

THE OBERLIN HERALD — People in Our Community

Mary Lou Olson, society editor mlolson@nwkansas.com

Pat Brown returned home March 4 from Springfield, Ill., where she had spent a week visiting her son and family, Ryan and Michele Wolf, and helping care for their infant daughter, Haylee Rae, who was born Feb. 26. While she was gone, Mrs. Brown's parents, Art and Dolores Oelkers of Elwood, Neb., stayed at the Doug Brown home and cared for their granddaughter, Skyler.

Gary and Jody Shike and Matthew Wittman of Oberlin and Mike and Deb Helm and Aaron of Norcat recently visited in the office of Congressman Jerry Moran in Washington, and enjoyed a tour of the U.S. Capitol building. Mr. Shike was one of eight Kansas delegates chosen by the Kansas Municipal Utilities to attend the Legislation Rally there. The Helms were in Washington for an American Legion meeting, and Mr. Shike said they just happened to arrive in the office of the congressman at the same time.

Grant Reichert, a student at Kansas State University, recently traveled to Grand Rapids, Mich., to wrestle on the Kansas State University team in the National College Wrestling Association Championship Tournament. The K-State wrestlers placed 10th out of over 60 colleges participating. He qualified earlier by placing third in the Southwestern Conference Tournament in Fort Worth, Texas. He is the son of Wilbur and Jill Reichert of Dresden, and a 2003 graduate of Decatur Community High School.

Gabe Moore underwent sinus surgery on Monday at North Platte Surgery Center. He expected to be dismissed on Tuesday. Those with him for the surgery were his mother, Kelly Moore, and sister, Allie, and his grandparents, Evan and Judy Golt, of Hill City.

Vernice Bradshaw of Pueblo, Colo., came Saturday and is visiting her daughter and husband, Linda and Jim Hollowell.

Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Peña, Ian

and Ella of Wichita were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gus Wolters at Russell.

Elaine Bryan accompanied her sister and husband, Shirley and Bill Jones of Quinter, to Culbertson, Neb., on Friday, where they attended funeral services at Trinity United Methodist Church for their cousin, Raymond Grafel, of McCook, who died March 12. Among others attending from Oberlin were Don and Charlotte Meints, Greg Grafel and Keith Grafel.

Rebekah Hasty, a student at Manhattan Christian College and Kansas State University, is spending spring break with her parents, Pastor Doug and Sara Hasty.

Western Fraternal Lodge met on Sunday for dinner at the Frontier Restaurant, then had a meeting at Cedar Living Center. Those present were Bernie and Othelia Vacura, Roberta Petracek, Don and Lillian Sulzman, Blanche Skubal, Nettie Britton, Vivian Bishop, Viola Jenkins and Charlie Vavroch.

Shawn and Stephanie Troyer of Ellinwood spent last week with Vernon and Jeanette Diederich during spring break. Their parents, Jeff and Annette Troyer, came on Saturday to attend the "Deadwood Dick" all school play in which their niece, Jennifer Hirsch, performed, and their children accompanied them home on Sunday. Additional Sunday dinner guests at the Diederich home were Steve and Anita Hirsch, Jennifer and Joseph, Oberlin, and Doyle and Julie Richardson, Tyler and Clay, and a friend, Alyssa, McCook.

Alvina Gamblin was honored by her family with a supper at her home on Saturday in observance of her 72nd birthday. Others present were Clayton and Amy Erickson, Alex, Chase and Isabel, Tecumseh; Tammi and Jim Engles, Jared and Jason, Colby; and Leon and Connie Miller and Jamie, and Kary Miller, Oberlin.

Dorothy Moore returned home Friday from McLouth, where she had visited her daughter and family, Debbie and Mike Nickols; her son, Eric and Shelly Moore and family in Manhattan; and Martha Nemeth at Topeka.

Jean Earlywine of Louisville, Colo., and Ella Betts and Jody Betts went to Norton on Friday and met Dorothy Avery at the China Garden Cafe for lunch. They went to the home of Daughn and Dorothy Avery later for dessert.

Buzz and Cynthia Matson attended the NCAA wrestling championships in Stillwater, Okla., over the weekend, which was won by Oklahoma State University.

