

People in Our Community

Mary Lou Olson, society editor
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Six cousins enjoyed a reunion on the Fourth of July hosted by Florence Vavroch at her home. Their parents included: Ed Vavroch, Fred Vavroch, Anna Sutton and Ellen Peters. Those present included John Vavroch, Colby; Dianne, Emily and Abbie Waldo, Overland Park; June Vavroch, Jennings; Darrell and Connie Dreher, Hays; Nancy and Janet Peterson, Oakland, Calif.; Larry Sautter, Oakland, Calif.; and Dale Vaughn, Arvada, Colo.

Mark and Katie Young, Sam and Paul of Houston, Texas, and Katie's mother, Teresa Morgan, Denver, were Fourth of July weekend guests of Barbara Young and Kirk and Holly Young and family.

Joanne Wendelin and Dorothy Moore of Oberlin, and Bonnie Condit of Winfield were among alumni attending the reunion of former students at St. John's College in Winfield. The Lutheran college, which closed several years ago, was taken over by the City of Winfield and the buildings made into business establishments, including a library and apartments.

Cindi Sauder, Flower Mound, Texas, and Lauren Waldron, Bangor, Pa., have been visiting Doris Sloan, Merle Shirley, Dennis and Judy Shirley and Patrick Shirley. Lauren helped during harvest.

Winning highs in pinochle at Golden Age Center the past week were Doris Miller, Vivian Bishop, Lora Zwickle, Sandra Young, Neva Townsend and Henry Edgett. Lows went to Donna Kent, Aleen Van Vleet, Floyd Edgett, Kelva Swindler and Dale Votapka. Pitch highs went to Shirley and Henry Edgett with lows going to Dewaine Stapp, Neva Townsend, Veanna Orr and Elsie Goodnight. Bridge highs were won by Phyllis Lohofener and Charlotte Meints.

Cole Spresser, son of Robert "Coop" and Donna Spresser of Atwood, was on the Dean's List for the spring semester at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. A pre-medical major, he was recognized for earning a 4.0 average. His grandparents are Don and Ardis Roe, Oberlin, and Alexine Spresser, Selden.

Cecil Hess was a Friday overnight guest of her daughter and family, Jean Ann and Steve Confer, Jenna and Jessica, of St. Francis. On Saturday she accompanied Mrs. Confer to Denver, where they celebrated Mrs. Hess's birthday.

Dorothy Moore returned home recently from a vacation trip. She accompanied her daughter and family, Deb and Mike Nickels, Emma and Mark, of McLouth to Myrtle Beach, S.C. They enjoyed the Dixie Stampede, the beach, and other points of interest.

Frances Starbuck of Great Bend underwent surgery on Friday at

Wesley Hospital in Wichita. Her daughter, Pam Patrick, Nederland, Colo.; her son and family, Mike and Rhonda Starbuck and Audrey, Hebron, Neb.; and Andy Starbuck, Colby, and her sister and husband, Helen and Jerry Riepl, Cimarron, were with her. Mail will reach her at the hospital, 550 N. Hillside, Wichita, Kan., 67214.

Recent visitors of Paul and Darlene Wray were her sister, Audrey Nowell, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, who spent a month; Denise and Joseph Peacock, former neighbors from Severance, Colo., and her nephew, Dennis and Holly Nowell, also of Cedar Rapids.

Starla Russ and Julie Cunningham, Columbia, Mo., and Jane Dingus and her mother-in-law, Leta Dingus, Garden City, were recent visitors of Richard and Clara Russ. Mrs. Cunningham also visited her son, James and Autumn AraSmith, and Emmarissa, of Rexford.

Mr. and Mrs. Gus Wolters visited with Mr. and Mrs. Tim Wolters, April Ann, Ashley and Levi James at their home in Ludell on Friday evening. Tim has been suffering with a disc out of place in his back.

Juanita Guinn had open heart surgery on Monday, July 7. Mail can reach her at 5291 Bradley Circle, Colorado Springs, Colo., 80911.

Elaine (Bodeker) Samuelson of Lakewood, Colo., was a houseguest last Wednesday of Ralph and Violet Shaw. Evening callers were Buzz and Cynthia Matson, Herschel and Jody Betts, Amy Rehm and Martha Nemeth. Mrs. Samuelson, a former Decatur Community High School science teacher, moved to Denver in 1970.

Levi James Wolters of Ludell stayed several days with his grandparents, Mrs. and Mrs. Gus Wolters, last week.

Cheri Van Horn, Phoenix, Ariz., visited Bill and Bertha Matchett recently.

Olive Montgomery, Lincoln, Neb., and daughter Jean, visited Wanda Dickinson and Bertha Matchett in the past few days.

