

# Comedy scheduled Oct. 20 at The Gateway

The Southwest Nebraska Community Theater Association will present the play "The Curious Savage" by John Patrick at Morgan Theater at The Gateway in Oberlin at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 20.

The play features Erica Bolen, Nathan McCarty, Jeri Lynn Karr, Bill Longnecker, Cheryl Scott, Maggie Sanders, Alexis Regan, Don Harpst, Maury Green, Janet Hepp and Kay Flaska. It is produced by Gene Weedin with Jon Burkey as director and Ivy Stritt handling props. Set construction is by Chuck and Diana Trail. Makeup will be handled by Cheryl Scott while Janet Kool and Sheryl Haven are in charge of costumes.

In the comedy, Mrs. Savage has been left 10 million dollars by her husband and wants to make the best use of it, in spite of the efforts of her grown-up step-children, who are determined to get their hands on it.

The children know that the widow's wealth is now in negotiable securities, and seeing they cannot get hold of it, commit her to a "sanitarium" hoping to "bring her to her senses." However, Mrs. Savage is determined to establish a fund to help others realize their hopes and dreams.

In the sanitarium, she meets various social misfits, men and women

who just cannot adjust themselves to life, people who need the help Mrs. Savage can provide. In getting to know them, she realizes she will find happiness with them, and plans to spend the rest of her life as one of them. And when the doctor tells her there is no reason why she should remain, she hesitates to go out into a hard world where people seem ready to do anything for money.

The self-seeking step-children are driven to distraction by their vain efforts to browbeat Mrs. Savage, but she preserves her equanimity and leads them on a merry chase. The dominant mood is high comedy, and the audience is left with a feeling that the neglected virtues of kindness and affection have not been entirely lost in a world that seems motivated at times only by greed and dishonesty.

In addition to the Oberlin performance, the group will present the play at the high school auditorium in McCook on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 26, 27 and 28.

For details about the Oberlin performance, call Ella Betts at (785) 475-3557 or Mary Henzel at 470-0218.

Admission is by Oberlin Arts and Humanities season ticket, or \$10 for adults and \$5 for students at the door.

## Red Cross classes planned

Four Red Cross volunteer classes have been scheduled in Oberlin at the ambulance barn. Sessions include:

Friday, 6-9 p.m., "Fulfilling Our Mission."

Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon, "Shelter Operations." 1 to 4:30 p.m., "Shelter Ops Simulation."

Friday, Oct. 19: 6-9 p.m., "Mass Care."

Saturday, Oct. 20: 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., "Client Casework - Providing Emergency Assistance."

The American Red Cross is sponsoring the classes and emphasizes that those planning to attend must call (888) 765-9058 and pre-register.

The Red Cross stresses it is important that Oberlin has a Red Cross volunteer base. Volunteers do not have to go to disasters unless they choose to.

They hope to have representation from all facets of the county and community and all ages, 18 and above.

For details, call Shayla Williby at (785) 475-3338.

## Rotary hears Iraq program

Sgt. 1st Class Randy McHugh of Oberlin, who served two tours to Iraq as a member of the Army National Guard, spoke to the Oberlin Rotary Club on Oct. 2. He was introduced by John Bremer, program chairman.

Sgt. McHugh, who also is the Decatur County undersheriff, talked about the experiences he and his brigade went through there.

He said that U.S. servicemen help with the building of hospitals and schools, as well as provide security and support to the Iraqi soldiers and

citizens.

He said that his battalion received over 40 percent of the improvised explosive device hits on the roadways and in many locations, they were hit by rockets and mortars. He said that the war has been very taxing on the families of the enlisted personnel, but the morale of the soldiers is good.

Guests were Jo Henderson, new Chamber of Commerce manager; Charlie McMonagle, son-in-law of Herschel Betts; and Janice Shobe from the Atwood Rotary Club.

## Building permits include over \$1 million in projects

Two major building projects during the past several months, the hospital addition (\$750,000) and the livestock building at the fairground (\$100,000), boosted the total of permits issued in Oberlin to over \$1 million.

Other building permits issued by the City of Oberlin went for a storage barn, storage buildings, carports, home additions and similar projects:

Stephen and Marilyn Horn, 1004 W. Frontier Parkway, storage barn. Kenny and Colleen Gee, 219 S. Buffalo, shed.

David and Stephanie Blau, 609 N. Marks, storage building.

Preston and Peggy Pratt, 806 E. Ash, carport.

