

# OBITUARIES

## Gradda Tien

June 7, 1907 - Dec. 21, 2013

Gradda Tien was born June 7, 1907 to John and Hattie (Schemper) Veldhuizen in a sod house near Prairie View. She passed away on Dec. 21, 2013 at the age of 106.

Gradda attended a one-room country school with 20 children and one teacher for all students grades first through eighth. She and her siblings walked to school one mile with lunch buckets in hand. In this school, Gradda learned to speak English, as she spoke only Dutch before she began school.

Later, the family moved to a wood frame house near Prairie View. She spoke of this house as being much warmer and the snakes couldn't get into it like they did in the sod house. Gradda was in the sixth grade and they lived one and a half miles from the school in Prairie View. One of her young brothers was not old enough to walk that far, so Gradda and her siblings drove a horse and buggy to school. They put the horse in a barn while they were in class.

On Dec. 24, 1925, Gradda and her parents, five brothers, and two sisters moved to a farm in Tracy, Iowa in their 1919 Model T Ford Touring car. Gradda worked as a housemaid there and also at the Central Park Café in Pella, Iowa.

Gradda was united in marriage to Garrit Tien of Prairie View, on Feb. 2, 1927 in Tracy, Iowa. Together, Gradda and Garrit returned to the Prairie View area to start their family and farm.

They were blessed with 10 children. They continued farming until 1968 when they retired and moved into Prairie View. Garrit preceded her in death on April 21, 1971 at the age of 69.

Gradda was an active member of the Luctor Christian Reformed Church and attended regularly. She always looked forward to family gatherings and had homemade rolls and cookies just waiting to be shared. She spent many hours gardening and then canning and preserving the fruits and vegetables that she grew. She continued living on her own until December of 1999 when she went to live at the Phillips County Retirement Center. She enjoyed participating in all of the activities, especially attending the Wednesday afternoon Bible Study and attending the church services on Sunday afternoons as long as her health permitted. Gradda enjoyed listening to books on tape, especially books about history, much of which she had her own stories about.

She was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, three children: Arvid in 1938, Theron in 2001, and Joyce Brower in 2013; four brothers: Jay, William, Albert, and Richard Veldhuizen; and one sister Hendreen Branderhorst, and four sons-in-law: Alfred Van Kooten, Herman Verhoef, Wayne VanBeek, and John Bousema; one grandson Rodney Allen Brower, one granddaughter, baby Tien, and one great-grand daughter, Jodi

Ann Griffin.

Those left to mourn her passing include seven of her children: Henrietta Van Kooten of Long Island, Kan., Marie Bousema of Worthington, Minn., Dorothy Huyser and husband Gerald of Des Moines, Iowa, Arlo Gale Tien and wife Carolyn of Prairie View, Edward Tien and wife Barb of Phillipsburg, Rosalee Verhoef of Artesia, Calif., and Carmen Van Beek of Boyden, Iowa; a son-in-law Kenneth Brower of Sanborn, Iowa, and a daughter-in-law Thelma Tien of Sheldon, Iowa; a brother Dale Veldhuizen of Oskaloosa, Iowa, one sister Veda Bousema of Sanborn, Iowa; 27 grandchildren, 67 great-grandchildren, and 52 great-great grandchildren.

Gradda's 106 years on this earth allowed her the joy of seeing all of her 156 descendants thus far. Her faith and resiliency through hard times, love of celebrating the good times, and the stories that she told her children, grand children, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren will be cherished and passed on. It is hard to fathom the changes that Gradda saw in the world from the time she was a child until the time that she was called home. She leaves a wonderful Christian legacy and will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved her, but in her 106 years on earth, she created a heritage for more generations to come.

## Alice Fern Bobbitt

May 13, 1920 - Dec. 26, 2013

Alice Fern Bobbitt was born May 13, 1920, along with sisters Anna and Agnes, on a farm southwest of Oberlin. Their parents were Phillip S. and Laura Mae (Gilbert) Hackney, and the girls were the first set of triplets born in Decatur County and the State of Kansas. Alice passed away Thursday, Dec. 26, 2013, at the Decatur County Good Samaritan Society in Oberlin, at the age of 93.

Alice had eight siblings and her family lived on a farm near her paternal grandparents' homestead. Alice attended Plainview School and graduated from Decatur County High School in 1939.

On April 2, 1943, Alice married Leonard Brown. Two children were born to their union, Dennis and Jeannine. Alice and Leonard later divorced.

She was united in marriage to Max Bobbitt on Aug. 3, 1962, and became a stepmother to his daughter Charolette.

