

# THE OBERLIN HERALD — People in Our Community

Mary Lou Olson, society editor  
mlolson@nwkans.com

Brad Weisenburger, one of the consultants for Buher-Willis and Ratliff of Kansas City, who are working on the expansion of the Oberlin Airport, is the son of Ray Weisenburger. His father was one of the architects from the architecture department at Kansas State University when the canopies for downtown Oberlin were constructed a number of years ago. Brad said he still remembers coming to Oberlin with his father when they were working on the canopy project.

Bernice Martin and Lee Martin spent the weekend in Manhattan where they visited Roxie Erickson, Drew Martin, and Kenyon and Stacia Erickson and Gavin, and made the acquaintance of their infant son, Corbin, who was born Dec. 25. En route home, they visited Kris Erickson, Farah Wendelin, and Wyatt and Lindsay Wendelin at Lindsborg.

Don Anderson was host to a supper at his home Sunday. He led the group in singing "God Bless America" and in prayer. Those present were Gladys and Zane Geis, Darrin Glading, Millie Lippelmann, Phyllis Screen and Neil Marshall. His dog, Sheba, was introduced to the group and he showed them an old Seth Thomas clock. After the meal, games were played.

Jerald and Elaine Leitner visited her brother, Claude Runyan, who is seriously ill at the hospital in Greeley, Colo., and his wife, Doris, on Friday. Delbert Roe of North Platte, Neb., was also a visitor.

Funeral services were held Thursday morning at New Life Four-square Gospel Church in McPherson for Francis Lee "Bill" Wood, 82, who died Jan. 21 at Memorial Hospital in McPherson. He was a former Farm Bureau Insurance agent in Graham and McPherson counties. His wife was the former Annette McBride, a 1942 graduate of Decatur Community High School. She preceded him in death on March 24, 2006. Survivors in-

clude two daughters and their families. Graveside services were held at the Hill City Cemetery.

Dr. Richard May will speak at 7 p.m. at the Diabetic Support meeting in room 3 at The Gateway on Thursday. The public is invited.

Sharon (Corder) Noriega retired after working over 27 years in the Rawlins County law enforcement department. She is the daughter of the late Judd and Erma Corder. Her brother, the late Doug Corder, was a 1950 graduate of Decatur Community High School.

Winning highs in pinochle at Golden Age Center the past week were Floyd Edgett, Henry Edgett, Veanna Carman, Max Carman and Wilma May. Lows went to Dorothy Moore, Max Carman, Aleen Van Vleet and Elden Haas. Pitch highs were won by Floyd Edgett and Henry Edgett with lows going to Barb Solko and Dorothy Moore. Bridge winners were Merle Shirley and Beth Sebaugh.

—PEO soup supper, Tuesday, Feb. 6, 5:30-7:30 p.m., cafeteria, Oberlin/Norton basketball games. Freewill donation.

Guests of Bob and Kay Gaskill from Friday to Sunday for the annual get-together of the Gaskill family included: John and Marian Gaskill, and Jeff Gaskill, Weston, Mo.; Dave and Gudy Gaskill, and Craig, Wesley, and Stacy Gaskill, Golden, Colo.; Dr. Steven Gaskill, Missoula, Mont.; Robin Sommerauer, Winter Park, Colo.; Guy Gaskill and Krystof Spurny, Winona; Shad and Jody Metcalf, Bryson and Seanna, Colby; and Ray Kriegbaum, Lori Gaskill and Max, Denver. They all had brunch at the LandMark Inn on Sunday.

Sunday dinner and supper guests of Jerald and Elaine Leitner were Karla and John Sullivan, Jerad Sullivan and Whitney Ritter, and Dustin and Katrina Sullivan and Talyn, all of Colby.

## Couple plans May wedding

Sarah Marie Worley and Jeremy Lee Green of Hays plan to be married on April 14 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Hays.

