

OBITUARIES

Gary L. Grose

June 23, 1940 - June 17, 2013

Gary L. Grose, 72, of Berthoud, Colo., a 1959 graduate of Decatur Community High School, died June 17, 2013, in Denver, Colo.

He was born June 23, 1940, in Norton, the son of Wayne and Eileene (Taylor) Grose. He married Deanna Laaker on June 24, 1962. He attended Parks Business College in Denver, Colo., then worked for Martin-Marjetta until 1967, then worked with IBM until he took his early retirement in 1994. He then worked for Roach in Boulder, Colo., and was a personal driver for a private company.

Survivors include his wife, Deanna, Berthoud, Colo.; a son, Todd, Longmont, Colo.; a daughter, Michelle (Dan)



Kessler, Fredrick, Colo.; his mother, Eileene Grose, and sisters, Cheryl (Sid) Metcalf, and Pam Van Vleet, Oberlin; and Kim (Mark) McConville, Indi-

anola, Neb.; a brother-in-law, John (Joyce) Laaker, Berthoud, Colo.; three grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter.

He was preceded in death by his father; brother, Terry; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Hank and Flora Laaker, and a brother-in-law, Merald Van Vleet.

A memorial service was held Friday morning at Ahlberg Funeral Chapel, in Longmont, Colo.

Inurnment was in Foothills Gardens of Memory.

Memorials may be made to the Longmont United Hospital Foundation for therapy pool, in care of the funeral chapel.

Condolences may be sent at www.ahlbergfuneralchapel.com.

Allen Ray Hill

March 10, 1957 - June 23, 2013

Allen Ray Hill passed away Sunday, June 23, 2013, at the Citizen Memorial Hospital in Bolivar, Mo., at the age of 56. He was born March 10, 1957 to Harold Sr. and Vivian (Ryan) Hill in Springfield, Mo.

Allen was always a happy, loving man despite his many health issues. He would give the shirt off his back for any friend. He had a strong Christian faith and loved the Lord Jesus with all his heart. Allen would spread the gospel to any and all who would listen.

Allen enjoyed many things but especially loved riding bicycles, doing anything outdoors and his flower gardens.

Allen's memory will be cherished by his twin sister, Alice "Allie" Whitt of Norton; brothers, Harold Hill, Jr. and wife Cindy of Norton and Dan Hill and wife Amy of Atlanta, Texas; as well as many nieces and nephews and a host of friends in Bolivar, Mo.

Allen was preceded in death by his grandparents; father, Harold Sr. in 1989; great-niec-

es, Angel and Michelle Rogers in 1999; and his mother, Vivian Hill in 2012.

Graveside services will be Friday, June 28, 2013 at 2 p.m. at the Norton City Cemetery with Pastor Larry Lyles officiating. There will be no visitation.

Memorials are suggested to the Allen Hill Memorial Fund and may be sent in care of Plumer-Overlease Funeral Home, 723 N. First, Stockton, KS 67669.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.plumeroverlease.com.

Lyons House receives \$25,000 grant

The Norton County Community Foundation is pleased to announce it has received a \$25,000 JOBS Grant from FHL Bank in Topeka for the Dr. E.A. Lyons House. The funds will be used for construction costs to make the house handicap accessible. The JOBS (Joint Opportunities for Building Success) program is an economic development initiative to promote employment growth in member communities. The grant was sponsored by First State Bank.

In October 2012 work was completed on the first phase of the exterior which consisted of a new roof, foundation repair,

brick repointing, restoration and painting of the trim, and reconstruction of the front porch. This work transformed the house from its deteriorated state into a beautiful house that is a cornerstone in Norton's historic downtown. The remaining exterior work includes restoration of the doors and windows, installation of storm windows, reconstruction of the south porch, and installation of window wells. This work is expected to be completed in December.

"As we plan for the long term use and functionality of the house we felt it was necessary for it to be accessible for everyone

and we are grateful to receive this grant," said Tara Vance, Executive Director for the Norton County Community Foundation. "We will resume construction this fall to complete the exterior and renovate the interior into office space. The Norton County Community Foundation is excited that this historic house will once again contribute to the downtown business district, and it is especially satisfying since the area has received the Downtown Historic District designation. We appreciate FHL Bank's interest in growing jobs in communities like ours."