Alice graduated from McCook Community College in 1958 and received her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Fort Hays State University in 1962. She then taught elementary school for 24 years at Achilles, Herndon, Jennings, Kanona, and Norcat. After retiring from teaching in 1985, Alice worked as a CNA at Decatur County Hospital, volunteered for Hospice and other organizations, enjoyed sewing and making quilts, and traveled with Max. She was a member of the Calico Gals, American Legion Auxiliary, Business & Professional Women's Club, and Lions Club.

Alice was preceded in death by her husband, Max; parents; brothers, Herman, Elmer, and Gerald Hackney; and sisters, Vada Scott, Anna Palmer, Agnes Barenburg, and Lois McGowne.

Survivors include her daughter, Jeannine Rhoades, of North Platte, Neb.; stepdaughter, Cha-

rolette Neff and husband, Carl, of Norton; six grandchildren, Sherri Neff, Vicki (Ron) Fisher, Bob Neff, Diane (Pete) Francis, Michelle (Todd) Gutschentritter, and Shawna (Johnny) Naranjo; 12 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren; a sister, Peggy Green, of Odessa, Texas; two brothers-in-law, Rex (Barb) McGowne, of San Angelo, Texas, and Barton (Helen) Bobbitt, of Loveland, Colo.; two sisters-in-law, Erma Hackney and Gladis Minshall, both of Norton.

Funeral services were Monday, Dec. 30, 2013, at Pauls Funeral Home in Oberlin, with Pastor Judi Stricker officiating. Burial followed at the Oberlin Cemetery.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Alice Bobbitt Memorial Fund.

Arrangements were by Pauls Funeral Home, Oberlin and Selden.

www.paulsfh.com.

## Norton Estates construction



Bainter Construction of Hoxie has been busy working on the Norton Estates located at Crane and Reagan of Norton. Contractors are seen here putting the siding on the first four buildings which will have two living units each. By the time construction is completed there will be 12 buildings with 24 living units.

- Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

## Celebrate the New Year with free trees

Residents of Kansas can ring in the New Year with 10 free flowering trees by joining the Arbor Day Foundation any time during January 2014.

By becoming a part of the nonprofit Arbor Day Foundation, new members will receive two Sargent crabapple, three American redbuds, two Washington hawthorns, three white flowering dogwoods.

"These beautiful trees will give your home in Kansas lovely flowers with pink, yellow and white colors," said John Rose-now, founder and chief execu-

tive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "These trees are perfect for large and small spaces, and they will provide food and habitat for songbirds."

The free trees are part of the Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting, between February 1 and May 31, with enclosed planting instructions. The six to 12-inch tall trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members will also receive a

subscription to the Foundation's bimonthly publication, Arbor Day, and The Tree Book, which includes information about tree planting and care.

To become a member of the Foundation and to receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to Ten Free Flowering Trees, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by Jan. 31, 2014. Kansas residents can also join online at <http://arborday-pressreleases.cmail1.com/t/r-l-pbjrky-ttkjiiilb-i>arborday.org/january.

## PUBLIC RECORD

### District Court

These transactions were taken from the records of filings in the offices of the District Court clerk at the Norton County Courthouse.

Traffic and Wildlife and Parks cases are given to the paper when the fines are paid.

### Dec. 12

Nov. 22-Alexis G. Johnson, Norton; Charge: Driving while license cancelled/suspended/revoked; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$306.

Nov. 27-Colleta J. Maiyo, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Charge: Speeding 80 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$171.

Nov. 13-Esta M. Nelson, Oberlin; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Dec. 3-Judith A. Shirley, Oberlin; Charge: Speeding 79 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$165.

Nov. 7-John J. Smith, Hill City; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Dec. 4-Dennis A. Reightler, Tremont, Pa.; Charge: Illegal use of radios for hunting game animals; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$296.

Dec. 4-Jamie S. Reightler, Tremont, Pa.; Charge: Illegal use of radios for hunting game animals; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$296.

Dec. 4-Gary A Wetzel, Tremont, Pa.; Charge: Illegal use

of radios for hunting game animals; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$296.

Dec. 4-Greg A Wetzel, Tremont, Pa.; Charge: Illegal use of radios for hunting game animals; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$296.

### Dec. 19

Dec. 17-Ivalee G. Balderston, Wilsonville, Neb.; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Nov. 13-Sonia Kay Beynon, Lenora; Charge: Speeding 78 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$159.

Dec. 1-Seth Christian Boswell, Kensington; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Nov. 12-Tia Thayer Carter, Jennings; Charge: Speeding 75 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$141.

