

Obituaries

Wesley H. Davis

The Rev. Wesley Homer Davis, 79, of Hutchinson, a former United Methodist pastor in Decatur County, died Jan. 6, 2002, at Hospice of Reno County.

He was born Sept. 20, 1923, in Kansas City, the son of the Rev. John A. and Anna F. Davis. He began his schooling in Genesco, then attended Allen Grade School, Liberty Junior High and high school in Hutchinson, graduating in 1941. He attended one year at Hutchinson Community College.

He served four years in the U.S. Navy as the navigator aboard a Destroyer Escort in World War II, making three Atlantic crossings, went through the Panama Canal, served in the South Pacific, Luzon, Lyngon Gulf in the Philippines and Tokyo Bay, Japan at the surrender signing.

After the war he attended Southwestern College at Winfield, graduating in 1948. He graduated from Garrett Theological Seminary, Evanston, Ill., in 1951 with a Master of Divinity Degree.

He was a retired clergy member of the Kansas West Conference of the United Methodist Church, serving churches in Wellington, Leon, Jennings/Prairie Chapel, Deerfield, South Hutchinson, Hugoton, and Anthony. After retirement, he served the Clayton/Norcatu/Lyle Parish.

He married Jean Holt in Springfield, Mo., on Sept. 1, 1949. They retired in Hutchinson and he was a resident of Sunshine Meadows Retirement Community in Buhler at the time of his death.

He was a member of Boy Scouts of America, earning the rank of Life Scout and served as an adult scout leader for 65 years. He also earned many Boy Scout awards and honors. He was also a member of Lions Club International.

Survivors include his wife, Jean H. Davis of Sunshine Meadows Retirement Community, Buhler; two sons, Jon and Martha Davis, St. Louis, and Brian Davis/Ann Lauer, Boston, Mass.

A memorial services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on March 3 at the First United Methodist Church in Hutchinson. His body was bequeathed to the K.U. Medical Center for Parkinson's Disease.

Memorials may be sent to Pass The Torch Scholarship Fund; Santa Fe Trail Council, Boy Scouts of America; Mission and Ministry Fund of Hutchinson First United Methodist Church; Hospice of Reno County; or Michael J. Fox Parkinson Foundation. Contributions may be sent to First United Methodist Church, Hutchinson, Kan.

Delbert Phalen

Delbert Phalen, 98, father of Della Klima of Oberlin, died Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2003, at the Belleville Health Care Center in Belleville.

He was born April 29, 1904, at Peoria, Ill., the son of William and Sarah Esther (Beatty) Phalen. He received his early education in the Round Prairie and Swartz country schools.

He married Florence Ayres on Christmas Day, 1925, at Butler, Mo. They lived in Riley before moving to Cuba, Kan., in 1939. He was a

mechanic and section foreman for the Rock Island Railroad until his retirement and was a member of the Cuba Presbyterian Church and the Maintenance of Way Employees Union.

Survivors include his son, Russell and Irene Phalen, Osborne; daughter, Della and Melvin Klima, Oberlin; four grandchildren, Rick and Deb Klima; Marsha and Gene Morford and Brian and Lori Klima, Oberlin, and Ralph and Marilyn Phalen, Independence, Mo.; 11 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Florence, in 1984; a daughter, Lois Phalen in 1999; a grandson, Randy Phalen, and brothers, Jesse, Michael, Robert, Charles, Glen, and Bernard, and sisters, Stella Leonard and Ruby Carpenter.

Funeral services were held Saturday at Tibbetts-Fischer Funeral Home in Belleville. Burial was at Kopsa Cemetery, rural Cuba.

Irene Faye Powell

Irene Faye Powell, 82, a 1938 graduate of Decatur Community High School, died Thursday, Jan. 16, 2003, at Decatur County Good Samaritan Center.

She was born Oct. 10, 1920, at the family farm southeast of Lebanon, Neb., the daughter of Fred C. and Gladys Irene (Zweigle) Jolly. She was reared at the family farm and attended Jolly Hill Rural Grade School and Decatur Community High School.

