

OBITUARIES

Mary E. "Beth" Johnson

Feb. 2, 1931 - March 31, 2014

Mary E. "Beth" Johnson, daughter of Henry and Ruth (Clason) Rupp, was born on Feb. 2, 1931, and passed away at the Cedar Living Center in Oberlin, on March 31, 2014, at the age of 83.

Beth was raised in Phillips County, Kan. where she got her education at the Phillips County Elementary and Long Island High School, graduating class of 1949. After graduating she went to the Kearney State Teachers' College. After her schooling was done she settled down in Norcatgur.

Beth and Lee Molzahn were united in marriage on Feb. 25, 1950 in Long Island. Later, on May 13, 1965 Beth and Charles Johnson were united together in

marriage also in Long Island.

Beth was a very active member in the community. She was a member of the Norcatgur United Methodist Church, Rebekah's Lodge, and Royal Neighbors. She worked as a cook for the Dietary Department at Norton State Hospital and Norton Department of Corrections.

Survivors include, three sons and wives, Dennis and Linda Molzahn, Independence, Mo.; Fred Molzahn, Norcatgur; Dave and Jennifer Johnson, Lenexa; one stepson and wife, Chuck and JoAnn Johnson, Guthrie, Okla.; one daughter, Cathy Claussen, Oberlin; one stepdaughter, Brenda Glass, Oklahoma City, Okla.; two brothers, Claire and Norma Rupp, Wilson; Clason

Rupp, Springfield, Mo.; one half-brother, Max Rupp, Washington State; 10 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

Beth was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Charles Johnson; stepdaughter, Connie Johnson; son-in-law, Charles Claussen; half-brothers, Everett, Marvin Rupp; and infant brother, Stanley Rupp.

A funeral service was held on April 4 at 11 a.m., at the Norcatgur United Methodist Church. Burial followed at the Norcatgur Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the church or Norcatgur Citizens Alliance.

www.paulsfh.com

Alice M. (Stapp) Shirley

Sept. 7, 1919 - March 29, 2014

Alice M. Shirley, daughter of Ray and Emma (Bailey) Stapp, was born on Sept. 7, 1919, in Norcatgur, and passed away at the Cedar Living Center in Oberlin, on March 29, 2014, at the age of 94.

Tillie grew up in the Norcatgur area and attended the Norcatgur schools graduating with the class of 1937. On Jan. 21, 1940, she married Manley "Mike" Shirley in Norton. They lived on a farm near Norcatgur before moving to Oberlin in 1984.

Tillie was a member of the Norcatgur United Methodist

Church. She enjoyed being a farmer's wife along with being a home-maker.

She is survived by her two sons and their wives, Herb and Carol Shirley of Oberlin and John and Joan Shirley of Scott City; one daughter and her husband, Pam and Gary McClelland of Shawnee, Okla.; two siblings, Dewaine Stapp of Oberlin and Delores Longwith of Hastings, Neb., and three sisters-in-law, Juanita Eckhart, Merle Shirley, and Goldie Stapp, all of Oberlin; nine grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Tillie was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, one adult brother Donald Stapp, and infant brothers, Iry and Myren Stapp.

A memorial service was held Thursday, April 3, at 11 a.m. at Pauls Funeral Home, Oberlin.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the Cedar Living Center, Golden Age Center, and the Norcatgur United Methodist Church.

Condolences may be sent to www.paulsfh.com.

An innovative company with hang-ups

By Ron Wilson

Huck Boyd Institute

Do you have hang-ups? No, I'm not talking about your pet peeves. I'm referring to a type of hardware called a hang-up which is useful in hanging items from acoustical ceilings. That's one example of an item produced by an innovative company which now manufactures carts and other products for the workplace.

Scott Halsey is president of Adapa USA, the innovative company which produces hang-ups, shop carts, and more. This is truly a family business, started by Scott's father Paul Halsey in 1964.

After working in the aviation industry, Paul Halsey started a construction company in Wichita with a partner named Dan Tevis. They looked for ways to help their workers and improve their efficiency.

At contractor conventions, Paul Halsey's peers would ask him why he was winning so many competitive bids. He explained it was because his labor costs were lower due to his labor-saving devices. His friends wanted some of those devices as well.

In 1964 Paul started producing and marketing these items as a sideline to his construction business. His company got the bid to do the interior work at White Lakes Shopping Center in Topeka so he relocated his family there.

He continued to look for innovative pieces of equipment to help his workers. One of the first products was called a "hang-up." It looked like an up-

side down coat hanger with wire clips which are useful when used with acoustical tile. Those kinds of custom-made products may be simple but can be invaluable for a particular task.

Paul Halsey's whole family was involved in the business. "The wire company would ship us a big clump of those clips and my brothers and sister and I would sit around the table, separating them and counting them out," Scott Halsey said.