Elizabeth Sliter, 304 N. Wolf, garage and living space.

Decatur County, 810 W. Columbia, specialty clinic for Decatur

County Hospital.

Decatur County, 800 W. Frontier Parkway, livestock building, concession stand at the fairground.

Jerry Schuetz, 508 N. East, storage building.

Karl and Donna Hazen, 612 W. Cedar, deck and ramp.

Preston and Peggy Pratt, 806 E. Ash, garage.

Darrell Landau, 207 N. Cass, carport.

Dale Young, 502 E. Frontier Parkway, five storage units.

Gary Shike, 707 E. Washington, storage building.

Robert and Marie Berls, 606 N. Marks, carport.

John and Dianne Bremer, 202 E. North, portable carport.

Decatur County, 110 E. North, carport.

Ruby and Glen Strong, 214 S. Griffith, bedroom for storage.

## Infantry band to play Sunday

Western Plains Arts Association will sponsor the 1st Infantry Division band from Fort Riley at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Hoxie High School auditorium.

The concert is free and open to the public. No special ticket is required.

The concert band, which is the premiere ensemble of the First Infantry Division Band, will present musical selections from all genres of music from classical to popular, featuring traditional concert repertoire and marches.

Featured soloists will include vocalists Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Rhoads and Staff Sgt. Renatta Draper, who will perform patriotic songs.

Originally constituted in 1943, the band returned to Fort Riley on Aug. 1, 2006, after spending 10 years in Germany as ambassadors for diplomatic foreign relations and serving troops overseas.

## Farm program cutoff Nov. 2

The cutoff date for Environmental Quality Incentives Program applications to be considered for fiscal year 2008 money from the U.S. Department of Agriculture is Friday, Nov. 2.

One of the largest areas in the 2002 Farm Bill, EQIP is a voluntary conservation program that promotes environmental quality and helps farmers meet local, state and federal regulations.

For details or to apply, stop by the Natural Resources Conservation Service office at the Agriculture

Service Center on south U.S. 83 in Oberlin.

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# THE OBERLIN HERALD — People in Our Community

Mary Lou Olson, society editor  
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Nikki Jo Groneweg of Denver was hooded and graduated from the Colorado School of Professional Psychology in Colorado Springs on Sunday. Attending were her parents, Robert and Judy Groneweg, Oberlin, and Mary Groneweg, Lakewood, Colo.; her brother, Jeff Groneweg, Hays; and her grandmother, Peggy Groneweg, Oberlin. Among others in attendance were Matt Johnson, Denver; Jim and Marilyn Johnson, DeKalb, Ill.; Spring Diederich, Oberlin; Bill and Donna Schneider, Windsor, Colo.; and Jim Schneider and Heather Dunkerton, Colorado Springs. This group and other family and friends had attended a celebration of her graduation in Arvada on Saturday evening.

Jack and Sybil O'Toole have moved to Hiawatha to make their home. Their address is #7 Aztec Court, Hiawatha, Kan., 66434, phone (785) 742-3537.

Marie McKisson spent the past week vacationing in Branson, Mo., with her sisters, Carol Jean Barkley, Dallas, Texas; Janie Law, Abilene; and Aletha Peterson, Bartlesville, Okla. The women all met at Bartlesville for the trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Grose of Longmont, Colo.; Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Nelson and Aleigh of Omaha, Neb.; and Cheryl Metcalf and Eileen Grose spent the weekend in Waverly, Mo., and attended the wedding of Heidi Van Vleet and Dan Sidwell. They were married at the Baptist Church in Waverly. The bride is the daughter of Merald and Pam Van Vleet of Waverly. Gary and Dee Grose are spending a few days with Eileen Grose, and Sid and Cheryl Metcalf.

Word was received by Estella Waldo of the death of Adell Harris, widow of Rodney Harris, on Oct. 4 in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Rodney was a 1949 graduate of Decatur Community High School and died in November 2000. They had three children, Bradley, and twins, Stewart and Michelle.

A bridal shower honored Sarah Ruf of Lawrence, daughter of Bob and Sherri Ruf, at the United Methodist Church on Sunday afternoon. There were 26 present, including her maid of honor, Jennifer Colderwood of Lawrence. Hostesses were Pat Dorshorst and Marlene Moxter. Sarah will be married on Saturday, Nov. 10, to Brett Smith of Eudora in Lawrence.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Troester of Englewood, Colo., are visiting friends and relatives in the McCook and Oberlin area. Norma Lewis of Hoxie joined them on Tuesday to visit the women's sister, Donna Goss, who is a patient at the Decatur County Hospital.