She married James Powell on Feb. 19, 1939, in Norcatu and they made their home on a farm in the Lyle community, where they attended the Lyle United Methodist Church.

Survivors include a son, Allan and Patricia Powell, McCook; a daughter, Coleen and LaVerne Rippe, Lebanon, Neb.; a brother, Alfred and Barbara Jolly, Wilsonville, Neb.; a sister, Leila Weyeneth, McCook; a sister-in-law, June Jolly, Lyle; 10 grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, on Sept. 16, 1992; a son, Jimmy; and brothers Evald and Carl.

Funeral services were held Monday morning at Pauls Funeral Home in Oberlin. The Rev. Charles Keller officiated and burial was in the Lebanon Cemetery at Lebanon, Neb.

Memorials were established to the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center and Lebanon Cemetery Directory Fund. Contributions may be sent to the funeral home, 121 N. Penn, Oberlin, Kan., 67749.

Katharine Bickford Smith

Dr. Katharine "Ninia" Bickford Smith, 71, a longtime Oberlin resident, died Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2003, in Salina.

She was born Feb. 24, 1931, in Kansas City, Mo., the daughter of Donnel and Catherine (Kenney) Pearson. Her childhood was spent in Tonganoxie. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Kansas in 1954.

She married Kenneth E. Bickford on Sept. 4, 1954, in Tonganoxie. The family moved to Oberlin in

1962, where he provided health care for the area. Her husband preceded her in death on July 22, 1969. The family remained in Oberlin and she began her career as a school nurse for the Oberlin Unified School District in 1970.

She married Galen Smith on May 22, 1976. She completed her Ph.D. at Kansas State University in 1984. She began teaching at Fort Hays State University on a full-time basis in 1989. Her husband preceded her in death on Dec. 24, 1992.

She served as chair of the Special Education Department at Fort Hays State University from 1988 to 1995; was chair of the Teacher Education Department until 1996; was Affirmative Action Officer from 1988 to 1990 and received a 1989 Pilot Award at the university. She was also involved in The Council for Exceptional Children and served as president of the Kansas chapter. She retired professor emerita in 1998, then lived in El Dorado and Salina.

Survivors include her children, Brian and Vickie Bickford, Salina; Cecilia and Brad Goebel, El Dorado; Elizabeth (Betha) and Walker Estes, Baton Rouge, La., and Brice and Kristi Bickford, Olathe; stepchildren Gwen and Eric Graham, Steger, Ill.; Kim and Dale Nichols, Moresville, Calif., and Craig and Vicki Smith, Wichita; 17 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and a brother, John and Joanne Pearson, LaJolla, Calif.

She was also preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Richard Pearson.

Funeral services were held Saturday morning at the United Methodist Church in Oberlin. The Rev. Doug Hasty officiated and burial was in the Oberlin Cemetery. Pauls Funeral Home of Oberlin was in charge of arrangements.

A memorial was established at Fort Hays State University to honor her work as a teacher. Contributions may be sent to the funeral home, 121 N. Penn, Oberlin, Kan., 67749.

Lyle Springer

Lyle Springer, 56, of Lebanon, Neb., the industrial arts teacher at Herndon Schools, died Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2003, in a one-vehicle accident five miles west of Danbury.

He was born Jan. 18, 1946, on the family farm north of Danbury, the son of Cloyce and Bertha (Golt) Springer. He attended grade school in Danbury and graduated from Beaver Valley High School in 1964. He attended McCook Community College and Kearney State College, where he received a degree as an industrial arts teacher.

He married Charlene Elwood at the Christian Church in Wilsonville, Neb., on June 27, 1970. He taught 33 years in schools at Hershey, Beaver Valley and Twin Valley in Nebraska, and Herndon.

Survivors include his wife, Charlene; children, Matt and Stacey Springer, Sutherland, Neb.; Mary Jo

and Robb Overton, McCook, and Casey and his fiancée, Jennifer McMichael, Des Moines, Iowa; grandchildren, Bailee and Alyssa Springer; a sister, LaDonna and Steve Harrison, Lebanon; and two brothers, Loyal and Lynda Springer, Lebanon, and Marlin Springer, McCook.