By 1980, the demand for Adapa products became so strong that it became a fulltime business based in Topeka. Scott graduated from Washburn and joined the family business himself, eventually becoming president of the company. Over time, older products such as hang-ups were phased out and others were developed to join the product line.

The company is named Adapa Incorporated. Why Adapa? "The name comes from 'adaptable products for increased productivity,'" Scott said. "But I've also heard that the name comes from the first two letters of the founder's names - Dan and Paul."

Either way, the company's products definitely do enhance productivity in the workplace. "You see a problem on a construction site, you try to solve it and make life easier for the workers," Scott said.

Many of these products involve handling materials. "When Dad worked at Boeing, he saw them use these rubber clamps," Scott said. "He figured out a way to use those in his business and it really helped the

workers."

Another company specialty became carts of various kinds, from drywall to residential, all terrain, trash carts, door carts, tree carts, and more. These are especially useful for drywall stockers and construction workers.

The company's shop carts became so popular that the Halseys created a sister company called Shopcarts USA. These carts are especially useful for woodworkers.

Adapa and Shopcarts are selling their products all across the U.S. and Canada. "Our products and our designs lead the industry," Scott said. "But we started as a family business and we're still a family business. Mom still works here."

Paul Halsey passed away in 2010. One of his ingenious designs was a side-loading trash cart. "This was modeled after a grain cart that he saw unloading feed for dairy cows on farms where he worked," Scott said. Paul grew up working on farms near the rural community of Viola, Kansas, population 212 people. Now, that's rural.

For more information, go to www.adapausa.com or www.shopcartsusa.com.

Do you have hang-ups? Those wire hangers were one of the first products produced by Adapa, which is now a leader in the shopcart and materials handling industry. We commend Scott Halsey and all those involved with Adapa and Shopcarts USA for making a difference with innovation and entrepreneurship. With that, I guess I'll hang up.

Youth turkey hunt!



The National Wild Turkey Federation Norton Prairie Dog Chapter is sponsoring a youth turkey hunt for the first time. Jerry Hawks, chapter president, is seen here setting up a blind for first time turkey hunter Althea Paxton. This is just one of the many things the chapter hopes to do to get youth involved with outdoor activities.

- Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Irish band to perform Saturday

Miles from Dublin is a quartet that specializes in traditional and contemporary Irish dance tunes, pub songs, and ballads, with members who have been playing Irish music together for nearly a decade. Miles from Dublin seeks to learn as much Irish music as they can and to provide shows that are energetic, entertaining, and above all, musical. They will play at The Gateway in Oberlin at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Band members include Aaron Svoboda (vocals/percussion) a teacher and performer of many styles of music. He majored in percussion in college. He not only plays the bodhran, but is a vocalist with the band.

Tim Sharkey (vocals/guitar) is a fourth generation Irish-American and is the source of

many of the band's songs. His varied musical background includes folk, rock, contemporary church music and barbershop.

Greg Tesdall (flute, whistles, saxophone) is a professional musician and has an extensive background in blues, jazz and rock. He works with numerous groups while adding a bit of keyboards, guitar and congas.

Mike Metzger (mandolin, banjo, bouzouki) has been playing Irish and Celtic music his whole life as well as Bluegrass and Old Timey music. He is a member of Turtle Creek, a Bluegrass band from the Wyoming/Nebraska/Colorado region and plays many community concerts and festivals in that region. He is an accomplished player of many instruments.

Miles from Dublin is a sea-

son ticket event for Oberlin Arts and Humanities Commission or \$12 for adults, and \$7 for students grades 1-12. For information call Ella Betts (785) 475-3557 or Mary Henzel (785) 470-0218.

For help with your advertising needs please give Dana a call 877-3361

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THANKS

Thanks to my family, relatives, and friends for making my 80th birthday very special. The many cards, phone calls, and good wishes are very much appreciated.

Carl K. Neff

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GRIEF RECOVERY GROUP IN NORTON

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Tuesdays - April 8 through June 24

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HANSEN MUSEUM

The Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum presents "Rags, Rugs and Weavers: A Living Tradition." This exhibition explores this textile tradition through the work of eight accomplished rag rug weavers. Rugs, descriptive panels, sample materials and tools, and photographs illustrate all aspects of rag rug weaving. Viewers follow the process from rag to rug and back to rag and learn how these weavers and others are keeping the tradition alive.

Our next continuing education class will be an oil painting workshop taught by Barbara Schaffner from Wheatland, Wyo. It will be a four day workshop beginning on April 9, and running through April 12. Classes are from 9 a.m. - noon and 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. each day.

For more information on any of our classes or exhibits check our website at hansenmuseum.org or call the museum at 785-689-4846.

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