# THE OBERLIN HERALD — People in **Our Community**

Mary Lou Olson, society editor

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Lisa Jo Smith, daughter of Wesley and Carol Smith of Oberlin, received a Bachelor of Music Education Degree during commencement on Saturday at W.L. White Auditorium at Emporia State University on Saturday. She plays the saxophone and is a 1999 graduate of Decatur Community High School. Relatives attending her graduation were Wesley and Carol Smith, and Leland and Eloise Smith, Oberlin; Brian Smith, Hays; and Jason Warren, Aurora, Colo.

Peggy Wurm of Eaton, Colo., mother of Randy Peters of Oberlin, fell and suffered a broken shoulder on Sunday. Mail will reach her at the home of her daughter, Bobby Jo Bond, 324 N. 4th Street, LaSalle, Colo., 80645.

Mrs. Eldred (Lorraine) Wurm of Atwood is undergoing medical treatment. Mail will reach her at 1880 Reservoir Road, Castle Rock,

Duane and Phyllis Berry left Monday for their home in Grand Junction, Colo., after spending several weeks in Oberlin.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. today at Carpenter Breland Funeral Home in McCook for Walter R. Warburton, 71, who died Sunday at Hillcrest Nursing Home in McCook. He was a former Oberlin resident and the son of the late Walter and Goldie (Larreau) Warburton. Jerry Beckenhauer will officiate and burial will be in Memorial Park Cemetery at McCook.

Guests for an early Christmas dinner on Saturday at the home of Steve and Marilyn Horn were Diana and Wes Wilson and Hannah, Denver; Darren and Cynthia Horn, Dustin and Kyle, Kersey, Colo.; Myrtle Ross, and Douglas and Ellen Horn, Oberlin.

Greg and Amanda Grafel, Kel and Reece returned home Friday from Jacksonville, Fla., where they visited her brother, Bud Steinmetz. His ship, the USS John F. Kennedy aircraft carrier, which has been in Iraq, came in last Monday and they were there to see it dock. He will be stationed at Jacksonville for six months on the ship.

Dan and Kathleen Kelling of Fountain, Colo., visited over the weekend with her sister, Marianna Bendon, and niece, Karla Jones.

Winning highs in pinochle at Golden Age Center the past week were Henry Edgett, Donna Kent, Merle Shirley, Elden Haas, Kelva Swindler, Doris Miller, Dorothy Moore and Max Carman. Lows were won by Lawrence Wenger, Aleen Van Vleet, Doris Miller, Veanna Orr, Henry Edgett, Donna Kent and Elden Haas. Pitch highs went to Aleen Van Vleet and Henry Edgett with lows going to Dorothy Moore and Doris Miller. Annette Miller and Charlotte Meints were bridge winners.

Mr. and Mrs. Gus Wolters were Friday and Saturday visitors of Dorothy Wolters at the Good Samaritan Center in Atwood.

### **NewArrival**

#### Gabrielle Baylee Vontz

Greg and Terese Vontz of Oberlin are the parents of a daughter, Gabrielle Baylee Vontz, born Nov. 2, 2004, at Community Hospital in McCook. She weighed 7 pounds, 9.6 ounces and was 20 inches long. Her siblings are Canaan, Chantelle, and Gracie Ann. Grandparents are Steve and Bethine Vontz, McCook; Elaine Bishop, Glendale, Ariz; and Derry Bishop, Dresden.



G. Vontz



## **Home Time**

By Tranda Watts Multi-county Extension Agent

## Before holiday rush freeze pies to save time

tivity preparing the holiday meal. One way to spread out activity is to freeze pies, baked or unbaked, and serve later.

Fruit pies tend to withstand freezing better than custard pies. They can be frozen baked or unbaked.

To freeze unbaked pies, make the crust and filling as usual. The filling can be frozen separately from the crust or it can be added to the crust. To freeze filling without the crust, line a pie pan with freezer-safe wrap. Put in the filling and place in the freezer. Once frozen, remove the filling from the pan, wrap well and

Crusts can also be frozen unbaked. When ready to bake, simply remove both from the freezer, assemble and put in the oven. Bake University extension specialist in at 450 degrees Fahrenheit for 15-20 minutes, then reduce the temperature to 375 for 20-30 minutes.

For custard pies, try freezing the filling and crust separately. Chill the prepared filling, pour into a freezer container and freeze. The day before

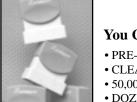
The kitchen can be a flurry of ac-baking, place the frozen filling in the refrigerator to thaw. Stir well, pour into the pie crust and bake as usual.

To achieve a crisper crust, try baking pies on a heated baking sheet or stone. This helps radiate more heat to crisp the crust and gives a nice golden brown color.

Pie is a traditional dessert in American culture. It can be consumed at any time of day, from breakfast pies such as quiche to meat pies to the many dessert pies. We consume the most pie on Thanksgiving, with 70 million sold each year. This number does not include pies that are prepared at home.

For more tips on freezing pies and other prepared foods, contact your county extension office.

