

THE OBERLIN HERALD —
People in
Our Community
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Steve Witt is among 30 retirees and staff members who will be honored by the Salina School District during a reception on Sunday in the commons area at Lakewood Middle School, 113 Lakewood Circle, in Salina. He has completed 30 years with the Central Kansas Cooperative in Education as a school psychologist. A 1973 graduate of Decatur Community High School, he is the son of Eileen Witt Kastens of Hays and the late Waldeane Witt.

Othelia Vacura was honored to be unanimously elected as the Kansas state secretary for the Western Fraternal Life Association at the 2012 Kansas Convention hosted by Morovan Lodge at Rossville on Saturday, April 14. She currently holds the office of secretary for the local lodge, Cesti Vlastenci of Jennings. Mrs. Vacura was previously honored at the August 2011 Western Fraternal Life Association National Convention at Frankenmuth, Mich., with selection to fill one of five national seats on the association's Credentialing Committee. These members were personally selected by National President Jim Wolfe of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and each was charged with the responsibility of verifying the identification of all 450 national delegates from across the United States.

Joan Larue accompanied Bruce and Marianne Larue to El Dorado, where they visited Jacob and Annamarie Larue, students at Butler Community College. They attended the spring vocal concert on Saturday evening during which Jacob sang with the Headliners. Annamarie is taking courses in elementary education at Butler, as well as Emporia State University and Jacob is majoring in agriculture. Also attending the concert was Carissa Wentz, a student at Wichita State University, and daughter of Dwight and Mary Wentz of Norcatour.

Denise Abbey returned home after spending two weeks in Southern California, helping her daughter and son-in-law, Kenzie and Garrick Reichert, and their children Grace and Porter, move from Salina to their new home in Temecula, Calif. The family relocated to California for Garrick's new job as a Brewery Process Engineer at Stone Brewery in Escondido.

The Haughty Hatters Red Hat Club of Oberlin went to Omaha on Saturday on a bus tour, sponsored by 55 Plus of Community Hospital in McCook. They visited the Strategic Air Command Museum, near Ashland, Neb.; enjoyed a guided tour of the Holy Family Shrine in Gretna, Neb. and attended the "Fiddler on the Roof" musical at the Orpheum Theater. Those making the trip were Carol Morford, Willa Urban, Karen Bruning and Charlotte Meints.

- Mexican Buffet Friday, May 4, 6-8 p.m. LandMark Inn 475-2340.

Larry Screen, Salina; Vivian Russ, WaKeeney, and Phyllis Screen attended funeral services for Sharon Wagner in McCook on Friday. Phyllis and Sharon were sisters-in-law.

Brad and Elaine Marcuson and Pastor Roy Matthewson attended the Midwest Covenant Conference in Fort Collins, Colo., over the weekend and also visited Mrs. Marcuson's sister and brother-in-law, Kathy and Gary Turner.

Winning highs in pinochle at the Golden Age Center last week were Doris Fringer, John Cederberg, Ivis Hanson, Dewaine Stapp and Marie McKisson. Lows went to

Neil Marshall, Ardythe Cederberg, Doris Fringer, Dewaine Stapp, Kelva Dryden and John Cederberg. Rosella Meitl and Gladys Geis won at Mexican Train Dominoes. There was no pitch. Bridge highs were won by Cynthia Matson, Dorothy Cochran and Annette Miller.

Gemma Grace Louderback, seven-month-old daughter of Kerry and Spring Louderback, was baptized during morning worship services on Sunday at the Oberlin United Methodist Church. Pastor Linda Willey officiated. A dinner honored her at the home of her parents following the service. Those present were Dean and Ardith Louderback, Steve and Marilyn Diederich, Gary and Marcia Richards, Holly Gallentine, Gage Soderlund, Aspen Gallentine, Colt Diederich and Kim Williams, Norma Richards and Deanna Hanschild, and Alex and Dawn Louderback, Brennan, Asia and Amaya, Oberlin; Denny and Rose Desmond, Sam and Tiffani O'Toole, Peyton and Parker, McCook; Ryan and Arlie Diederich and Gus, Manhattan; and Brandi Diederich, Omaha.

Laurene Van Otterloo accompanied Carolyn Miller to Colby on Sunday, where they had lunch with their niece and cousin, Kathy Haug of Salida, Colo.

Betty and Dwayne Jones returned home Saturday from Green Valley, Ariz., where they had spent the winter months.

Those from Oberlin who attended the Rotary District conference held at the Huck Boyd Center in Phillipsburg on Friday and Saturday were Herschel and Joan Betts, Charlie Haag and Dr. Gary Fredrickson who played a piano selection for the Rotary talent show Friday evening. Representing the Rotary International president at the conference was Robb Knuepfer of Chicago, who recently returned from a remote area near the India/Pakistan border where he assisted in giving the Salk polio vaccine to children of a Muslim nomadic tribe as part of the continuing Rotary project to rid the world of polio.