Nov. 22-Aaron Brent Chaney, Logan; Charge: Speeding 81 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$177.

Oct. 18-Jose Delis Garcia, Lubbock, Texas; Charge: Speeding 79 in 65; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$165.

Nov. 20-Jake Hickman, Norton; Charge: Failure to wear seatbelt; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$10.

Nov. 18-Roger Michael Holmquist, Menahga, Minn.; Charge: Driver failed to wear seatbelt in CMV; Found: Guilty; Fine: \$211.

## SENIOR CENTER MENU

Wednesday, Jan. 1 - Closed

Thursday, Jan. 2 - Smothered steak, mashed potatoes/gravy, seasoned carrots, bread and applesauce.

Friday, Jan. 3 - Tuna and noodles, peas, cottage cheese w/ pineapple, bread and brownie.

Monday, Jan. 6 - Sloppy Joe's, tator tots, Mexicali corn, bun and rosy pears.

Tuesday, Jan. 7 - Ham au gratin potatoes, beets, bread and apricots.

Wednesday, Jan. 8 - Harvest Turkey Soup, Mandarin oranges, crackers and cookies.

Thursday, Jan. 9 - Oven baked chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, bread and jell-o w/fruit.

Friday, Jan. 10 - Spanish rice w/hamburger, California blend vegetables, peaches, bread and no bake cookie.

Monday, Jan. 13 - Polish sausage w/kraut, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, bread and mixed fruit.

Tuesday, Jan. 14 - Meatloaf, scalloped potatoes, spinach salad, bread and fruit cobbler.

Wednesday, Jan. 15 - Chicken ala king, cook's choice, broccoli, biscuit and rosy applesauce.

Thursday, Jan. 16 - Taco salad, strawberries and bananas, chips and cake.

Friday, Jan. 17 - Fish sticks, macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, bread and plums.

Monday, Jan. 20 - Goulash, 3-bean salad, tropical fruit, bread and pudding.

Tuesday, Jan. 21 - Ham and beans, 5-cup salad, cornbread, cook's choice complement.

Wednesday, Jan. 22- Open face turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes/ gravy, carrots, bread and mixed fruit.

Thursday, Jan. 23 - Hamburger patty, coleslaw, pea salad, bun and pears.

Friday, Jan. 24 - Chef salad (meat on the side), cook's choice fruit, breadstick and strawberry shortcake.

Monday, Jan. 27 - Steak fingers, hash brown casserole, cook's choice vegetable, bread and peaches.

Tuesday, Jan. 28 - Chili w/ beans, Watergate Salad, crackers and cinnamon roll.

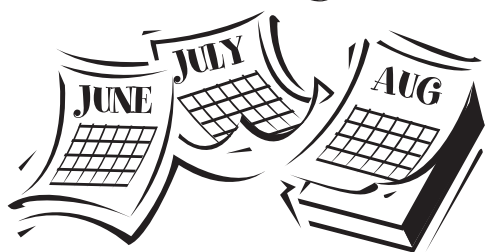
Wednesday, Jan. 29 - Lasagna, tossed salad w/tomatoes and carrots, corn, garlic bread and fruit crisp.

Thursday, Jan. 30 - Cook's choice entree, parsley potatoes, Italian blend vegetables, bread

and Mandarin oranges.

Friday, Jan. 31 - Pork roast, mashed potatoes/gravy, broccoli salad, bread and hot cinnamon apple slices.

## Community Calendar



Please submit your events for the Community Calendar which is printed in the Monday EXTRA. Events may be e-mailed to: nortontelegram@nwkansas.com or mailed to 215 South Kansas Avenue

THE NORTON TELEGRAM  
785-877-3361

215 S. Kansas Ave.  
Norton, Kan.  
67654

Dec. 27-  
Jan. 1

Showing at the

**NORTON THEATRE**  
**Anchorman 2**  
2 Hours, 10 Minutes (PG)-13

Friday and Saturday: 6:00 and 9:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 5:00 and 8:00 p.m.; Monday: 7:00 p.m.  
New Year's Eve, Tues., Dec. 31: 5 & 8 p.m.  
New Year's Day, Wed., Jan. 1: 7:00 p.m.

**The Hobbit: Desolation of Smaug in 3-D**  
2 Hours, 51 Minutes (PG-13)



Anchorman 2 is \$7.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 12 and under. No Sunday Discount  
The Hobbit is \$7.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 12 and under. No Sunday Discount



Visit our Website:  
nortontheatre.com

This ad is brought to you by The Norton Telegram