Tranda Watts is Kansas State food, nutrition, health and safety for Decatur, Gove, Norton, Sheridan, and Trego counties. Call her at 785-443-3663 or e-mail twatts@oznet.ksu.edu.Formoreinformation, contact the county extension office, 475-8121.



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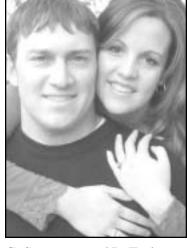
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## Couple plans January **VOWS**

Rayanne Leah Fraker and Gavis Lee Sorenson plan to be married on Jan. 22 at the Lake Ridge Golf Course in Reno, Nev.

Parents of the couple are Steve and Kathy Fraker. and Brett and Teri Sorensen, all of Fallon, Nev. She is a granddaughter of Bob and Marian Fraker of Oberlin.

The bride-to-be is a 2004 graduate of Churchill County High School. She is attending Truckee



G. Sorenson and R. Fraker

Meadows Community College and is majoring in Medical Imaging.

Her fiance graduated from Churchill County High School in 1999. He earned a degree in Dairy Science from Utah State University.

### Relatives attend baptism

Jackson Neil Winter, infant son of ter and Jackson, Clay Center; Ron Cade and Jill Winter of Clay Center, received the sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, Dec. 12, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Palmer. The Rev. Nile Buch officiated and baptismal sponsors were Ron and Stephanie Girard of Clyde.

Guests for the services and dinner which followed were: Dennis and Adene Winter, Manhattan; Sybil Winter, Linn; Bryan and Amy Winand Connie Winter, Barrett and Blade, Clifton; Cade and Jill Win-

and Stephanie Girard and Quin, Clyde; Bob Wurm, Roberta Johnson, Shelli Fortin and Jackie Votapka, Oberlin; Barry and Janeil Baxter, Brock and Jordan Ann, Smith Center; and Brett and Jodi White, Braden and Briley, Wichita.

Jackson was the guest of honor at a baby shower and luncheon on Monday, Dec. 13, at Barnes, hosted by the staff of the Infant-Toddler ter, Aubrey and Maya, Salina; Trent Program. His grandmother, Jackie Votapka, also attended.

## **Club News**

#### Club enjoys Christmas trees Monday Evening Club met on more, were honored and pre-

Dec. 13 at the Decatur County Museum for a tour of the Christmas trees decorated by various clubs, businesses and organization for the Christmas opening.

Members were told that the Teddy bears, which decorated the Monday Evening Club tree, will be given to Decatur Health Systems for children who are patients. A business meeting followed at

the home of Barbara Dehlinger, who was assisted by Roxie Erickson. A photo was taken of club members by the Christmas tree to be sent to associate members un-

longed to the club for 50 years or

sented gifts of small crystal clocks engraved with the year they had joined. They included Irel Lohoefener, who joined in 1954; Dottie Lotker, 1947; and Marjorie Nitsch of Manhattan, who joined in 1941. Using the club scrapbook which Mrs. Lohoefener has compiled over the years for information, Jody Betts told items of interest about the club year in which each became a member. The next meeting has been

changed to Jan. 3 at the home of Karen Metcalf with Diane Frickey as co-hostess. Gisela Three members, who had be- Fisher will give the program.

### Members hold taste tea

The annual Christmas taste tea esses and first half of the alphabet. of Pi Alpha Club was held at the festive home of Gerry Neff on theme was held and each guest Dec. 13 with Elaine Bryan assist-received a surprise gift bag from ing. Mrs. Neffread "Perspective" the hostesses.

was collected for the Angel Tree. Eunice Martin as co-hostess. The hostess read a holiday story. "The Christmas Miracle of Jon-

A gift exchange with a flower

Election of officers will be held

Seventeen members were pre- when the club meets on Jan. 10 at sent and it was reported that \$60 the home of Marty Olson with

The club entertained at Cedar Living Center on Dec. 9 for the athan Toomey," after which December birthdays. They served members enjoyed the tasting tea pie and coffee and presented gifts goodies furnished by the host- to those honored with birthdays.

### Calico Gals enjoy dessert

Eleven Calico Gal members met at the LandMark Inn on Jan. 15 for their Christmas meeting. Roll call was each member's choice. After a gift exchange, a Dutch Treat dessert was enjoyed.

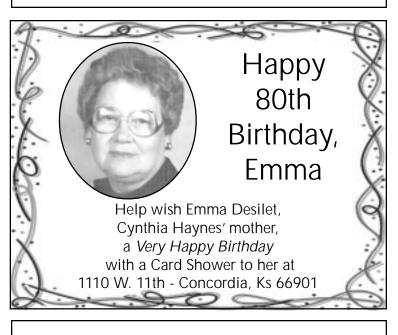
The next meeting will be held a noon at the Pizza Hut on Jan. 19 then members will go to the home of Margaret McEvoy to work or club books for 2005.

#### **Maverick 4-H Club meets**

Bv JESSICA SODERLUND the Angel Tree, which was ap-Maverick 4-H Club met on Dec. 12 at the YMCA in McCook for their Christmas party.