Parents of the couple are Allan and Cindy Worley, Hays; and Kerry Green, Jennings, and Laura Washburn, Norton.

The bride-elect is a 2002 graduate of Hays High School and a 2005 graduate of North Central Kansas Technical College with an associate's degree in nursing. She is employed at Hays Medical Center as a registered nurse.

Her fiancé graduated from Jennings High School in 2000 and at-



Sarah Marie Worley, Jeremy Lee Green

tended Northwest Kansas Technical College at Goodland. He is employed at Wal-Mart of Hays as a department manager.

## Archivist shares story of early Oberlin family

By MARYLOU OLSON

Sharleen Wurm, director of the Decatur County Museum, has been helping Steve Watson, an archivist for the Air Force Research Laboratory, with research that ties into Oberlin's Addleman family.

According to his January 1916 obituary, Mr. Watson said, Lewis Gilmore Parker arrived in Oberlin with his family in the fall of 1878. The Parkers settled on a farm 2 1/2 miles east of Oberlin, but the following May he moved the family into town, where he began a law practice. Thus began a long and storied heritage that stretches to the present, not only in Kansas but all over the nation. In the case of one daughter, it led indirectly to Kirtland Air Force Base at Albuquerque, N.M.

Lewis Parker was a native of Ohio, born near Russellville in 1845. When his father died in 1853, the family moved to Princeville, Ill. In 1864, he enlisted in Company A, Peoria Battery, 2nd Independent Light Artillery, where he served until the end of the Civil War.

Returning to Princeville, he married Addie Bingham in 1869, and together they had four children. Two died very young, but Olga and Clyde survived. The family moved to Iowa, where Lewis studied law and practiced working tin, and apparently put on roofs shortly after he came to Oberlin.

Addie died in 1890, and Lewis remarried two years later to Ella Bush of Nebraska. Ella, originally from New York, brought three children with her: Clark, Nina, and Burt. In 1895, Lewis purchased *The Oberlin Times* and edited it until the paper was sold in 1909. Although considering retirement, Lewis bought the Bystrom store the following year and operated this mercantile until his death.

He served as county attorney, councilman, mayor and a member of the school board. Lewis joined Oberlin's Methodist Episcopal Church, and was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Sons and Daughters of Justice, and the Grand Army of the Republic, the Union Army veterans organization.

Lewis and Addie's children survived their parents. Olga married Alvin Hancock and had two sons. Later divorced, she subsequently married a Pinkham.

Clyde went on to become an Army infantry officer. Lt. Col. Parker died in early 1919, probably due to wounds incurred in World War I. He and his wife Bertha are buried in Arlington National Cemetery. It is not known if they had any children.

Ella's children also survived. Clark Bush moved on to Long Beach, Calif., and Burt Bush went to Red Cloud, Neb. Nina, after a brief marriage to O.O. Osborne, married Dot Addleman in 1902. Their only child, Ted Addleman, like Clyde Parker, also joined the Army. After Nina's death in 1945, Ted returned to Oberlin to operate his father's pharmacy. His son Rusty continues to operate the family business, now in its 100th year.

Helen Kansas Parker, born in Oberlin in 1893, was the only child of Lewis and Ella. Helen married Lt. Roy Carrington Kirtland, some 20 years her senior and an aviator with the U.S. Army Signal Corps, at Texas City, Texas, in November 1913. Although it is uncertain about how the two met, her half-brother, Capt. Clyde Parker, and his wife were present at the wedding. At the time, the Army had units stationed near the border anticipating a spill-over of the erupting Mexican Revolution.

A military brat himself, Roy joined the Army in 1898 at the close of the Spanish-American War, and served in the Philippines. Roy Kirtland was one of the earliest army aviators, having trained to fly with Lt. Hap Arnold and others in 1911. Later, Col. Kirtland served in administrative jobs, including on the Army's general staff and as the Air Corps Inspector General. Roy and his wife Helen, and their only child, Helen Fauntleroy Kirtland, retired to Coronado, Calif., in 1938. With the Army needing to prepare for the coming war, Roy was recalled to active duty in April 1941, but he died less than a month later.

