

OBITUARIES

Irene (Schwemmer) Roberts

July 3, 1923 - May 17, 2014

Irene (Schwemmer) Roberts, was born on July 3, 1923, in Hunter, Kan., and passed away on May 17, 2014, at the age of 90.

Irene lived in Lucas, Kan., and worked as a Homemaker.

Survivors of Irene: one son Bill Roberts, Raymore, Mo.; daughter, Barbara (Roberts) Griffis, Apopka, Fla., daughter,

Patty Stout, Chapman; one sister Lillian Nelson, Chicago, Ill.; one sister in law, Charlotte Roberts, Norton, Kan.; many nieces and nephews, and two grandchildren.

Irene was preceded in death by both her parents and her husband Dean Roberts in Dec., of 1994.

Funeral services were held

on May 22 at the Lucas United Methodist Church, in Lucas. Inurnment was held at the Lucas Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Lucas Grass Roots Art Center.

Arrangements were by Rodrick and Minear Funeral Home, 111 S. Fairview Ave., Lucas, KS 67648.

James "Jim" Austerman

March 25, 1959 - May 18, 2014

James "Jim" Austerman, Clayton, died May 18, 2014 at his residence at the age of 55.

The son of Reynold "Rex" Austerman and Caroline (Gasper) Austerman, Jim was born March 25, 1959 in Norton and was raised on the family farm near New Almelo.

Jim attended Lenora High School and North Central Kansas Technical College in Beloit, was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus, and worked for Nex-Tech in Lenora.

On July 29, 2003, he married Dellene (Van Waning) Brown in New Almelo and they lived on the family farm near New Almelo.

Jim's faith and family were

very important to him, and her always worked at teaching his boys how to be the better man. His hobbies included wood-working and remodeling older structures to give them new life. He and his wife completely remodeled the farm house and most of the original buildings on the farm.

Jim was preceded in death by his father, Reynold "Rex" Austerman.

He is survived by his wife, Dellene Austerman of Clayton; his mother, Caroline Austerman of Norton; two sons, Nicholas Austerman of Hoxie and Miles Austerman of Lawrence; one step-son, Scott (Kimberly) Brown of Skiatook, Okla.; one step-daughter, Kelly Brown

(James Fawcett) of Norton; one sister, Letha Austerman of San Diego, Calif.; two step-sisters, Ruth (Dan) Greenwood of Waukesha, Wisc., and Viola Hamilton of Lawrence; and seven step grandchildren.

Funeral service will be on Friday, May 23 at 1 p.m., at St. Joseph Catholic Church in New Almelo, with Father Vincent Thu Laing officiating. Burial is at St. Joseph Cemetery in New Almelo.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the Sheridan County Benefit Walk Foundation or the James Austerman Memorial Fund.

Pauls Funeral Home of Oberlin was in charge of arrangements.

Ronald L. Thompson

Dec. 15, 1940 - May 17, 2014

Ronald L. Thompson, son of Robert C. and Margie (Baird) Thompson, was born Dec. 15, 1940, in Norton County, and passed away at Hays Medical Center in Hays, on May 17, 2014, at the age of 73.

Ron grew up in the Almena community and attended the Almena schools. He attended some college classes and also served in the National Guard. On Nov. 8, 1968, Ron and Kathy Johnson were united in marriage in Limon, Colo. They lived in Phillipsburg, for six years before returning to Almena, where Ron was a truck driver for Mer-

ril Tibbetts and a farmer.

Ron was a member of the Congregational Church in Almena. He enjoyed driving his truck, farming, and tinkering with machinery but his greatest love in life was his family, especially his granddaughters.

Survivors include: his wife, Kathy Thompson, Almena; one daughter, Michelle Thompson, Almena; two sisters and their husbands, Shirley and Gene Moherman, Manhattan, Kan., and Jacque and Bob Knake, Syracuse, Neb.; two granddaughters, Kaci and Carlee; other relatives and friends.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents, his step-father, Bob Rodgers, and one sister, Betty Kent.

Funeral services will be 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 27 at the Congregational Church, in Almena. Inurnment will be held at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Almena.

Memorials may be made to the Ronald Thompson Memorial Fund.

Condolences can be sent to www.enfieldfh.com

Arrangements are by Enfield Funeral Home, 215 W. Main, Norton.

Junior High Exhibit Night



The school year has ended, meaning all the students hard work is displayed for the public to come and see. At the Norton Junior High School Exhibit Night, Joan Hale visited the FACS room where the students quilts were on display. Other projects on display were from the wood shop, the art program, computer applications, and the science classes also had their rockets on display.

-Telegram photo by Mike Stephens

Smoky Valley Ranch Celebration

This year marks the 25th anniversary of The Nature Conservancy in Kansas. The Conservancy invites the public and media to attend a special celebration at Smoky Valley Ranch in Logan County, on June 7. Come experience one of the natural gems of Kansas and help the Conservancy celebrate its past and future in Kansas.

The Kansas office opened in 1989, but the Conservancy has engaged in projects in Kansas dating back to 1965. When the office opened, it ushered in a new era for the Conservancy's work in Kansas. The Conservancy has protected over 95,000 acres of land across the state including tall grass prairies, wetlands, mixed-grass prairies and short-grass prairies.

Smoky Valley Ranch encom-

passes 17,000 acres of diverse wildlife and a rich cache of natural and human history. The event will showcase Smoky Valley Ranch as the vehicle for delivering the Conservancy's mission throughout Western Kansas. The ranch demonstrates a place where short and mixed grass prairies have converged and where the balance of a healthy prairie ecosystem and a profitable ranching operation has taken place.