President Marci Metcalf suggested that the club give \$75 to lowed.

proved by the club. While members said the pledge of allegiance, gifts were pushed around the table, then opened. A swimming party fol



# **Internet Tonight!** 475-2206

## **Golden Plains Schools** receive state awards

Golden Plains Elementary School in Selden has been recognized for having attained the Standard of Excellence on the 2004 statewide assessment in fifth-grade writing, and Golden Plains Middle School in seventh-grade mathematics.

The schools received certificates from the state Board of Education.

The honor requires having a significant portion of the student body scoring in the proficient and advanced levels on the tests. Statewide, 146 out of 829 schools, or 17.6 percent, reached the Standard of Excellence in writing for the fifth grade, and 131 out of 511, or 25.6 percent, met it in mathematics for the seventh grade.

"Attaining the Standard of Excelwhich the entire community can program." take pride."

School officials are quick to credit the efforts of students and faculty. Dr. Robert Baskerville, Golden Plains superintendent and principal, credited his teachers.

'Our faculty takes the statewide School Improvement Plan and the No Child Left Behind mandate very seriously," he said. "We hope to use this success, and past Standard of Excellence successes at Golden Plains, as a solid foundation for additional achievement."

He said the elementary school's writing program had played a key role in the achievement.

'We positively reinforce the academic efforts of our students by recognizing their outstanding work with monthly medals and year-end lence is the mark of a school where plaques," he said. "Short-term goals student learning has been made a are invaluable in reaching long-term high priority," said Janet Waugh, objectives. The Golden Plains chairman of the state board. "This Board of Education recognizes this accomplishment is something in and supports our monthly awards



# **Extension Lines**

By Brian Olson Extension Agronomist

# Skip-row corn planting may produce better crop

Over the last five years, dryland crop growth, with yields of over 115 corn production has been anything but consistent.

Most farmers have experienced complete crop failures most of these years. These failures led us to question whether there are better ways to grow dryland corn that minimize the risk of crop failure. One method being evaluated to-

day is to plant corn skipping a row or rows. Skip-row practices were used years ago with grain sorghum. However weed control in the skipped row was a big problem without a broad spectrum postemergence herbicide. Now, with the advent of Roundup Ready corn, a treatment method is available. Skip-row corn, when compared to

the same crop planted every row at the same population, will likely yield less in years when moisture is OK. In a skip-row scenario, young plants are spaced closer together. This will cause an increase in plant competition early in the growing plants become. However, the skipplanted row will not have a crop growing in that space, and if kept growing season when corn is filling out the kernels.

In 2003, research from the University of Nebraska North Platte Research Center indicated skip-row dryland corn produced 32 percent better yields than did conventional planting. In these trials, two rows were planted and two skipped.

Another treatment, where every other row was skipped, produced 17 percent better yields than the traditionally planted field. The treatments yielded 54 and 48 bushels per acre respectively compared with 41 bushels per acre for the conventional planting. The area around North Platte was dry that year, similar to northwest Kansas.

In 2004, three Kansas sites evaluating skip-row corn, Tribune, Quinter, and Belleville, were established in Kansas. Unfortunately for the study, rainfall was sufficient for

bushels per acre recorded at each site. As you might expect in these conditions, corn planted every row, at the same population, typically did All in all, there is some research

as skip-row in dry conditions, whereas with sufficient moisture, corn planted every row should do Skip-row corn comparisons will continue at sites throughout western Kansas next year. As of right now,

there are no results from Kansas that

suggesting a benefit for corn planted

would suggest a benefit. However, farmers should keep in mind that moisture was sufficient for optimum crop growth this past year. If you want to try skip-row corn, there are a couple of suggestions to keep in mind. If one row is planted and one skipped, half the rate of corn indicated on the seeding chart of the

planter is being planted. If two rows are planted and one is skipped, then season, decreasing how robust the two-thirds the rate of the seed as indicated by the seeding chart is being planted. A post emerge application will be clean of weeds, it will likely have needed to control weeds in the more moisture at the end of the skipped row. I would strongly suggest using a Roundup Ready corn

hybrid so glyphosate can be applied

at this stage. For fields where a post

emerge application will not be

needed, thought, a glyphosate application will just add to the cost. Results of the skip-row corn at Quinter, Tribune, and Belleville can be viewed by going to the website www.oznet.ksu.edu/agronomyblock2/and clicking on the skip-row

icon, or visit your county extension

office to pick up a copy. Brian Olson is Kansas State University extension agronomist for Decatur, Gove, Norton, Sheridan, and Trego counties. E-mail bolson@oznet.ksu.edu if you have any questions or would like to see a newspaper article on a specific crop production topic. For more information, contact the county extension office, 475-8121.

We will be closed Friday, Dec. 24 TO GO CELEBRATE A BIRTHDAY AND Christmas with grandkids and kids. IN EMERGENCY YOU MAY CALL: CYNTHIA HAYNES AT HOME 475-3048 OR WORK 475-2206 from 6 p.m. the 24th through Sunday, 26th.

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