Norton Manor are as follows: First place honors went to Carla Latimer and Jackie Porter, and in a tie for second place are the pairings of Janice Persinger and David Graham, and Myron Veh and Norman Nelson.



We are now on Facebook! Search "Norton Telegram" and like our page for photos, news and more.

Are you ready for Change? Vote Miller August 7th



Farmer and Small Businessman. Public Servant. Proven Leader. "Speaking up for YOU in Northwest Kansas"

40th District **John Miller** Kansas Senate

www.miller4senate.com

Paid for by Miller for Senate. Cheri Brooks Treasurer

No processing fees on online vehicle renewals

Kansans looking to save time and gas by eliminating a visit to a county treasurer's office can now take advantage of the state's convenient online option for renewing vehicle tags without credit card or electronic check processing fees.

For the next 12 months, convenience fees will be waived so more Kansans will be encouraged to renew online at kswebtags.org.

Most people have three options for renewing their tags.

They can visit their county treasurers, renew by mail, or renew online.

The kswebtags.org online renewal option is available to 1) anyone whose vehicle is registered in Kansas, 2) whose address on the renewal is current, and 3) who has vehicle insurance as required by law.

The online service requires a personal identification number, which is printed on the registration renewal notices Kansans receive in the mail.

Vote District 3
Charles "Bud" POSSON
NORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER



- ★ Charles has been a businessman for 36 years, he is used to dealing with the public, business taxation, government rules and regulations, employees, vendors & contractors.
- ★ Served on the Norton City Planning Commission and Board of zoning appeals.
- ★ Lifelong, 5th generation resident of Norton County.
- ★ Has attended meetings of the County Commissioners since he filed in February. He feels that if he were going to hold that office, he should know what the commissioners do & what would be expected of him.

★★★
The county will have many issues to deal with in the future, including the new tax laws that throw much load back on the counties. We must protect county services, promote the economy of our country, promote more business and agricultural interests and attempt to keep taxes as low as possible. As County Commissioner I will pursue this aggressively if you vote for me on Aug. 7th.

Paid for by Charles Posson for Norton County Commissioner
Kristine Knapp - Treasurer

VOTE VOTE
Re-Elect Robert D. Wyatt Norton County Clerk

- ★ Life resident of Norton County
- ★ Certified Master County Clerk, Wichita State University 2010
- ★ Certified Election Officer, Help America Vote Act 2004
- ★ Local Business Owner
- ★ Vested Interest in Norton County

Your Vote and Support is Greatly Appreciated

Paid for by Robert D. Wyatt, Candidate for County Clerk

PLATFORM: Addressing the full service needs of Norton County by knowledgeable staff providing courteous service with a smile

elect Sarah Durham
FOR...
Norton County Treasurer

★ PAYABLES AND RECEIVABLES ★ MANAGING ★ FINANCIAL CHAIRMAN
★ STAFF RETENTION ★ HUMAN RESOURCES ★ CUSTOMER SERVICE
- Work Background: 32 Years as a Human Services Professional -
Education: Bachelor of Arts Management of Human Resources; and Master of Science Industrial/Organizational Psychology
Ad Paid for by Sarah Durham, Candidate for Norton County Treasurer and Treasurer, Sandy Smith

HELP UPDATE OUR THEATRE!!
There will be a Fundraiser
Sunday, August 5 at 2:00 p.m.
at the East Campus Auditorium
with a concert by Stanton Nelson
Admission: A Donation to the Theatre

Aug. 3 - Aug. 8
Showing at the
NORTON THEATRE
The Dark Knight Rises
(PG-13) 2 Hours, 55 Minutes (Digital Sound)
Friday and Saturday - 7:00 p.m. ONLY
Sunday - 2:00 and 5:00 p.m.; Mon., Tues., Wed., - 7:00 p.m.

Total Recall
Friday and Saturday - 7:00 and 9:15 p.m.
Sunday - 2:00 and 5:00 p.m.
Mon., Tues., Wed., 7:00 p.m.
2 Hours, 8 Minutes, (PG-13)

Let's Go to the Movie

Since both movies are premieres, only premiere passes accepted

The Dark Knight Rises is Premiere Admission Price of \$7.00 and \$6.00 - No Sunday Discount
Total Recall is Premiere Admission Price of \$7.00 and \$6.00 - No Sunday Discount

Another theatre fund raiser coming up this weekend. This Sunday, August 5th at 2:00 p.m. will be Stanton Nelson in Concert. He will be playing a concert of some of his own compositions for all to enjoy. The concert will be held at the East Campus Auditorium on State Street. Admission is a free will donation and all proceeds will go towards upgrades to the Norton Theatre for new digital projection equipment.

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