The University of Kansas Political Science Department honored its top students at its Recognition Ceremony, with awards and induction into Pi Sigma Alpha on April 19 at the Adams Alumni Center. Honorees included Jake Robinson, of Oberlin. He is a senior in political science and global and international studies. He is a 2003 graduate of Decatur Community High School and is a grandson of Jerry and Marcia Lohoefer of Oberlin.

Bernice Martin and Lee Martin visited over the weekend with relatives in Lindsborg and made the acquaintance of their new great-granddaughter and granddaughter,

Anna Kristina Erickson, who was born on April 9, 2012, to Kris and Farah (Wendelin) Erickson of Lindsborg. She has a brother, Christian, 3. They were all Sunday dinner guests of Wyatt and Lindsey Wendelin. Additional guests were Roxie Erickson, Drew Martin, and Ken Erickson, Gavin and Corbin, Manhattan.

Funeral services were held on Monday, April 23, at the Congregational Church in Almena for Connie Marie Horn, 58, who died April 18 at her home in Almena. She was a daughter of Mary (Schmoker) Steele of Atwood, a 1949 graduate of Decatur Community High School, and the late William Steele. Inurnment was in the Mount Hope Cemetery at Almena.

Author has new book

Mary Lou Plotts of rural Oberlin has completed another book, "A Dream That Came True." It's a true story about a woman who dreamed of having a puppy.



M. Plotts

Finally, when her dream came true, she found out she did not realize all the care that a puppy needs. And just when she thought she had everything under control, another little addition joined her family.

"As those who read this book to your children and grandchildren, and even the whole family," the author says, "you will go through the ups and downs of raising not one but two totally different puppies and see the rewards of unconditional love.

"When you read this book, you will see that if you love a puppy with all your heart, he or she will give

love back several fold, and if you have a dream, then you are the one who can help make it come true."

The author, the former Mary Lou Hagerman, was born a coal miner's daughter to Joe Crocket and Leatrice Joye Hagerman in Welch, W. Va. She met her husband Gene through Christian singles and moved to Kansas. She said that she likes to read and write poetry, short stories, fiction and nonfiction books. She has three children, seven step-children and a great-grandson. She lives with her husband nine miles northeast of Oberlin.

The book is available at Coffee, Tea and Me in Oberlin for \$5. Her other book, "A Heavenly Name," is also available at the store at \$20 for paperback and \$30 for hardback.

Shower honors bride-to-be

A bridal shower honored Molly Coleman on Saturday afternoon at the Golden Age Center in Oberlin. Hosts were Allie (Moore) Lohrmeyer, Kelly Moore, Sondra Fowler and Krista Fowler.

Miss Coleman plans to be married to Brent Olson in July.

Those present also included Glena Copeland, Eunice Martin, Fern Moore, Mirla Coleman, Pat Brown, Lila Thorson, Dianne and Jessica

Bremer, Whitney Schoenemann, Deb Korte, Sharon Feikert, Darlene Feikert, Ilene O'Leary, Lauren Bird, Sarah Giada, Giuliana Smith, Cynthia Matson, Lenora Soderlund, Jessica Fisher, Teresa Shaughnessy, Ruth Wolfram, Kelsey and Macie Peters, Justine and Jade Tuttle, Candy Rauhut, Connie Robison, Sharon Olson, Kerrie Wahlmeier, Judy Marietta, Loni and Alaxis Jensen and Linda Glaze.

Area barn tour set for Sunday

The Oberlin Arts and Humanities Commission has re-scheduled a tour of area barns for 2 p.m. Sunday. The tour group will leave The Gateway at 2 p.m.

Tour members will gather at The Gateway, where they will be encouraged to form car pools. Refreshments will be served during the tour at the farm of Steve and Arian Arnold. Other barns on the tour

will include those of Mick Barth, Richard Anderson, Millard Kyte (the Mines barn), Martin May, Art May and the Helmkamp barn.

This is an Arts and Humanities season ticket event or \$12 for adults, \$7 for students and \$25 for families.

For information, call Ella Betts at (785) 475-3557 or Mary Henzel at (785) 470-0218.

Student named to honorary

Brandi Diederich, daughter of Steve and Marilyn Diederich of Oberlin, has been selected for membership in Delta Epsilon Iota Academic Honor Society at the University of Nebraska, Omaha.



B. Diederich

Miss Diederich is a 2010 graduate of Decatur Community High School.

The group says it rewards outstanding students through scholarships, provides leadership opportunities to its members and promotes

the principles of dedication, enthusiasm and initiative among students throughout the United States.

Students must have completed a minimum of 30 semester hours at an accredited college or university while maintaining a 3.30 (B+) or better grade average.

She is a business administration major with an emphasis on pre-med. Miss Diederich plans to become a dermatologist.

Club donates to directory

Rotary President Charles Haag presented Sexton Jeremy Tally and City Administrator Karen Larson with a check for \$2,550 to be used for the cemetery directory project at the April 24 meeting of the Oberlin Rotary Club at The Gateway. A matching grant was received from the Rotary District to help with this project.

