

# Lyle group holds event to support its building

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People living in the Lyle area north of Norcatu steadfastly hold on to what has become the center of their community — the Lyle Community Building.

Built in the 1950s by members and parents of the Star Valley 4-H Club, the building has seen hundreds of meetings, wedding receptions, anniversary open houses and family reunions.

The club provided the main financial support for the building over the years. That was augmented by a community policy of each family making an annual contribution of \$10 for the privilege of using the building whenever they needed.

However, the waning population of the area has meant a shortfall in the financial support of the building. The 4-H club, itself lacking in numbers, no longer meets in Lyle. The financial responsibility for the

building has fallen to the Liberty-Star Club.

With only seven members, Liberty-Star came up with an innovative way to pay for the operation. Beginning last year, a once-a-year potluck benefit supper and “home-grown” talent show is held in October.

Former residents of the community, along with the few remaining residents, gathered recently on a Saturday night to share food, friendship and fun.

Margaret Magers acted as master of ceremonies and introduced Brooke Sumner, who played two selections on her clarinet, and Carolyn Plotts, who gave her rendition of Fifty Famous Parental Sayings. Jim Plotts sang, “Ask the Blind Man — He Saw It All.” Mrs. Magers also gave a reading and songs were sung by three members of the Colby Sweet Adelines. Headlining the show were Dwight Wood and the Prairie Dogs from McCook.

## Singers entertain Rotarians

Musical entertainment by the DCHS Singers was enjoyed by members of the Oberlin Rotary Club when they met on Oct. 30 for a dinner meeting at The Gateway.

The group, under the direction of Susan Nelson, presented a variety of songs and dance steps from musicals, as well as a Halloween number. Accompanist was Mary Lohofen-

er. The students are working on the upcoming musical, “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown,” which will be presented at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 16 and 17, at the high school auditorium, she said.

Guests included the Rev. Ray Gilstrap, pastor of the Norcatu, Clayton and Almema United Methodist churches.

## WaKeeney plans services

The fourth annual Veterans’ Day service will begin at 11 a.m. Friday at the Kansas Veterans’ Cemetery, 403 S. 13th Street in WaKeeney.

Speaker will be Jerry Steinman, who served with the U.S. Navy from 1962 to 1969. Father Donald Pfannenstiel will serve as chaplain and the honor guard will be from the Stockton Veterans of Foreign Wars post.

Jay Connelly will play “Taps” and Olivia Fabrizius will sing “The Star-Spangled Banner.” The Rev. Randy

Gibbs will play the bagpipes. The Bazine American Legion Riders post and the Patriot Guard will be in charge of the flag procession and Avenue of Flags.

Following the service, there will be a ceremony for the disposal of unserviceable United States flags. Those with torn, tattered or faded flags are welcome to bring them to the cemetery to be respectfully disposed of. All are welcome to attend.

## Lung cancer focus of talk

Hays Medical Center will sponsor a program, “New Directions in the Treatment of Lung Cancer,” from 6 to 8 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 3, at the center’s Conference Room 2. Registration and the meal will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Speaker will be Dr. Karen Kelly of the University of Kansas Medical Center Kansas Masonic Cancer

Research Institute.

Topics to be covered include review of current treatments for lung cancer, including novel therapies.

Cost is \$20 and Hays Medical Center Associates fee is \$10. The registration fee includes dinner.

To register, call (800) 248-0073, extension 5500, or e-mail dmclar-en@haysmed.com.

## Vocal groups to sing for lunch

The vocal group Chanté and a barbershop quartet from Decatur Community High School will entertain at the Oberlin senior meal site next Tuesday, when all veterans are invited.

Cost for the meal is \$2.50 and reservations should be made by Friday by calling the center from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at (785) 475-3222, or with Helen Gee at (785) 475-2389.

## Pope honors Oberlin woman

Marty Munson received an award for her 33 years of service as Oberlin Sacred Heart Church Sacristan on Sunday. Her work has included caring for the altar, linens and other duties.

The award was mailed from Pope

Benedict XVI, and Mike Helm, president of the parish council, made the announcement. The award was presented to Mrs. Munson by Father Henry Saw Lone.

Mrs. Munson will be replaced in the position by Judy Ostmeyer.

## School district adopts policy on bullying here

The Oberlin School District has begun taking a stand against bullying in the schools, first with adopting a policy against the practice and scheduling training on the subject.