His boss was the very same Hap Arnold, now Gen. Arnold, in command of all the Army Air Forces. Arnold had the Albuquerque Army Air Field renamed for his old friend.

Although the training and supply field almost closed after World War II, with the advent of nuclear weapons research at nearby Los Alamos, and the creation of Sandia National Laboratory at Albuquerque, Kirtland Air Force Base has become a large military support facility, the fifth-largest Air Force base, covering over 5,000 acres, and along with Sandia National Lab is the largest employer in New Mexico.

Helen Parker Kirtland went on to remarry Rear Adm. Charles Poor Kindleberger, a Navy medical officer who served at the Battle of Manila Bay in 1898. She died in 1987. Roy and Helen's daughter Helen married William Pruyn, and they moved to and lived in Hawaii, where they had three children.

## Oberlin woman gets Fulbright scholarship

Jeanie Unger of Oberlin, who teaches Spanish at the Rawlins County High School District, has been selected to participate in a Fulbright-Hays Group Study Abroad Seminar in Argentina this summer, according to a story by Kathy Davis-Vrbas of the *Rawlins County Square Deal*.

The seminar is organized by the University of Kansas and will be held from June 7 to July 13. Thirteen people from four states, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Missouri, will take part. They will study the culture, economy and history of Argentina, approached through a focus on childhood.

She said, "Every day will be filled with school visits, tours, lectures, classes and other social events. We will also participate in a service-learning project at a school for at-risk youth.

The whole purpose of Fulbright is

to help us encourage our students to think globally."

The group will go to the province of Cordoba, where they will live with host families, as well as Salta, Jujuy and Buenos Aires.

All her expenses for the five-week trip will be covered with the exception of a required personal contribution of \$500, which the Rawlins County School Board voted to pay on her behalf.

The Fulbright Program was established by Congress in 1946 and is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. Named in honor of Senator J. William Fulbright, its purpose is to enable the government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries.

Mrs. Unger and her husband, Kevin, live in Oberlin and have two daughters, Katelyn and Rena.



Jeanie Unger

## Kindergarten registration set

Parents of children who will be attending kindergarten at Oberlin Elementary School in 2007-08 should register their children at the school office next week from Monday through Friday.

Parental cooperation will be appreciated, said Principal Duane

Dorshorst. Parents who are unable to come to the office to provide officials with necessary information may call the office at (785) 475-2122.

A child must be five years of age on or before Aug. 31, 2007, to be eligible for kindergarten this fall.

## Garden lunch group meets

The first meeting of the Garden Lovers Lunch Club was held on Jan. 23 in the Teller Room of the LandMark Inn with 14 members present.

Shirley Shields chaired a discussion on subjects of programs to be presented at future meetings. They will be held the third Tuesday of

each month at the LandMark Inn at noon and all interested persons are welcome to attend.

For details, call Sandy Fair at (785) 475-3507, Shirley Shields at 475-3293 or Connie Simonsson at 475-2383.

## Group to sponsor floral class

The first of the classes to be offered by Decatur Tomorrow will be taught by Judy Davis on Saturday, Feb. 17. It is part of the "Maximize

Existing Facilities" program, sponsored by the group.

Interested persons are asked to call (785) 475-3395 for details.

## Club plans pizza party

By ALEXISHISSONG  
On Jan. 7, Maverick 4-H Club held its meeting at the Bohemian Hall.

For old business, we discussed going on a ski trip.

For new business, we were told that our next meeting will be held at the Pizza Hut because Maverick 4-H was awarded money for a pizza party for selling the most cookbooks in Kansas.

## Area mailman retires

Gene Wurm of rural Herndon delivered mail the last time to his 121 patrons on route 1 out of Herndon and route 2 out of Ludell on Friday, Jan. 19, then stepped down from the carrier position he has held since July 30, 1988.