Funeral services were held Friday morning at the Lebanon Presbyterian Church with Dewayne Jackson officiating. Burial was at the Hamberg Cemetery near Danbury.

Memorials may be given in his name. Contributions may be sent to Carpenter Breland Funeral Home, 305 W. C, McCook, Neb., 69001.

Markets

January 17, 2003 closing markets
Wheat, \$3.38 bushel
Milo, \$3.82 hundred weight
Corn, \$2.29 bushel
(These are the prices for last Friday, since Monday was a holiday.)

Courthouse

These transactions were taken from the records in the office of the Decatur County court clerk and sheriff's office and deeds recorded in the register of deeds' office.

DISTRICT COURT Traffic

Jan. 6: Beverly Dittmer, Tribune, no child restraint, \$79.
Jan. 13: Dwight Wentz, Norcatu, speeding 80, \$119.

Last Wednesday: Willis Wiedel, Boulder, Colo., speeding 80, \$119.
Friday: Linda Silloway, Colorado Springs, speeding 76, \$95.

Limited Action

Decatur Health Systems vs. Jamie and Larry Ellis, \$10,692.
Benartex Inc. vs. Angela Weller, \$979.

Small Claims

R&S Repair vs. Cary Hoehner, \$1,368.
Stanley Hardware vs. Steve Kathka, \$222.
The Bank vs. John Nelson, \$880.
The Bank vs. Bill and Tammy Reece, \$702.

AMBULANCE CALLS

These calls were reported last week by the Decatur County ambulance crew:
Last Wednesday: 8:34 a.m., S. Beaver; 9:06 a.m., medical, no transport.

Friday: 8 a.m., transport to Kearney and return; 11:05 a.m., flight to Kearney, Neb.

Saturday: 10 a.m., standby, Oberlin Wrestling Tournament.

Hospital

These were admissions and dismissals from the Decatur County Hospital this week:

ADMISSIONS

Jan. 13: Jean Skubal, Selden; Howard Banta (Good Samaritan Center), Oberlin.

Jan. 14: Laverne McClelland, Atwood.

Last Wednesday: Charles Lincoln, Oberlin.

Thursday: Merla Rhodes, Oberlin.

Friday: Margaret Rienen, Herndon; Keven Anne Tacchini, Burns, Wyo.; Emily Miller, Oberlin.

DISMISSALS


Jan. 13: Andrew Dempewolf, Oberlin; Don Ashley, Selden.

Jan. 14: Henry Wolfram (Cedar Living Center), Don Meints, Dell Pomeroy, Catharine Munson, Oberlin.


Friday: Charles Lincoln, Lloyd Beneda (Cedar Living Center), Oberlin; Jean Skubal, Selden.

Saturday: Howard Banta (Good Samaritan Center), Oberlin.

Sunday: Joann Luedke, Atwood; Emily Miller, Oberlin.



WEATHER



Decatur County Forecast for Jan 21st - Jan 27th

Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
36/20	32/16	30/23	40/28	50/28	50/28	58/29

Normal High 42 **Sunrise** 7:59 to 7:55am
Normal Low 16 **Sunset** 5:49 to 5:56pm

The jetstream is taking a dip to the south this week, arcing from western Canada to the southern Great Plains, then to the mid-Mississippi River Valley. Very cold air is seeping southward, and as that cold air rubs elbows with the warm air south of the jetstream, we'll see some snow fly. The greatest chance of snow will be Thursday. Friday may feature a mix of rain and snow. The jetstream meanders back to the north this weekend, allowing warm air to move back to the north. Sunshine will return along with the warmth.

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(National Weather Service)
(For the period ending Mon. 7 a.m.; the maximum temperature is for the previous day.)

Date	Hi	Low	Precip.
January 14	66	16	
January 15	47	16	
January 16	24	8	0.01 (trace of snow)
January 17	31	-1	
January 18	45	-1	
January 19	42	-1	
January 20	66	19	

Precipitation totals for the week, 0.01; for the month of Jan., 0.01; for current year to date, 0.01; one year ago, trace.
For 24-hour weather radio broadcast, tune scanner to 162.475 mhz.

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