The Oberlin School Board approved a policy against bullying in schools at their September meeting. The policy, said Superintendent Pat Cullen, is required by a state law.

“It requires school district boards to adopt policies prohibiting bullying on school property, in school vehicles or at school sponsored activities,” he said. “The bill also requires each school district to adopt and implement a strategic plan to address bullying, which must include provision for training and education of staff and students.”

There are kids in the school system whose lives are disrupted every

day because people are picking on them, said Dr. Cullen. Those students often feel isolated.

The district wants to keep up the quality of our schools, he said, and part of that is keeping bullying out of the schools.

On Monday, Dec. 3, he said, the staff will have a full day of training on bullying by the Southwest Kansas Educational Service Center from Sublette. At the training, said Dr. Cullen, teachers and staff will learn how bullying impacts people, especially kids, and what they can do about it. He said they will also learn ways to identify bullying.

The following day, the students will get training about bullying and what it is and what to do if it is happening to them or someone they know.



Tara and Aaron B. Gillespie.

## Couple has wedding at St. Francis church

Tara M. Ward and Aaron B. Gillespie were married on Saturday, June 16, 2007, at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Norton. Father Vincent Thu Laing officiated.

Parents of the couple are Dave and Donna Ward, Erie, Colo., formerly of Norton, and Chris Gillespie and Tom Neff, Marion.

Honor attendants were Megan Walter and Jessica Fisher. Junior bride was Jaelyn Ward, sister of the bride. Attendants were Alice Donovan, Valerie Krier, Kathleen Smiley and Ali Hiner.

Best man was Elliott Gillespie, brother of the bridegroom. Groomsmen were Byron McFee, Derek Bruggeman, Devin Grooms, John Tietjens and J.B. Harding.

Ushers were Andrew Ward, cousin of the bride; Andrew Walter; and

Brandon Wagoner, cousin of the bridegroom.

Candlelighters were Maggie and Alison Foley, cousins of the bride. The flower girl was McKenzie Smiley. Bowen Black, cousin of the bridegroom, was ringbearer.

The bride is a graduate of Norton Community High School and will graduate from Fort Hays State University in December with a bachelor’s degree in nursing. She works at Heartland Dermatology and Skin Cancer Center in Hays.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Decatur Community High School and of Fort Hays State University, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in technology leadership. He is employed at Nex-Tech Wireless in Hays.

Following a wedding trip to Colorado, they are living in Hays.

## Pianist to give Colby concert

Pianist Stephanie Pieck will play at 3 p.m. on Sunday at the Cultural Arts Center at Colby Community College, sponsored by Western Plains Arts Association.

A blind performer, composer and instructor from New York, she has composed many works for use in

teaching piano and Braille music, and has produced several projects which explore the healing power of music.

Admission is by season tickets or \$6 for adults and \$3 for students and children at the door.

## Holiday celebration planned

Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Colby will hold its Third Annual Holiday Celebration Concert at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 18, in the Colby High School Auditorium.

Two headliner groups, the Lang Brothers and Son and the Wagoner Family, will return for their third appearance. Opening this year’s concert will be a group of ladies who call themselves “Young At Heart.”

Margie and Jerry Schoenfeld will perform several of their Christmas favorites. Shawna Kersenbrock and daughter MaKayla will sing and Andrea Zerr will join them on “What Child Is This?”

Discount tickets are available at True Value Hardware, Donelan’s Jewelry, LeRoy’s Printing and the Farmers and Merchants Branch Bank at Dillon’s in Colby.

## Blood drive today at school

A Red Cross Blood Drive, sponsored by Decatur Community High School, will be today from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the junior high gym.

Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments will be given priority. For an appointment, call the American Red Cross at (800) 448-3543.

## Artist will teach drawing

Anna Seeber Shaw will teach the fifth in a series of 12 drawing workshops at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Oberlin Covenant Church.

This workshop will be the first

of two featuring portrait drawing. There is a \$20 one-time fee for the series. For details call Mrs. Shaw at (785) 475-2707, or Mary Henzel, 470-0218.

# County considers two for board jobs

Decatur County commissioners talked about two county employees who might be interested in taking over as county representatives on the High Plains Mental Health Board at their meeting last Tuesday.

Currently, Dorothy Vacura and Vi Krizek, both from Jennings, serve on the board, but both have said they want to retire.