Norton County Committee members sought

The Norton County FSA is currently soliciting individuals who would be willing to serve on the Norton County Committee (COC). The COC position up for election this year must be an individual who lives in the Local Administrative Area (LAA) #1 which includes the area East of Road E4 in Norton County.

County committee members are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level. Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help with the decisions necessary to administer the programs in their counties. They work to ensure FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

FSA county committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws. County committee members apply their judgment and

knowledge to make local decisions.

The COC nomination period runs from June 17 through Aug. 1, 2013. The nomination form is available at USDA Service Centers and online. For more information contact your local FSA office.

2013 Spring Seeded Crop Reporting Deadline

After spring planting, producers should certify their 2013 acreage. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage, can prevent the loss of benefits for a variety of programs.

Acreage reports are required for many Farm Service Agency programs. For crops enrolled in programs other than NAP (Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program), acreage reports are to be certified by the July 15 deadline on all spring-seeded

crops.

Acreage reports on crops covered by NAP are due in the county office by the earlier of July 15 for spring-seeded crops, or 15 calendar days before the onset of harvest or grazing of the specific crop acreage being reported. With the continued drought in our area we would like to remind producers who have NAP insurance that you need to report any losses as soon as it becomes apparent to you that you have a loss. Right now we are in the grazing season and if you have or will reduce your stocking rates, shortened your grazing season, or are supplementing feed, you need to come in and file your loss for NAP purposes. You do not need to wait until the end of the grazing season to do this. You must timely report all disaster losses prior to destruction of a disaster affected crop.

Oberlin Chapter of federal employees met in Atwood

The Oberlin Chapter of the National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees met on Sunday, June 9, at the Midwest Energy Room in Atwood with 10 members and guests present.

President Rob McFee conducted the business meeting. He read a list of highlights from the Kansas State Convention held in Overland Park in April. It included a Distinguished Service Award to the Oberlin chapter for exceeding a state goal of \$5.50 per member contribution to the Alzheimer's research

program for 2012. The chapter also received a national citation for distinguished service award for being the highest dollar per member contribution of \$33.86 from Kansas in 2012.

David Swank reported that this year's Alzheimer's garage sale revenue from May 2013 exceeded the amount from the previous year. Mike Gawith led a discussion about the health benefits prescription plan.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Aug. 24, in Norton. Members of the chapter include active and retired federal em-

ployees from Norton, Decatur and Rawlins counties.



Educating the community



Every year the Norton County Hospital must do two short term and one long term community safety projects for the Level IV Trauma Program. On May 8, the first project was a presentation by Dr. Martin Griffey regarding safety of performance enhancing drugs with the fitness class from the Norton Community High School. This included Dr. Griffey's presentation along with a tour of the physical therapy area, and the cardiac rehab center. The second short term project was a helmet safety coloring contest with preschool age children. There were two winners in this contest and each received a new bike and a helmet. They were Caylob Puga and Delila Hogan. The long term project will start soon and it is titled, "Falling Less in Kansas."

- Courtesy photo

Grandma Skeen was a gardener

Kay Melia

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When I was a kid, my Grandma Skeen grew a five and a half pound beet in her garden, and before she and her kids ate it, she took it down to the local newspaper office and asked if they would like to take a picture of it. They did. Grandma Skeen was very careful not to get in the picture.

That event would have occurred in 1939 when I was nine years old. I had never before seen such a large beet, but Grandma Skeen allowed as to how it had been a common occurrence in her garden over the years, and "you should see my watermelons!"

Grandma Skeen was Indiana born in 1869. She migrated to the Nebraska panhandle where she married Grandpa Skeen. To this union was born nine kids, the first four of which died in infancy. My mother was number eight on the list. The family moved to southwest Kansas where Grandpa bought a nice farm, but promptly lost it after a few years of hard times. You

see, Grandpa Skeen was a noted horse trader, trained mules, and traveled all over the midwest doing his thing. He didn't seem to cotton too much to the family life, so Grandma Skeen divorced him and proceeded to raise those five kids on her own.

