

Obituaries

Marguerite M. Clark
Marguerite M. Clark, 94, a 1932 graduate of Norcat Rural High School, died May 4, 2009, at the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center in Oberlin.

She was born Aug. 3, 1914, in Plattsburg, Mo., the daughter of Orville and Leona (McCoy) Wade. At a young age, she moved with her family to the McCoy homestead in the Long Branch District near Norcat, where she attended school. She taught in the rural school system several years.

She married Walter Vey Clark on Aug. 5, 1934, and they made their home in Norcat and Norton for six years. In 1940, they moved to Denver, then moved to Pasadena, Calif., two years later. She worked for 35 years managing the Greyhound bus depot in Hollywood, Calif., and the Burbank Travel Bureau.

After retiring, the couple moved to Yucaipa, Calif., and enjoyed traveling around the United States. They returned to Norcat in 1993 and her husband preceded her in death on July 19, 1998.

Survivors include two sisters-in-law, Barbara Clark, Clay Center; and Kathleen Scott, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

She was also preceded in death by her parents and brother, Kenneth Wade.

Graveside services were held Thursday afternoon at the Norcat Cemetery with Brother John Paulson officiating.

Memorials were established to the Norcat Cemetery and Norcat News Sheet. Contributions may be sent to Pauls Funeral Home, 121 N. Penn, Oberlin, Kan., 67749.

Michael E. Mrstik
Michael Edward Mrstik, Sr., 54, a nephew of Eugene and Dona Mrstik of Jennings, died March 4, 2009, at St. Joseph Hospital in Milwaukee, Wis.

He was born Jan. 29, 1955, in Milwaukee, the son of William and Janet Mrstik and was a lifelong resident.

He married Laurie Ann Benke on Jan. 11, 1974, at St Lawrence Catholic Church. He worked at a factory which made gas meters until declining health forced him into disability retirement.

Survivors include his wife, Laurie; his children, Michael, Jr., Christopher and Shelly Mrstik,

and Michelle and Chris Norman; a grandson; his mother, Janet Babcock; and a brother, David and Jodi Mrstik.

He was preceded in death by his father, Bill Mrstik; his grandparents, Ed and Clara Mrstik; a half-sister, Sue Ann Mrstik; a half-brother, Danny Babcock; his step-father, Arnie Babcock, and a cousin, Gary Mrstik.
Private family services were held in Milwaukee.

Arlee S. Williams
Arlee Mae Stegeman Williams, 88, a native of Dresden, died May 2, 2009, at the Arvada Health Care in Arvada, Colo.

She was born east of Dresden on Sept. 1, 1920, the daughter of Rolley Lee and Iva Fern (Bishop) Smith. She was baptized as an infant at the Methodist Church in Dresden, and at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church at Leoville in 1939. She attended Fairview Country School and Dresden School.

She married Michael John Stegeman on June 6, 1939, at Leoville and they had seven children. They lived on a farm near Leoville before moving to Denver on Feb. 5, 1958.

She married Roger Edward Williams on June 6, 1975, in Golden, Colo. and they moved to Colorado Springs. She was a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary at Colorado Springs; Elks Lodge and Holy Trinity Catholic Church at Westminster; also three bird clubs and two International Polka Clubs. She moved to Denver in July 1998.

Survivors include six children, Judith and John Franklin III, Arvada, Colo.; Janice Barker, Westminster; Patricia and Roger Hall, and John and Connie Stegeman, Denver; James Stegeman, Las Vegas, Nev.; and Jerald Stegeman, Carson City, Nev.; 14 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandsons.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two husbands; a daughter, Johnita Francomano; three brothers, Lawrence, Rhomine, and Jim; and a sister, Rhea Flaska, and their spouses.

Funeral services were held Friday at Assumption Catholic Church in Welby, Colo.; with burial at Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Colorado Springs. Olinger Highland Mortuary, 10201 N. Grant St., Thornton,

Colo., 80229, was in charge of arrangements.

Maurine Bogart Skoda
Maurine Bogart Skoda, 90, a native of Decatur County, died May 5, 2009, at the home of her daughter in Denison, Texas.



M. Skoda

She was born Jan. 21, 1919, in Decatur County, the daughter of Elmer C. and Esther (Simonsen) Bogart. She grew up on the family farm. She graduated in 1937 from Decatur Community High School and completed teacher training. She began teaching in Decatur County rural schools, Morning Star and Vallonia before teaching in the Oberlin Elementary School.

She married Paul Skoda on June 21, 1947, and they lived in McCook, where she taught in the elementary school system. They moved to Loveland, Colo., and then Denison, Texas, where they were business owners before retiring and moving back to Oberlin in 1983. She was a member of the United Church of Oberlin and church women's organizations. She was also a member of the Decatur County Hospital Guild.