During the event, visitors can take a driving tour of the ranch and hope to catch a glimpse of a pronghorn, golden eagle or jack-rabbit. Visitors will get to hear about long-term goals for the ranch, including collaborative educational efforts and research projects on ranch management. Other activities include a hike

that will take visitors to scenic and diverse sites on the ranch; and presentations about the history of the ranch, including the role of Native Americans and bison. Lunch will be provided for this event.

To get an accurate food count, we ask that attendees RSVP to the Kansas office at: [sstacy@tnc.org](mailto:ssstacy@tnc.org) or 785-233-4400 by Wed., June 4.

The Nature Conservancy is a leading conservation organization working around the world to protect ecologically important lands and waters for nature and people. The Conservancy and its more than 1 million members have protected nearly 120 million acres worldwide. Visit The Nature Conservancy on the web at www.nature.org.

Patrol seeking identification assistance

Here is a brief update regarding a pedestrian death on the west shoulder of US-81 Highway at Vale road near Concordia on Saturday, May 3.

The Kansas Highway Patrol has an interest in locating a vehicle possibly involved in a pedestrian death in Cloud County. It's believed the vehicle possibly involved is a 1998-2002 Oldsmobile Intrigue or a 1997-2005 Buick Century or Regal. This information was gathered from vehicle debris at the scene when law enforcement arrived.

The Highway Patrol continues to actively investigate various aspects of this event and is asking for any information that may lead law enforcement to locating the vehicle and driver involved.

Background information: On Saturday, May 3, 2014 the Kansas Highway Patrol responded to a call of an injured female on the west shoulder of US-81 Highway at Vale Road, north of Concordia.

The victim was located and

later transported by emergency personnel to Salina Regional Health Center, where she died from her injuries. It is believed the woman was struck as a result of a hit and run collision, which occurred at approximately 12:20 a.m. on May 3. The victim was identified as Lisa McFarlane, 48 years of age from Concordia, Kansas.

The investigation is ongoing and the Kansas Highway Patrol is attempting to identify and locate the driver and vehicle involved in this incident.

If you have any information regarding this collision, please contact the Kansas Highway Patrol Troop C Headquarters at 785-827-3065.

Support for renewable biomass energy

The United States Department of Agriculture today announced support for agriculture producers and energy facilities working to turn renewable biomass materials into clean energy. The support comes through the Biomass Crop Assistance Program, which was reauthorized by the 2014 Farm Bill and will resume this summer.

The Farm Bill authorizes \$25 million annually for Crop Assistance Program, requiring between 10 and 50 percent of the total funding to be used for harvest and transportation of biomass residues. Traditional food and feed crops are ineligible for assistance. The 2014 Farm Bill also enacted several modifications for Crop Assistance Program, including higher incentives for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, and narrower biomass qualifications for matching payments, among other changes.

This initiative helps farmers and ranchers manage the financial risk of growing and harvesting energy biomass at commercial scale," said Farm Service Agency Administrator, Juan M. Garcia. "Investing in agricultural and forestry producers who cultivate energy biomass and supporting next-generation bio-fuels facilities make America more energy independent, help combat climate change and create jobs in rural America."

Biomass Crop Assistance Program employs three types of biomass assistance. For growing new biomass, Crop Assistance Program provides financial assistance with 50 percent of the cost of establishing a perennial

crop. To maintain the crop as it matures until harvest, Crop Assistance Program provides an annual payment for up to five years for herbaceous crops, or up to 15 years for woody crops. To collect existing agriculture or forest residues that are not economically retrievable, Crop Assistance Program provides matching payments for mitigating the cost of harvesting and transporting the materials to the end-use facility.

"For forest residues, this year's matching payments are targeted for energy generation while reducing fire, insect and disease threats on Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands," said Garcia. "Agriculture residues for energy are also eligible for matching payments."

"The potential to achieve transformational progress on biomass energy in rural America and generate tremendous economic opportunities is very promising," added Garcia. "Energy crops occupy the space between production and conservation, providing opportunities for marginal land, crop diversity and more energy feedstock choices."

The United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency, which administers Biomass Crop Assistance Program, will coordinate Biomass Crop Assistance Program enrollments. Information on funding availability will be published in an upcoming *Federal Register* notice. For more information on Biomass Crop Assistance Program and other Farm Service Agency programs, visit a local

Farm Service Agency office or go online to www.fsa.usda.gov.



Self talk can make you happy, enthusiastic, positive, and full of life!

Try it, it works! Say--this dress does not make me look fat!

Say--Nice work, you really made a difference!

Say--get up, work out, get outside, smell the roses!

Say--I love my family so I'm

buying Life Insurance

from Mark at

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Believe it and do it!!

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COME OUT AND HAVE SOME FUN!!

Norton Rotary BB Gun Team

Wobble Trap Shoot

SATURDAY, MAY 31

9:30 a.m., Black Powder Range (Just West of Town)

\$5.00 a Round -- All Donations Accepted

Bring your own guns and ammo, rock will be supplied

LUNCH STAND AVAILABLE - ALL AGES ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE

Proceeds go toward team travel expenses for Daisy Nationals competition-Rogers, AR

Questions Call Jeff Elliott, 785-202-1170

May 23-
May 28

Showing at the

NORTON THEATRE

Blended

2 Hours, 7 Minutes (PG-13)
Friday and Saturday: 7:00 and 9:30 p.m.
Sunday: 5:00 and 7:30 p.m.
Mon., Tues., Wed.: 7:00 P.M.

X-Men: Days of Future Past

in 3D 2 Hrs., 20 Min.
(PG-13)

Blended is \$7.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 12 and Under. No Sunday Discount
X-Men is \$7.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 12 and Under. No Sunday Discount



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