Program Chair Vickie Bailey was absent, so Rotarian Ralph Unger introduced Decatur County Appraiser Alan Hale. He said that he

is the assessor for Decatur, Norton and Phillips counties, and started in Norton County. He is licensed to appraise any type of property in the state for values and tax purposes. He noted that taxes from property help pay for county services.

He said he also identifies all farm properties in Decatur County for tax purposes and pointed out that not all counties have the same taxable values. All property appraisals other than farm are based on actual values.

Senior to graduate May 20

McKenzie Hartzog, daughter of Cliff and Annette Hartzog of Wichita, will graduate on Sunday, May 20, from Maize High School.



M. Hartzog

She lettered in three sports all four years, playing and starting on varsity in volleyball, basketball and soccer. She received recognition as Most Valuable Player and was selected for the all-state teams.

McKenzie is a member of the National Honor

Society and has a grade average of 3.90. She received a scholarship to play volleyball at Cowley County Community College in Arkansas City.

Her father is a 1982 graduate of Decatur Community High School. She is granddaughter of Bob and Joyce Hartzog, and a granddaughter of Esther Carlson, all of Oberlin. She has a sister, Alexis.

Club News

Auxiliary honors members

Oberlin American Legion Auxiliary members age 80 and older were honored during a meeting on Saturday at the Legion Hall.

They included Doris Fringer, Lois Lamb, Nadean Stoney, Cecil Hess, Dorothy Woods, Laurene Van Otterloo and Millie Lipplmann.

Mrs. Lamb has been a member over 57 years. Her memberships were in Norton and Oberlin, with a short time in Arizona.

Francy Miller was a guest, with 10 members attending. A potluck lunch was served at noon, followed by a social afternoon.

Club enjoys socializing

Pi Alpha Club concluded the club year when 12 members met and enjoyed the hospitality of Mert McEvoy at her home on April 23.

She served a light lunch, assisted by Joan and Kristy Evans, after which members spent the

evening socializing and reminiscing around the kitchen table.

They welcomed a special guest and former member, Margaret Steadman, who recently moved from Denver to Oberlin to be near her family.

Festival coming to Liberal

The 23rd annual Kansas Sampler Festival will be held this weekend in Liberal's Light Park.

Oberlin and Decatur County will be represented by Chamber of Commerce manager Carolyn Hackney.

At least 130 Kansas towns will have someone at the festival, which is geared to promote Kansas culture, people and products. Visitors can buy books, honey, fishing lures, buffalo burgers, bierocks, old time

ice cream and more.

Parking is available at Seward County Community College, 1801 N. Kansas. A shuttle will provide transportation to the park.

Festival hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 7 to 12. For information, go to www.kansas-samplerfestival.com or call (620) 626-0170.

Prison honors Oberlin woman

Carolyn Caudry, Oberlin, a mental health professional at the Norton Correctional Facility, has been recognized as the state prison's Employee of the Quarter.

Heather VanPatten, head of the Mental Health Department, said Ms. Caudry is an "exceptional and effective clinician" who is always

willing to accept additional assignments and remain flexible. She is in charge of more counseling groups than are required by contract and juggles her schedule to meet the needs of the clients, she said. Inmates consistently provide positive feedback for her wisdom and her caring attitude.

Group plans sale for fund

The Oberlin Chapter of the National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees met Sunday, April 22, at the Chamber of Commerce building in Norton. Twelve members and guests were present.

Vice President Keith Van Skike conducted the business meeting. Plans for the second annual garage sale were discussed. It will be Friday to Sunday, May 11 to 13, in Oberlin. For details about donating items or

money, call David Swank at (785) 475-2550. Proceeds will go to the group's Alzheimer's Fund.

Scott Sproul, director of Norton County Development, provided an interesting program. He told about activities being planned and happenings in Norton County.

The next meeting will be in Atwood or Oberlin in June. Members include active and retired federal employees of Norton, Decatur and Rawlins counties.

Blood drive set for next week

An Oberlin Community Blood Drive will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday at The Gateway.

To make an appointment, go to

redcrossblood.org or call 1-(800)-RED CROSS or (800) 733-2767. Walk-ins are welcome.

New Arrival

Anna Kristina Erickson

Kris and Farah Erickson of Lindsborg are the parents of a daughter, Anna Kristina Erickson, who was born April 9, 2012. She weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and was 20 inches long. She has a brother, Christian, 3. Grandparents are Roxie Erickson, Manhattan; Delbert Erickson, Atwood; and Pat and Elvera Wendelin, Lindsborg. Bernice Martin, Oberlin, is her great-grandmother.



Anna

The family of **Goldie Krizek Moore** is requesting a 90th birthday card shower on May 12. Mail to Larry and Kathy Schuetz 3404 Lila Court Berthoud Colorado, 80513.



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