Among invited guests in Manhattan this weekend for the K-State-KU tailgate birthday party for Connie Grafel and Francis Moore were: Dan and Melinda Grafel, Kade and Isabel, Greg and Amanda Grafel, Kel and Reece, Gary and Janelle Walter, Judy Scott, Lolita Metcalf, Cricket Steinmetz and Kerry Loud-erback; Mike and Mirla Coleman, Bret Moore, Shannon Metcalf and Becky Emigh, all from the Oberlin area; Dr. Jo Beaty, Bozeman, Mont.; Carlene and Marshall Adams, Avon, Ill.; Connie Holt, Longmont, Colo.; Connie and Bo Moody, Flower Mound, Texas; Joyce and Glen Bruning, Papillion, Neb.; Marilyn Henke, Eric Moore, Matt Coleman, Thaniel and Jennifer Monaco, Madison and Lawson,

Marci Metcalf, Kym Metcalf, Jason and Jean Schamburg, Michael Frint, Aubrey Mann, Lacey Webb and Mallory Sullivan, all of Manhattan; Tracey Rome, Kevin Vavroch and Corinne Denton, all of Topeka; Chad and Noel Adleman, Sarah Walter and Reece, Corey and Lisa Mermis and Campbell, Olathe; Lisa Middleton, Overland Park; Abbey Bainter and Megan Barrett, Lawrence; Garry and Karol Seymour, Bird City; Bill Adams, Shad and Jody Metcalf, Colby; and Barb Boettcher, Beloit.

Kevin Brown, owner of Sappa Valley Construction, is recuperating from a broken left ankle, which he suffered in a fall off of a ladder while working at Pratt. He was in the hospital overnight, but has returned home.

Bernice Martin and Lee Martin were among relatives and friends who attended the reception in Lindsay on Saturday evening which honored their grandson and nephew, Kris Erickson, and his wife, the former Farah Wendelin, who were married on Oct. 1 in Las Vegas, Nev. It was held at the home of the bride's parents, Pat and Elvera Wendelin.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. today at the United Methodist Church in Oakley for Lawrence Stoecker, 88, who died Thursday at Memorial Hospital in Abilene. He was the father-in-law of Mrs. Gary (Mary) Stoecker, daughter of John and Pat Wright of Oberlin. Survivors include his wife, Betty; two sons; a daughter; two sisters; seven grandchildren; and four step-grandchildren. Burial will be at the Oakley Cemetery. Kennedy-Koster Funeral home of Oakley is in charge of arrangements.

Cindy Sauder has moved to Oberlin from Flower Mound, Texas, and is living with her mother, Doris Sloan.

Guests of Norma Brown over the weekend were her uncle and aunt, Jack and Mary Lou Duncan of Circle City, Ariz., and their son, Wayne and Karen Duncan of Richmond, Utah.

Bob Ruf is recuperating from a broken bone in his ankle which he suffered in a fall from his horse at Decatur Feed Yard on Thursday. He has a cast on the ankle, and was able to return to work on Monday, but is working in the office. Ryan Ruf, a student at Fort Hays State University, spent the weekend with his parents, Bob and Sherri Ruf.

Mr. and Mrs. Gus Wolters were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Peña, Ian and Ella of Wichita. Elsie attended the Authors' Conference and convention. There were exceptional speakers, including Robert Beattie, who wrote "Nightmare in Wichita: the Hunt for the BTK Strangler." The keynote speaker was Stan Nelson and the workshop topic was "Printing at the Smithsonian."

Winning highs in pinochle at Golden Age Center the past week were Kelva Dryden, Henry Edgett, Wilma May, Elden Haas, Floyd Edgett, Dorothy Moore, Dewaine Stapp and Max Carman. Lows went to Barb Solko, Max Carman, Ivis Hanson, Aleen Van Vleet, Floyd Edgett and Veanna Carman. Pitch highs were won by Aleen Van Vleet and Floyd Edgett with lows going to Barb Solko and Elden Haas. Bridge highs were won by Cynthia Matson, Carol Shirley, Shirley Simpson and Beth Sebaugh.

# Golden Plains School up in fall enrollment

By JANKATZACKERMAN  
jkackerman@gmail.com  
Golden Plains School District officials say enrollment for schools in Rexford and Selden is up just a little and they expect it to remain around 200 for the foreseeable future.

