OBITUARIES

Eli Lowry Dec. 2, 1997 - Nov. 3, 2013

Prairie View resident, Eli Lowry, passed away Sunday, Nov. 3, 2013 at the Phillips County Hospital in Phillipsburg, at the age of 15. He was born in Tampa Bay, Fla., on Dec. 2, 1997 to Calvin and Diane (Breathouwer) Lowry. Eli was a sophomore at Northern Valley High School.

His mother, Diane, preceded him in death.

He is survived by his parents, Calvin and Emily Lowry, of Prairie View; brothers, Damian

Wellmen and Caden Lowry, and sisters, Talia Lowry and Kim Lowry, all of Prairie View; grandparents, Barb and Gayle Christensen of Elbert, Colo.; LuAnn and Trey Alderson of Indiahoma, Okla.; and Melvin Breathouwer of Long Island.

A memorial service will be held Friday, Nov. 8, 2013 at 2 p.m. in the Northern Valley High School gymnasium in Almena, with Pastors Kirk Kasson and Paul Vander Veer officiating. Private inurnment will be

in the Norton Cemetery, Norton. Friends may sign Eli's memory book at the Olliff-Boeve Memorial Chapel in Phillipsburg, on Thursday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be given to Teens for Christ or the Northern Valley High School athletic department.

Olliff-Boeve Memorial Chapel, Phillipsburg, is in charge of arrangements.

wedding announcement

In an outdoor setting at the Ward farm a mile east of Norcatur, Keith A. Ward and Me-Linda J. (M.J.) Dempewolf were married in an afternoon wedding on Saturday, Sept. 7, 2013. Officiating at the double ring ceremony was Judge Jay Tate, Oberlin.

The groom's grandmother, Ruby Pflieger, Norton, honored the couple by giving the opening prayer.

Parents of the couple are Les and Lynn Ward, Norton, Doug Dempewolf, Norcatur and Chris Dempewolf, Oberlin.

Guests were seated on covered straw bales with potted mums adding color to the scene. As guests arrived they were greeted with a sign that read, "As two families become one, we ask that you choose a seat, not a side." A straw bale was left empty in memory of the couple's loved ones who couldn't be with them. A memorial bouquet wrapped with lace from the wedding dress of the bride's late aunt, Lori Towery, was placed on the empty bale. The couple repeated their vows beneath an arbor covered with burlap and flowers.

Violinist Craig Larson, Oberlin, played "Lover's Waltz" as the wedding party entered.

Escorted by her father, the bride wore a strapless, layered organza ball gown with a sweetheart neckline. It featured a dropped waistline with ruching accenting the bodice and an embellished jeweled belt. She carried a bouquet, made by her mother. It featured fresh orange cala lillys, pincushion protea, orange roses, hypercium, bells of Ireland and leuchedendron. It too, was wrapped with lace from the wedding gown of her late Aunt Lori.

The groom's sister, Kaley Daniels, Norton, was the matron of honor, while Sharee Dempewolf, Kearney, Neb., was her sister's maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Stephanie Rutherford, Norton, a friend of the bride, and Shawnda Hall, Norcatur, the groom's

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cousin. They all carried bouquets of silk, burlap daisies wrapped with jute twine and wore knee-length, chocolate brown, one-shouldered chiffon dresses with cowboy boots.

Alora Way, Goodland, cousin of the bride, was the flower girl. She wore a tea length, ivory tank dress with embroidered flowers. She, too, wore cowboy boots.

Carrying the rings into the ceremony was the groom's dog, Gauge.

The groom's best man was Brock McChesney, Nunn, Colo., and groomsmen were Chris Buschy, Loveland, Colo., and George Brush, Lakewood, Colo.

Men of the wedding party all wore boutonnieres made by the bride. They featured empty shotgun shells with turkey feathers, burlap flowers and were adorned with twine.

A special moment during the wedding came when the couple each poured sand into a container signifying their unity.