Commissioner Stan McEvoy said he talked with Sheriff’s Deputy Jay Tate, who said he was interested in the position. Deputy Tate said he used to work for the agency and knows about its mission. Mr. McEvoy said he also talked with Ambulance Director Linda Manning, who said she would talk with Mrs. Vacura about what the board members do.

Both Deputy Tate and Ms. Manning would do a good job, said Commissioner Ralph Unger. He didn’t think it would be a problem with them being county employees.

County Attorney Steve Hirsch asked if the board membership

would be part of their paid hours for the county. Mr. Unger said he didn’t think so, noting that the work on the board is volunteer time.

That could be a problem, said Mr. Hirsch, because essentially they are volunteering for their employer. Everything needs to be made clear up front that serving on the board isn’t part of their employment, he said.

Mr. Unger said the commissioners could talk with them and any other employees who serve on boards for the county. He asked Mr. Hirsch to write something up that they could hand out.

At the request of Mr. McEvoy, the commissioners held a 30-minute closed session for personnel, bringing in County Clerk Marilyn Horn; Nora Urban, who works in the clerk’s office; Peggy Gassman, who works in the appraisers office Colleen Geishler, deputy clerk; and Appraiser Alan Hale. There was only time to call in Mr. Hale and Ms. Geishler to the closed session, and no decision was made afterward.

## Angel Tree will help brighten Christmas

The annual Oberlin Jaycees Angel Tree project is accepting Angel Tree recipient forms.

The project is designed for any child (birth to 17 years of age) who is in need of a few “extras” such as shirts, jeans, shoes, coats, gloves and miscellaneous items to make his/her Christmas a little brighter.

Those who wish to sign up may pick up an Angel Tree recipient form at Fredrickson Insurance Agency or at various Oberlin business bulletin boards and return them to the drop box at Fredrickson Insurance or to the coordinator, Abby Hissong, 202

S. Elk, in Oberlin.

The Angel Tree (with the children’s names who are in need) will be located in Fredrickson Insurance Agency at 183 S. Penn in Oberlin. Recipient forms are requested back by Wednesday, Nov. 21, with the final deadline to be Friday, Nov. 30.

Those shopping for Angel Tree children will be asked to bring the items back, wrapped, by Friday, Dec. 14, with parents/guardians of Angel Tree recipients being asked to pick up their child’s presents on Monday, Dec. 17, or Tuesday, Dec. 18.

## Dresser to show styles for fall clothing lines

The weather is changing as winter approaches, and so are the fashions at the Dresser in downtown Oberlin.

The store plans to put on a fall fashion show at 7 p.m. Friday to let everyone in the area to see the fashions for the new season. The show, “Thru the Ages,” will use local models to display the clothing.

Everyone is invited to the event

at the former Flowers by Lee building south of the Dresser on Main Street. No tickets will be sold, but the women at the Dresser are asking for a donation from those attending. The money will go to the Decatur County Relay for Life, a cancer fund raiser which takes place each June.

The cooperative store plans to serve wine, cheese and sweets at the show.

## Fifth graders win contest to create new holiday theme

With the votes in and counted, the theme for Oberlin’s annual Parade of Lights the Friday after Thanksgiving “When Christmas Lights Shimmer, Christmas Spirits Glimmer.”

Merchants picked the theme, written by Jeri Buchholz’ fifth-grade class at Oberlin Elementary School, from several submitted by students.

The calls will receive a surprise from the members of the Oberlin Business Alliance, which sponsors the parade.

Anyone who wants to sign up an entry in the parade should call Gary Walter at the Bank or the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce at 475-3441

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*Couple to celebrate 50th Wedding Anniversary*  
Marion Otter and Marilyn Hickert were united in marriage on November 28, 1957, at the St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in New Almelo, KS

The children of Marion and Marilyn (Hickert) Otter, invite you to share in the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, Nov. 17. The celebration will begin at 2 p.m. at the New Almelo gymnasium with a reception and dance at 8 p.m.

*Please come and share in their celebration*

*Open House for Edna Mott*  
Come help her celebrate her 90th birthday at the Golden Age Center from 2-4 p.m.  
Sunday, Nov. 11, 2007. (no gifts please)

**Pancake & Sausage Feed**

**Sunday, Nov. 11 5:30 p.m.**

**Oberlin American Legion**  
114 South Rodehaver