Grandma Skeen was a gardener! Man, was she ever a gardener! With five kids and income only from a little nursing (she was not a nurse) and a little mid-wifing, she was able to make ends meet. But her income from gardening was far greater than anything she was able to make from some of those extra curricular activities. Her garden was huge! Two or three of the kids were still at home to help with the heavy lifting. Grandma Skeen had a half acre of potatoes every year, a very large patch of watermelon and cantaloupe, dozens of tomato vines, and lots of cabbage and green beans. Most of Grandma Skeen's produce was sold right there near the garden where she set up a roadside stand just off Highway 54. In addition to the sales, she canned and stored lots

of stuff for family use in the winter.

In my mind, I can still see Grandma Skeen in her garden in the later years where she tended a small plot in town. She always wore a long dress, with a long apron down to her knees. And always, always Grandma Skeen wore a big sun bonnet. The front part was heavily starched and protruded far out from her face to protect her from the sun.

I knew Grandma Skeen for only a little over 20 years, but when I was old enough to notice, I never have seen anyone since who raised more vegetables and flowers. She passed away in 1956, and gardened right up to the time she died.

I credit Grandma Skeen with passing down her gardening prowess to me, through my mother, who was also a special gardener. Of course, you don't see many backyard gardeners anymore who actually make a living from what they grow. Roadside garden stands just don't seem to exist anymore. But then, neither do horse traders.

HANSEN MUSEUM

The Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum presents "Pueblo To Pueblo, The Legacy of Southwest Indian Pottery." This exhibit contains approximately 60 objects and 10 photographs and graphics that date from the mid-nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century and will be on display June 21 - Aug. 11.

Pueblo pottery of the Southwest is one of the most beautiful and enduring artistic traditions in all of Native North America. It is a tradition rich with history - not only as an expression of cultural identity, but also to serve as a reflection of the relationship between Pueblo peoples and the influences from outside their own community. Today, there are about twenty pueblos with a total population in excess of 50,000. It is a practice flexible enough to adapt as necessary over time, while still adhering to established social norms.

Pottery-making in the American Southwest is a tradition that first emerged about 2,000 years ago. Historically, it was a functional art form, passed from generation to generation over the span of centuries by people living in permanent villages known as pueblos. The pottery of each pueblo was unique and distinguished by a variety of characteristics, such as the individual clay source and shape of the vessels and designs, or lack thereof, painted onto the surface. By the latter part of the 19th Century, these traditions were well-established; and as more and more people began to travel and move to the Southwest, pottery production was quickly transformed from a functional art form (used pri-

marily within Pueblo communities) to a highly-marketable cultural expression.

Our Artist of the Month for June is Michelle Lytle from McCook, Neb. She has an exquisite display of ink drawings on bone and feathers. You have to see it to appreciate the beauty.

Our next continuing education class will be the Vollbracht Oil Painting workshop. It runs July 10-13. For more information contact us.

Call Mike with all your social news.
877-3361

June 28- July 2

Showing at the

NORTON THEATRE

Monsters University

in 3D -- 2 Hours, (PG-13)

Fri. and Sat.: 7:00 and 9:20 p.m.
Sunday: 5:00 and 7:20 p.m.
Mon., Tues., Wed.: 7:00 p.m.

Now You See Me

Playing for Only 5 Days
2 Hours, 6 Minutes
(PG-13) in 3D



Monsters University is a Premiere movie - \$7.00 and \$6.00. No Sunday Discount
Now You See Me is a Non-Premiere movie - \$7.00 and \$6.00. \$3/tx on Sunday



PREMIERING Wed., July 3
The Lone Ranger (PG-13)
Despicable Me 2

This ad is brought to you by The Norton Telegram

Let's Go to the Movie

Norton Chiropractic Center

is having their annual **Patient Appreciation Days**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, July 1, 2, 3

Sign Up for Free Giveaways:
Chiroflow Pillows, BioFreeze, Exercise Equipment, Standard Process Vitamin Packs, Treatment Plan-Up to 8 Treatments and Exam and Much More!
BBQ Lunch Wednesday, July 3 - 11:00-1:00