The reception was also held at the Ward farm with the centerpiece being the three-tiered wedding cake embellished with burlap and twine. Keeping with her country theme, the bride made the cake topper out of wire, shaped to say, "Hitched." Aunts of the bride, Lisa Leichliter and Lynn Streit, served the cake.

Instead of a guest book, a wooden sign with initials W, K&M was signed by the guests. It will be hung in their home.

The groom is a 2004 graduate of Norton Community High School and is a farmer/ rancher.

The bride graduated from Decatur Community High School in 2006 and attended Colby Community College where she earned her Licensed Practical Nurse degree. She works for Craig Home Health Care, Norton, and Decatur County Good Samaritan Society, Oberlin.

They are making their home on their farm in rural Norcatur.

Ella Agnes Gipe Nov. 15, 1911 - Nov. 5, 2013

Ella Agnes Gipe, daughter of Fred and Cora Mae (Buss) Stephenson, was born Nov. 15, 1911, in a sod house in Rooks County, and passed away at the Bethany Home in Minden, Neb., on Nov. 5, 2013, at the age of 101.

Agnes was the third child in a family of nine. As a small girl, her family went to Weldona, Colo. in a covered wagon to homestead a farm where they lived in a sod house. After several years they returned to Kansas, again by a covered wagon. They settled on a farm in northern Phillips County where Agnes attended the rural schools. She met Lawrence James "Hap" Gipe at Woodruff, Kansas, and they were married in Phillipsburg, on Nov. 18, 1933. They made their home on the farm in Woodruff where their twin daughters, Erma "Tiny" and Ermyl "Dolly", were born in 1935. Agnes helped her husband with the farm and they also ran the Port of Entry at Woodruff. In 1942, they moved to Norton where she was a homemaker. Following the death of her sister, Sylvia, Agnes and Hap took in and raised their niece, Joyce Clark with their own daugh-



ters. Following Hap's death in 1992, she continued to live in her home until December 2012, when she moved to the Bethany Home in Minden.

Agnes was a member of the Norton Christian Church. She enjoyed square dancing, camping, and fishing.

Survivors include: her grandchildren, Arlin Phelps, Norton; Alane and husband, Jerry Ruhs, Minden; Karla Reed and Kelly Belden, Norton; her greatgrandson, Brandon Reed, Norton; her two sons-in-law, Wayne

Belden and R.L. Phelps, both of Norton; her special daughter, Joyce Howell, Holton; her special grandchildren, Ed Howell, Hays; Dyann and husband, Tim Parks, Holton, Kansas; her great-grandchildren, special Colton Howell, Dylan, Tristan, and Cailin Parks; and one greatgreat-grandchild, Kyli; one sister, Mable and husband, Chris Christensen, Kearney, Neb.; one brother, Raymond Stephenson, Scranton, Kansas; other relatives and friends.

Agnes was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, her two daughters, Erma "Tiny" Belden in 1997, and Ermyl "Dolly" Phelps in 2012, two brothers, Charles and Lewis, and four sisters, Geneva Lowe, Hilma Kinney, Beulah Parrish, and Sylvia Clark Purcell.

Funeral services were Friday, Nov. 8 at 10:30 a.m. at Enfield Funeral Home, 215 W. Main, Norton. Burial followed at the Norton Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the Agnes Gipe Memorial Fund. Condolences may be sent to

www.enfieldfh.com.

Arrangements were by Enfield Funeral Home of Norton.

Floyd E. Edgett March 11, 1922 - Nov. 2, 2013

Floyd E. Edgett, Oberlin, died

He was preceded in death by inville; brothers in-law, Marlin

Saturday, Nov. 2, 2013 at the Cedar Living Center in Oberlin at the age of 91.

The son of Grover "Cleve" Edgett and Rosa E. (Glennemeier) Edgett, Floyd was born in Densmore on March 11, 1922, and was raised in the Densmore-Logan area.

On May 23, 1944, Floyd married Phyllis E. Bozarth in Norton, and they lived in Norton and Decatur County before moving to Oberlin in 1962.