"Our head count is 190 students," Superintendent Mary Ellen Welshon said, "and with our 3- and 4-year-olds in preschool, we have 203 students."

Welshon started July 1, replacing Dr. Roger Baskerville, who had led the district for seven years. She said the district operates on a \$2 million-a-year budget.

Betty Barnett, board clerk and assistant to the superintendent, said the district serves kindergarten through fifth grade students, as well as the preschool in Selden. Students in sixth through 12th grade are at the high school in Rexford.

"Last year, the district had 192 students," Welshon said. "Next year will hold pretty steady because the preschool class and the senior class are about the same with 15 students."

The superintendent said that while enrollment is stable, when this year's junior class of 20 students graduates, the district will feel the loss.

"We'll have to develop some long-range planning for that," she said.

Kansas schools get tax money for each student. Last year, that figure was \$4,316 per student, not includ-

ing weighted averaging, a means used by schools to add to their budget costs such as low enrollment, transportation, bilingual needs and special education.

For the current school year, each district received \$4,374 per student, again, without figuring in weighted averaging.

State law allows schools to use whichever number is highest of a three-year average of enrollment, this year's enrollment or last year's enrollment to figure budgets. Barnett said Golden Plains is using last year's enrollment for this year's budget.

"That's up \$114,133 over last year's figure of \$1,885,660," she said, adding that while the district had an enrollment boom in 1999, after the opening of a large dairy near Bretton, that has leveled off.

In 1999, Tom and Judy McCarty relocated their dairy operation from Wyalusing, Pa. The dairy, near U.S. 83, has 16 employees and generates about 13,000 gallons — or two semitrailer trucks — of milk by milking 22 hours each day.

Barnett said the year the dairy opened, seven children of the primarily Hispanic employees joined Golden Plains' enrollment. That number grew to 28 by last year. She said that despite some of the students moving with their parents to Bird City where the McCarty's recently opened a second dairy, the district's count of Hispanic students remains at 20.

## Norton arts season begins

The Norton County Arts Council has assembled a wide array of performances for the 2007-2008 season to entertain young and old alike.

The Magic and Illusion of Eric Vaughn is scheduled for 3 p.m., Sunday, and the Blue and Gray Brass Brigade will perform at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 3, both in the East Campus Auditorium. Admission is \$8 for adults; \$4 for students; \$1 for 12 and under or reciprocity, \$4.

The annual Arts and Crafts Fair is scheduled to be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 10.

Dreamweavers will provide instruction and entertainment in the art of belly dancing at 3 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 13, at the East Campus Auditorium. Admission will be adults, \$4; students, \$2; 12 and under, \$1; reci-

procity, \$2.

A children's show featuring Egyptian animals will be held at 2 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 31.

February and March performances will be announced later.

The season will wind down with a dinner at the Norton American Legion followed by a dance featuring Jimmy Dee and the Fabulous Destinations. The dance is \$10 for non-members. Price of the dinner is yet to be determined.

Persons will save by purchasing a membership. A single membership is \$20; family membership, \$40; and a patron sponsorship, \$100. All performances are included in the membership fee.

For details, call Carol Erlenbusch, (785) 877-5611.

## Drawing workshop set

Anna Seeber Shaw will lead the fourth of 12 basic drawing workshops at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20, at the Oberlin Covenant Church, continuing with instruction on drawing in perspective begun in the third session.

The workshops are sponsored by

Oberlin Arts and Humanities Commission.

A one-time charge of \$20 will pay for the classes, but there may be some materials to purchase.

For details, call Mrs. Shaw at (785) 475-2707 or Mary Henzel at 470-0218.

## Church plans turkey dinner

The Oberlin Covenant Church plans to serve its traditional turkey dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 17, during the annual Fall Harvest Celebration at 710 W. Cedar.

Dinner will include roast turkey, homemade dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, salad, homemade rolls and dessert. The public is invited. An offering will be taken.

# New Arrival



Lola Hess

**Lola Cecil Hess**  
Steven and Christen Hess of Overland Park are the parents of a daughter, Lola Cecil, born Oct. 3, 2007, at Shawnee Mission Medical Center. She weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and has a sister Norah. Grandparents are Cecil Hess, Oberlin, and the late Dan Hess; David Mois, Detroit Lakes, Minn., and Carol Baron, Blaine, Minn. Great-grandparents are William and Nora Mois, Detroit Lakes, Minn., and James and Virginia Richter, Wadena, Minn.

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American Legion  
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Everyone Welcome