She is survived by her daughter, Diane Geer, Denison, Texas; a son, Larry and Paula Skoda, Rosenberg, Texas; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and a brother-in-law, Sidney Simonsen, Hinsdale, Mont.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; two sisters, Margie Simonsen and Aleen Bogart, and brother, Elwood Elmer Bogart.

Visitation will be from 1:30 to 2 p.m. at the United Church of Oberlin, Saturday, May 16, with services at 2 p.m. Pastor Judith Stricker will conduct the service followed by burial in Oberlin Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to the Desert View Indian Mission. Attention: Ms. Wilma Mockry, Box 814, Farmington, N.M., 87499, or the United Church of Oberlin, 109 N. Griffith St., Oberlin, Kan., 67749.

Send condolences to www.johnsonmoorefuneralhome.net.

From the Record

Courthouse

These transactions were taken from the records in the offices of the Decatur County court clerk, sheriff and register of deeds:

DISTRICT COURT

Marriage Licenses

April 9: Nicholas Jon Wahlmeier, Clayton, and Kerrie Beth Olson, Ellis.

Limited Actions

Hansen Plumbing, Inc. vs. Mar-

vin and Millie Matchett, \$791, plus costs and interests.

Edgerton Auto Repair vs. Leslie Nolette, \$182, plus costs and interests.

Gary Fredrickson, DMD vs. Becky and Roger Dinning, \$116, plus costs and interests.

Gary Fredrickson, DMD vs. Stephanie and Kurt Stones, \$130, plus costs and interests.

JAIL BOOKINGS

The following were booked into

the Decatur County Jail:

May 9: Teetai Fanene, 23, North Carolina, Missouri warrant, Oberlin Police Department.

REGISTER OF DEEDS

Mildred E. Holmdahl quitclaims to the Mildred E. Holmdahl Revocable Living Trust, all of Lot 1 and all of Lot 4 except a strip of ground 8' 4" wide off the entire south side of said Lot 4, all in Block 19, Rodehavers' Addition to the town, now City of Oberlin.

Town Crier

Today: "Road Less Traveled" show about Oberlin, 6:15 p.m. and 10:15 p.m., NTV Television, cable channel 6.

High school awards assembly, 2 p.m., auditorium.

Girls physicals, 6 p.m., Oberlin Clinic.

Co-ed softball meeting, 6:30 p.m., senior high gym. Send representative from each team and bring baseball and softball forms for kids leagues.

Baccalaureate, 7:30 p.m., auditorium.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., ambulance barn.

Thursday: Hospital Walk, 4-7 p.m., Sappa Park.

Northwest Kansas track meet, 10 a.m., at Colby.

Friday: Northwest Kansas golf meet, 3 p.m. here.

Northwest Kansas track meet, 3 p.m., at Atwood.

Sunday: High school graduation commencement, 2 p.m., gymnasium.

Teens for Christ, 6 to 8 p.m.

Monday: Siren test, 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Junior high awards and band concert, 6:30 p.m., auditorium.

High school regional golf.

Tuesday: Jody Tubbs, veterans representative, 9:30 a.m., courthouse.

Colby Community College enrollment, 7 to 8:30 p.m., high school.

Next Wednesday: Boys physicals, 6 p.m., Oberlin Clinic.

Thursday, May 21: Staff dinner at Sappa Park.

Col. Delbert Townsend dinner, 6:30 p.m. Gateway.

Friday, May 22: Last day of

school, dismiss at 11:30 a.m.

High school Regional track, 3 p.m., at Meade.

Tuesday: A representative of the Northwest Local Environmental Protection Group will be at the county Health Department once a month for free well evaluations, including testing water for bacteria and nitrates. For details, call 475-8118.

The Decatur County Food Pantry is open from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday at the United Church, 109 N. Griffith. Gifts of cash, nonperishable food and household items are always needed.

Monday-Friday: At 1 p.m. at the Golden Age Center, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, pinocle; Tuesday, pitch; third Thursday of the month, senior bridge, open. Quilting, puzzles, games daily.

SENIOR MENU

Senior lunch at the Golden Age Center, 217 N. Penn, weekdays at 11:30 a.m.

Today: chili dog, tater tots or wedges, green beans, bun, cinnamon apple slices.

Thursday: oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, bread, mixed fruit.

Friday: tuna salad, vegetable soup, strawberries and bananas, bread, brownies.

Monday: hamburger steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas, bread, applesauce.

Tuesday: chicken vegetable casserole, broccoli salad, mandarin oranges, biscuit, cook's choice complement.

Wednesday: lasagna, tossed salad, cook's choice vegetable,

garlic bread, pineapple.