Floyd worked as a farmer and a meat cutter at Norton Ice and Locker, Oberlin Locker, the Decatur Co-op, and was a member of the Eagles Lodge in Norton.

his parents, Grover and Rosa; wife, Phyllis; son, Eugene Edgett; daughter, Glenda Sue "Suzie" Edgett; brothers, Leonard and Cleveland; sister, Alberta Metheny; sisters-in-law, Elenora Edgett and Deloros Bozarth; brothers-in-law, Laird Metheny and Morris Metheny; and five nephews.

Floyd is survived by his son, Michael (Anne) Edgett of Colorado Springs, Colo.; daughters, Robin Edgett of Oberlin and Jana Edgett (Kevin Sanders) of Hastings; brothers, Henry Edgett of Oberlin; Louis (Ilamae) Edgett of Americus; and Norman (Bernice) Edgett of Pla-

Bozarth of Norton and Dennis (Donna) Bozarth of Kansas City; sister, Cecilia Metheny of McPherson; three grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, Nov. 7 at Pauls Funeral Home in Oberlin, with Rev. Shelly Holle officiating. Burial followed at the Norton Cemetery in Norton.

Memorials can be made to the Golden Age Center, EMT's, and the Decatur County Fire Department.

Arrangements were by Pauls Funeral Home of Oberlin.

The Norton After-5 Club would like to invite all area women and their guests to attend the November dinner and meeting on Thursday, Nov. 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town & Country Kitchen on east US-36. The cost for the dinner and meeting is \$10 per person. Reservations should be made by Tuesday, Nov. 12 by calling Joy Johnson (874-4706).

"To Grandmother's House We Go" is the theme for the evening. The special music for the evening is "Feasting With

AT 4:30 P.M.

The New Cool Mart

9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Music," presented by Cindy Seidel, Ainsworth, Neb., Mrs. Seidel is a rancher's wife with a song in her heart.

The Norton After-5 Club is proud to welcome as its speaker for the evening, Cindy Seidel, Ainsworth, Neb., Mrs. Seidel compares our lives with a jigsaw puzzle and how they relate to our walk with someone special in "Feasting With Light."

All area women are invited to attend.



First flu cases confirmed in Kansas

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment is reporting the first confirmed influenza cases of the 2013-2014 season. Both cases were among adults in the Wichita area. One case was identified through local surveillance activities by the Sedgwick County Health Department and the other case was identified through ILINet, a system of clinics that KDHE uses to monitor outpatients who exhibit influenza-like illness.

Health officials are reminding Kansans that it's not too late to get vaccinated against influenza. Influenza vaccine is recommended for nearly everyone six months of age and older. Infants less than six months of age are too young to be vaccinated and are more vulnerable to the complications from influenza.

Being vaccinated against influenza is especially important for anyone at high risk of complications and for anyone who is caring for children younger than five years of age. It is also important for persons caring for those with medical conditions that put them at higher risk for severe complications.

Symptoms of influenza include fever, dry cough, extreme tiredness and muscle aches. Complications can include pneumonia, ear and sinus infections, and dehydration; influenza may also worsen other chronic conditions.

"The arrival of our first confirmed influenza cases of the season serves as an important reminder for everyone to get vaccinated to protect themselves, their loved ones and the community," said Robert Moser, M.D., KDHE Secretary and State Health Officer. "Influenza normally increases during the holidays before peaking around February."

Depending on the severity of the influenza season, five percent to 20 percent of the population may get influenza each year. During the peak of the 2012-2013 influenza season in Kansas, approximately six percent of all health care visits in ILINet clinics were due to influenza-like illness. Influenza or pneumonia contributed to or was the direct cause of 1,444 deaths among Kansas residents during the 2012-2013 influenza

season. Influenza and pneumonia was the eighth leading cause of death in 2012 in Kansas.

Additional ways to avoid spreading influenza include covering coughs and sneezes, washing your hands and staying home when sick.

For information on receiving the influenza vaccine, please contact your health care provider or the local health department. Visitwww.kdheks.gov/flu for influenza facts.

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