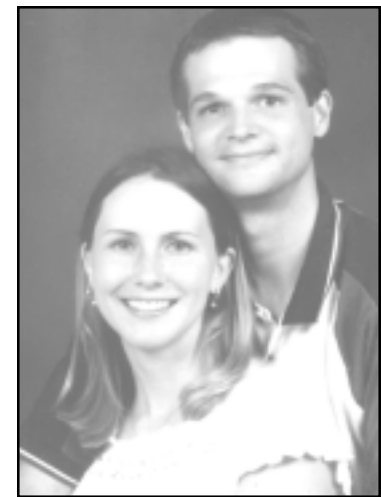
Barbara Young spent the past weekend in Topeka at the home of her brother, Allen and Neta Jeffus. Lisa Eccles of Edmond, Okla., was also a guest. They all attended the "Patsy Cline" performance at the historic Columbian Theatre in Wamego.

Cyndi (Sloan) Saunders of Texas is visiting her mother, Doris Sloan, and other family members.

Bryan Miller has been hired as an officer with the Atwood Police Department. He is a 2001 graduate of Decatur Community High School and received an associate's degree in criminal justice from Colby Community College. His parents are Carolyn Miller, Oberlin, and Jerry Miller, Gem.



IT TAKES THE HELP of young and old to get the equipment ready for the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show held in Bird City each year. Shown is a miniature model of a steam tractor. —Bird City Times staff photo



Timothy Wasson and Jennifer Fisher

Couple engaged

Timothy Wasson and Jennifer Fisher of Austin, Texas, have announced their engagement.

Mr. Wasson is the son of James and Lauri Wasson of Oberlin and a 1995 graduate of Decatur Community High.

He attended the Kansas City Art Institute graduating in 2001 with a degree in graphic design and illustration. He works as an environmental artist for Acclaim studios in Austin.

Miss Fisher is the daughter of Susan Fisher, Washington, Iowa, and Ray and Tracy Fisher, Holt, Mo. She is a 1996 graduate of Washington High School in Iowa and a 2000 graduate of the Kansas City Art Institute. She has a degree in graphic design and illustration and works as an associate production editor at Leyh Publishing in Austin.

The couple is planning to be married at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church near Harper, Iowa, with a reception following at Lagos Acres Country Club, Keota, Iowa.

Four days of activities planned for thresher show in Bird City

Four days filled with activities are planned for the 50th Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show, July 31-Aug. 3 in Bird City. Activities begin at 9:30 a.m. Thursday through Saturday. There is a swap meet and flea market.

Throughout the four-day event, there will be lots of foods.

However, the main attractions are the buildings which include the Eggers Building which houses an outstanding museum. There are individual rooms set up to depict life in the early days. Demonstrations and programs are held daily.

As visitors arrive, they are greeted by the "putt, putt" of the many stationary engines lined up under the cottonwood trees. These stationary engines made life easier for pioneers and sound much like the old Maytag washing machines. These engines helped Grandma wash the clothes and Grandpa pump water for livestock.

The quilt building has over 30 quilts on display. The association owns nine, received as gifts, plus other quilts in the area. This year, the Sawyer family quilt will be on display.

Thursday

Thursday evening, the literary is held at the Highland Country School located on the grounds. As people enter the school, they experience memories of being a kid sitting in the old-time desks.

Friday

Friday evening is the popular antique tractor pull. This is not a juried event — it's just a fun event. The show starts around 6 or 6:30 p.m. so it can end with the steamers pulling in the evening at dusk. It is a special sight to see the embers from boilers against the darkening horizon.

Saturday

Saturday after a full day on the

Thresher show celebrates 50th

The Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show will be celebrating its 50th year on July 31.

Ken Beougher, Association president, reported that they are expecting a large crowd as he has received calls from all over including Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Colorado.

"There seems to be more than usual interest this year," he said.

50 years ago

In the early 1950s, a group of farmers and businessmen from Nebraska, Colorado and Kansas decided that the heritage of farming in the high plains should be preserved. Tractors had replaced steam engines and combines had eliminated the need for threshing machines and separators.

It took several years of restoration, cleaning and painting before the first show was held at the Roy Kite farm 2 1/2 miles northeast of Bird City.

A Case Implement dealer as well as a farmer, Mr. Kite had many old tractors and vintage equipment stored.

The first show in 1953 offered only a tent for protection. Out-houses served as bathrooms. Conditions were crude but everyone had a good time. Ladies and

children were admitted free and the men were charged 50 cents daily.

There were no facilities for storing the steam engines, tractors and threshing equipment at the Kite farm so an annual parade of equipment would make the journey to the farm from Bird City. When they crossed U.S. 36, traffic was stopped both ways.