"After the big snow storm that hit the area, it made my decision to retire an easy one," he said. "I decided I was just getting too old to drive those roads in such bad weather, but I did enjoy the job. My assistant, 'Butch' Boulls of Atwood, has taken over the route until a permanent carrier is named."

Mr. Wurm served as head appraiser for Decatur County for over eight years, taking over that position after Ruth Bainter resigned. During that time, he said, he also carried the mail. He retired as an appraiser on June 30, 1999.

He was born and reared on a farm between Traer and Herndon, the son of Walter and Elsie Wurm. He graduated from Herndon High School in 1946 and with the exception of two years in the U.S. Army and a brief time in Oberlin, he has spent his entire life on farms in the

same area.

"I attended Lonely Valley Country School and Elmer Leitner, now of McCook, was my first-grade teacher.

The school building was later moved to Traer, where it served as a grocery store, which was owned by the late Bill and Lila (Carlisle) Jones. The couple later moved the building to southwest Oberlin, where it was operated by them as the South Market for several years," he said.

Mr. Wurm has four daughters, Judy Jordan, Oberlin; Patricia Buffum, Omaha; Shanna Long, Norcat; and Nancy Corder, Yucca, Ariz. All are graduates of Decatur Community High School.

He and Bette Bean, a native of Culbertson, Neb., were married on Sept. 23, 2006, and she works at Hillcrest Nursing Home in McCook. He said that they live at both places, at his farm in Logan Township in Decatur County and at her home in McCook.

"We plan to take a belated honeymoon to Yellowstone National Park sometime this year," he said.



Gene Wurm

## Auctioneer advances to world competition

Mike Bailey of Jennings was among 28 contestants who participated in the Nebraska Livestock Association's fourth regional World Livestock Auctioneer Championship competition on Jan. 18 at the Ogallala, Neb., Livestock Market.

The winner was Rick Shoemaker of Kearney, Neb., and reserve regional champion was Ty Thompson of Billings, Mont. Runner-up regional champion was Brian Weitzel of Brush, Colo.

Mr. Bailey was one of the remaining five top scorers and they also qualify for the June 16 World Livestock Auctioneer Championship in Springfield, Mo.

The master of ceremonies was current world champion, David

Macedo of Tulare, Calif. Each of the 28 contestants at Ogallala sold several drafts of cattle. Three judges, all market owners/operators, scored each contestant on vocal clarity/quality, bid-catching ability, the

ability to keep the sale moving, and by asking the question, "Would I hire this auctioneer for my business?"

Mr. Bailey is an auctioneer for Tri-State Livestock in McCook. He and his wife, Vickie, live at Jennings and she is owner of Decatur County Abstract Company in Oberlin. They

have a daughter, Missy Amlong, and two sons, Colin and Grant. His parents, Elmo and Marguerite Bailey, are residents of Wheat Ridge Terrace, in Oberlin.



Mike Bailey

## New Arrival



Lillian Gradig

### Lillian Rose Gradig

Larry and Allison Gradig of Hutchinson are the parents of a daughter, Lillian Rose. She was born at 12:25 p.m. on Jan. 17, 2007, weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce and was 19 1/2 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Kent and Patty Reinhardt of Otis. Her maternal great-grandmother is Vera Lindemann of Oberlin.

Our sincere appreciation to the EMT's, Oberlin law enforcement, Frontier Restaurant, Pauls Funeral Home, Golden Age Center, Ron's Tire and our friends and neighbors for all their support after the death of my wife, Leah.

George McCullough family



Internet tonight 475-2206

**Planning a Wedding?**

**The Oberlin Herald**  
is happy to run pictures and stories of weddings.

However, we need the information within five weeks of the marriage. Write-ups received after this date require a \$10 charge for each month past the deadline date.

**Stop by our office for a wedding form.**