Markets

May 11 closing markets
Wheat, \$5.64 bushel
Corn, \$3.80 bushel
Milo, \$5.92 hundredweight
Soybeans, \$10.28 bushel
Sunflowers, \$13.90 hundred-weight

Corrections

The Oberlin Herald will correct or clarify any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at 475-2206 to report errors. We believe that news stories should be fair and factual, and appreciate your calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

Cleaning the Garage?

Make some extra cash selling those unwanted items in a classified ad.

Call Pat today!
475-2206

Northwest travel council promotes growing tourism

"The Northwest Kansas Travel Council has been promoting tourism in the 18-county region for nearly two decades but the monthly meeting held recently in Morland drew one of the largest crowds in years," said Connie Grafel, chairman of the group.

Fourteen of the 18 counties in the region had at least one representative at the meeting.

"Why is the interest in tourism in northwest Kansas gaining momentum? One reason, of course, is the continued promotion of rural Kansas communities by Marci Penner, director of the Kansas Sampler Foundation in Inman.

"The recent biennial WeKan Conference in Salina drew 170 participants, including many from the travel council, who could relate to the "Relentless for Rural" theme of the day-long presentations. The audience heard from the experts on what sells tourists on destinations to rural communities and what visitors are wanting to experience as they drive to small towns taking in at-

tractions, history, culture, cuisine, geography and more.

"Part of the renewed interest comes from the current 8 Wonders of Kansas statewide competition that results in communities promoting all that is good about their people, their architecture, their culture, and their recreational opportunities. Nominations for the 8 Wonders of Kansas Cuisine ended with nearly 10 nominees from the 18-county travel council region alone, including reputable restaurants from Hays, Goodland, Russell, Oberlin and Bunker Hill."

For the past decade the travel group has worked to enhance an area directory that began with a mere 12 pages and since has blossomed into a four-color 36-page picture packed *Ultimate Guide*.

While member brochures are also distributed at each opportunity such as the Sampler Festival, the big push to promote as a region comes in the winter when travel council members hit the road with brochures from member communities and

boxes of *Ultimate Guides* for travel and sports trade shows in Denver, Kansas City, Wichita and most recently Long Beach, Calif.

"The *Ultimate Guide* is our most popular piece handed out at the Denver International Sportsmen Show," Ms. Grafel said.

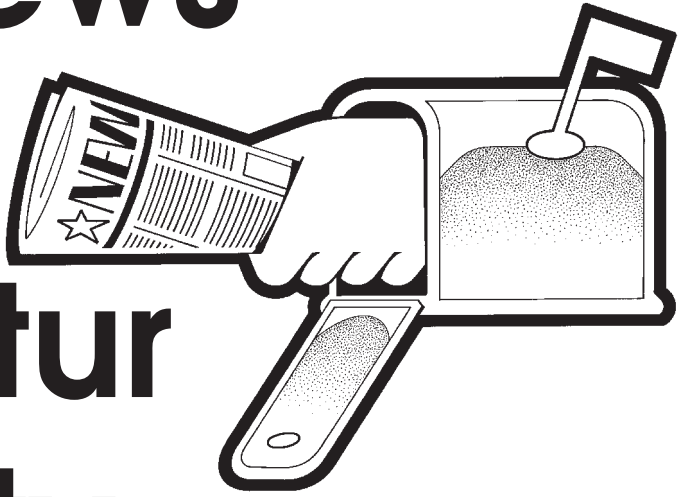
Discussion at the Morland meeting also centered on a new promotional effort being coordinated with Martha Slater, First Generation Video of Hutchinson to capture the intrigue of outsiders with an interest in wild west history.

What travel council members have learned from one-on-one discussion with travelers is that when visitors come to Northwest Kansas they want to make the drive worthwhile.

"That effort to sell each and every community makes the travel council membership worth the money," said Ms. Grafel.

Find more information on the year-round work by going to the web site at www.northwestkansas.org.

Get all the news from Decatur County



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WEATHER

Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 71. Breezy, with a north wind around 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. **Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 43. Breezy, with a north wind between 15 and 20 mph becoming calm. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.
Thursday: Sunny and breezy, with a high near 74. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 51.
Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. partly cloudy, with a high near 80. **Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 52.
Saturday: partly cloudy, with a high nears 75. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 46.
Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 73. **Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 47.
Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 78.
From The National Weather Service.

National Weather Service

(Information below for period ending 8 a.m.; maximum temperature for previous day.)

	Hi	Low	Precip.
May 4	53	38	0
May 5	66	44	T
May 6	73	46	0
May 7	80	50	.25
May 8	83	52	.40
May 9	69	46	0
May 10	67	47	.09

Precipitation totals for the week, 0.74; for the month, 1.09; for the year 5.07; one year ago, May 2008, 4.17
For 24-hour weather radio broadcast, tune scanner to 162.4 mhz.
By Melvin Martin - NOAA Cooperative Weather Observer.