The show continued at the Kite farm through 1974 and then the Association purchased 20 acres at the northeast corner of Bird City. Permanent buildings were erected. The first buildings were the Anderson building, built with funds from Ivan Anderson, Kanorado, the main building with the fold-out sides, and the Country Kitchen. These buildings are still in use today and 12 other buildings have been added.

More land was also acquired. Today, the Association has 45.7 acres where they grow wheat for binding. The wheat is shocked and placed inside until show time.

Thresher Queen

There is now a Thresher Queen selected each year. The queen is selected from the tri-state area and is recognized the first day of the show.

Sunday

Sunday starts with church services being held in the morning and demonstrations going on until around 5 p.m. but there are no evening activities.

grounds, a barbecue is prepared and served by the McDonald Lions from 5 to 7 p.m. They have sweet corn that is cooked with heated water from the steam engine boiler.

The Saturday evening entertainment, which begins at 7 p.m., is the 4th Artillery Regimental Brass Band from Denver. The players dress in Civil War attire and they involve the audience in the performance. They will be teaching the

audience the Virginia reel and other folk dances plus their concert.

New Arrivals

Ellie Louise Woodall

Ellie Louise Woodall, daughter of Bryce and Ryann Woodall of Logan, was born Thursday, June 26, 2003, at 1:28 a.m. at Salina Regional Health Center. She weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long. Grandparents are Evan and Judy Golt, Hill City, and Joel and Nanette Woodall, WaKeeney. Great-grandparents are Dick and Helen Woodall, Hays; Richard and Juliette Schreiner, Ogallah; the late Bryan and Leta Long, and the late Fred and Frances Golt.



Myron and Darlene Veh

Couple honored on 50th

Myron and Darlene Veh of Norton were honored with an open house on Sunday at the meeting room of the Norton Library in observance of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Hosts were their children, Arloa and Joe Barnes, Smith Center; Tona and Ron Leiker, Andover; and Darron and Dawn Veh, Hutchinson.

Darlene Boxberger and Myron Veh were married July 11, 1953, in

Norton. They moved to Norton in 1964, and except for a brief time when they lived in Oberlin, have continued to live there.

Mrs. Veh taught music in Norton schools before retiring in 1990 after 26 years. He was a professional photographer and also worked for Enfield Funeral Home before retiring in 1993. They live at 1107 Nixon Drive, Norton, Kan., 67654.



You are invited to an Open House celebrating Evelyn Meitl's 80th Birthday

Saturday, July 26, 2003
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Golden Age Center
220 North Penn Ave.
Oberlin, Kansas

There will be a "Welcome Home" party for SFC Jerry Chambers and others from the 1013 QMC.

Supper will be "Pot Luck".
Everyone please bring their own table service.
It will be the evening of July 19th at the American Legion Post 70 at 5:30 p.m. and will end at closing time.
Everybody Welcome

Through Labor Day Weekend
Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.
Ask us about our special package deals!

TRAIL OF TEARS DRAMA

CHEROKEE HERITAGE CENTER
Tahlequah, Oklahoma 888-999-6007
www.CherokeeHeritage.org

Tsa La Gi Amphitheater

Dinner and Dance

(Benefit for the Wellness Center)
Saturday, August 2nd
The Gateway

Cost: \$25/per person (Prime Rib)
Dance only \$5 per person
Dinner reservations due by July 30th (Please call 475-2208)
Dinner 6 p.m. ~ Dance 8 p.m.
Dance to 'Rendezvous'

Thank You

Thank you to all of the people who made our 50th Wedding Anniversary such a special occasion. There are so many, many people to thank. First, we would like to thank our family. Bo and Carla Miller of Northridge, California; Tom and Carol Miller of Dana Point, California; Deb and Jon Tuttle of Quinter, Kansas; Tara and Michael O'Dell of McCook, Nebraska and our twelve grandchildren. Without all of them, none of this would have been possible. We are very proud of all our children and they mean the world to us. In addition, we thank our dear friends for joining our family during this special occasion.

Some other people we would like to thank are: Kent Ploussard and his staff at The Gateway for the outstanding presentation of food and set up for our party, Jeanie Unger for the beautiful pictures of our family, Mr. and Mrs. Garylord Shields for the use of their gorgeous yard as the backdrop for our family photos and the Frontier Motel. Last, but certainly not least, we would like to thank Greg Jones of Atwood, Kansas for his moving bagpipes and taking time to demonstrate them for the children.

I hope we didn't leave anyone out and to all involved thank you and may God bless each one of you.

Robert and Elaine Miller