Donovan and Lora Randolph of Hutchinson and their granddaughter, Amy Lynn Randolph, of Manhattan left Wednesday after visiting since Saturday with their mother and grandmother, Amy Rehm.

Helen Gee and her mother, Ruth McQuiston, attended funeral services on Friday at the United Methodist Church in Atwood for Guy Billington of Atwood, who died on March 14.

Rusty Addleman and Louise Pollnow spent the weekend in Olathe visiting Chad and Noel Addleman and making the acquaintance of their infant daughter, Kate Maris, who was born March 6. Sharon Addleman had gone to Olathe earlier to help with the new baby.

Winning highs in pinocle at Golden Age Center the past week were Henry Edgett, Barb Solko, Floyd Edgett, Dorothy Cochran, Max Carman and Ivis Hanson. Lows went to Max Carman, Doris Gilbert, Wilma May, Aleen Van Vleet and Helen Bruggeman. Pitch highs were won by Henry Edgett and Barb Solko with lows going to Floyd Edgett and Aleen Van Vleet. Bridge winners were Annette Miller and Charlotte Meints.

Pilot, crew honored with awards for averting crash landing in McCook

Jeff Williams and Trent Townsend of Oberlin were among five men honored last week with "Hero" awards by the Nebraska Funeral Directors Association.

Others honored were pilot Jim Hagert, Jeff Polly and Toby Cox. The five men safely brought down a plane that was facing a crash-landing at the airport in McCook on July 13.

The landing incident started as Hagert and Townsend, an aviation mechanic, were test flying a plane for a client of Red Willow Aviation when the landing gear failed to drop down and the flaps failed.

After Townsend tried unsuccessfully to hand pump the landing gear, Red Willow Aviation owner Griff Malleck decided to try a maneuver he had seen on television with a race car driver. With Williams driving under the plane, Polly and Cox tried to grab the landing gear with a shepherd's hook and, finally, a fireman's pike pole. It worked, and the plane landed safely.

McCook funeral director John Herrmann, who represented the association at the presentation, said he was in awe of Williams' ability to stay focused as he raced his pickup

down the runway at 90 mph under a soaring airplane, and by the sheer determination of Polly and Cox, who grabbed at the landing gear with a shepherd's crook and then a firefighters pike pole.

"Not once, but nine times," Mr. Herrmann added.

Mr. Herrmann sent a story from the *McCook Daily Gazette* to the association, nominating the men for the award, which is presented "for courageous action in saving a human life."

Mr. Malleck has written a story about the rescue mission, which will appear in the April 2006 edition of the magazine "Guidepost: True Stories of Hope and Inspiration." The story is called, "On a Wing and a Prayer."

The story describes how Mr. Malleck prayed—"something they don't really train pilots to do."

"Dear God, You've got to show me what to do. I'm out of ideas," he wrote that he whispered as he tried to think of Plan A, Plan B, Plan C—every possible attempt to bring pi-

lot Jim Hagert and mechanic Krent Townsend down safely.

He said that the plan came to him then in a vision—an amazing television video that he had seen in which men in a pickup grabbed the stuck landing gear of a plane in a similar situation as it flew low over a runway.

"It's the hardest prayer a pilot can make—to give up all control," he wrote.

After over 10 attempts, he prayed, "Okay, Lord, You take over. We can't do this ourselves." And he said he visualized the Lord guiding Toby's hand toward the second landing gear.

His prayer was answered as Toby managed to grab the landing gear and lock it into place, and the plane landed safely.

Malleck said that after Hagert and Townsend celebrated with their ground crew and with emergency personnel who had been on standby, he collapsed in exhaustion in his office and stared at a poster called "A Wing and a Prayer." He wrote, "In a way, it had been a perfect day for flying after all."

Oberlin graduate earns pilot's license

Britton Scott, son of Lee Don and Melanie Scott of Oberlin, became a private pilot this month after completing classes and taking final exams at Kansas State University at Salina.

According to his instructor, George Hiechel, the term "grease monkey," which is used for aircraft mechanics, came from the Army Air Corps mechanics in early World War II. Typically, mechanics would be crawling around on the big old radial engines that powered the aircraft of the day.

That has all changed today, he said, and now they are trying to find the right young people to carry on the "Do it right the first time" attitude and be a part of the aviation family.

During his schooling, Mr. Scott and other students were required to have 1,900 contact hours, face to face with a licensed instructor as required by federal regulations, to take the Federal Aviation Administration licensing test. Half of the test is written and the other half is hands-on practical knowledge.

Britton is the grandson of Don and Alene Scott of Oberlin and Ronald and Adonna Sis of McCook. He will be working this summer for the Wasson Brothers, then will look for a job.



Britton Scott

Math-and-science camp set at Hays

A math-and-science camp for middle-school girls with a "CSI" bent will be offered Sunday to Sunday, June 11-18, at Fort Hays State University.

Organizers say the one-week camp will provide fun and educational activities, professional role models and social experiences designed to build girls' desire to succeed in math and science.

They will learn to use global positioning technology to locate crime scenes and find stolen goods, analyze microscopic samples to determine the characteristics of a "mys-

tery soil," build a robot to enter an "unsafe" situation, determine the speed of a car from evidence remaining after a crash, analyze ink to see who wrote the letter that can convict a guilty party, and more.

The girls will work in small groups practicing math and science activities used by professional crime scene investigators and meet with professionals in math and science occupations.

Although the camp demands heavy brain power, the girls will also have a good time. They will have fun events with other girls who share

their interests and experience the life of college students by living and eating in the dorms. Evening activities will include swimming, astronomy, movies and a visit to the natural history museum.

Registration at \$175 includes room and board and activity materials. For those selected to attend, a \$75 deposit must be received by May 10 and the full balance by June 1. Scholarships are available.

For details, contact Lane Young at (785) 628-5669 or lyoung@fhsu.edu.

Ag workshop planned at Atwood

A two-day workshop entitled, "A Real Deal — Building Local and Regional Businesses in Entrepreneurial Agriculture" is set for Friday, March 31, and Saturday, April 1, at the Rawlins County Fairgrounds in Atwood.

It will also include a youth entrepreneur fair at the Rawlins County High School.

Purpose of the workshop is to inspire producers in the tri-state region to seek new markets through entrepreneurial agriculture, direct sales and agri-tourism. Information on how to build local food systems will also be provided. Presenters will

share their projects and success stories.

The Rawlins County HomeTown Competitiveness group, who is helping organize the event, is also planning tours of several local ag businesses which offer unique products and/or services Friday morning.

Workshop speakers include Gene Pflughof, Grant County Economic Development director; Rich Mullany of Northeast Colorado Resource Conservation and Development; Kim Barker and Bob Waldrop, Oklahoma Food Cooperative creators; and Jim Rowh, owner of

Pure Prairie Foods, a specialty shop in Norton.

Workshop fees are \$50 per person for a two-day package that includes lunch and refreshments both days. Registration must be received by Friday, March 24. The one-day fee is \$25 per person for either Friday or Saturday and must be received by March 28. Walk-in fee is \$35 per person/per day at the door. Lunches will feature locally grown products.

To register or for a brochure, contact Chris Sramek, Rawlins County economic development director at (785) 626-3640 or e-mail rced@atwoodtv.net.

YOCOM

A MATTER OF CHASTITY

A MATTER OF CHASTITY

The High Plains Saga of a Woman's Revenge

Book by Kansas Native
Douglas Yocom

THE OBERLIN HERALD

170 S. Penn Ave.
Oberlin, KS 67749
Phone: 785-475-2206

\$25 + Tax =
\$26.64 Picked Up
Plus \$5 Shipping/Copy
Mailed and Handling

Get On-Line for Value!

Year Special for nwkansas.com

For a limited time, Oberlin customers can receive **12 full months of internet for less than the price of eight.**

That's four months free

Get on line today with **nwkansas.com**. Monthly plan just \$24.95 a month

just \$198

Internet access as low as \$16.50/month with 1 year prepayment.

nwkansas.com

Price based on prepayment for one year. Normal monthly rates are \$24.95. For more information call *The Oberlin Herald*, 475-2206.