



Albert Bergling



Quentin Bergling



Dave Bergling

# \*Vets honored

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hospital, he fought another blizzard all the way back to Colby . . .”  
He graduated from Atwood High School in 1966. He said that after he received his draft notice, he went to Denver to take a physical.  
“When I got home,” he recalled, “I sat down with Dad and said, ‘What am I going to do?’”  
“Dad answered, ‘Well, if you wait for the draft, you will probably end up in the infantry.’”  
“I realized that was not what I wanted, so since my scores were good enough and I had passed my physical, I decided to enlist in helicopter training.”  
“I was sent to Fort Bliss, Texas, where I completed basic training on May 24, 1968, then was sent to Fort Eustis, Va., for more training before going overseas.”  
“I served as a mechanic/crew chief for Huey helicopters. The

crew included the pilot, co-pilot, crew chief and a gunner. I operated a six-barrel automatic. There were also twin 60-calibre machine guns and sixteen 8-millimeter rockets on board.  
“I served in Vietnam from Oct. 1, 1968, to Sept 30, 1969 – 364 days, 11 hours and 22 minutes.”  
Mr. Bergling also served in Korea and Germany. He was discharged in 1971, but in 1974, he decided to re-enlist as an Army recruiter. He was stationed in Hays and Washington until his final discharge on Nov. 27, 2002, as a sergeant major, the top enlisted rank for most people.  
Medals and decorations listed on his discharge papers include the Army Service Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star; Army Lapel Button, Good Conduct Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Non-commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon “4”, Overseas Service Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Expert M-15 and Sharpshooter M-14, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, Army Reserve Components

Achievement Medal, Recruiter Badge with 3 Sapphire Achievement Stars, Gold Recruiter Ring, Career Counseling Badge and USA Sergeants Major Academy, 23 weeks 1988.  
He added that his brother, Richard Bergling, served on active duty with the U.S. Army for six months during Operation Desert Storm.  
Dave is a member of the Oberlin American Legion and a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He and his wife Sherry live in Oberlin and he has two sons, Jeremy and Jason, and a daughter, Alicia.  
He said he prefers not to discuss his time in Vietnam, but added, “I’m glad I stuck it out.”

# City to hire policeman

By STEPHANIE DeCAMP  
sdecamp@nwkskans.com  
Oberlin will be looking for a new police officer, thanks to the election of Sheriff’s Deputy Jay Tate to the position of district magistrate judge.

Mr. Marietta, though, has been with the city for a little over a year, so no reimbursement will be due.  
Officer Marietta said he decided to make the switch to the sheriff’s office because he wants to see all aspects of law enforcement.

Police Chief Troy Haas said with an opening coming up at the sheriff’s office due to Mr. Tate leaving, Oberlin city Officer Brett Marietta decided to move to that job. Subsequently, the boys in blue are looking for a recruit.  
“We don’t have anyone lined up yet,” Chief Haas said Thursday, “but we’re accepting applications from all over. We’re looking for a hard-working individual willing to work nights and weekends. It’s a very rewarding job and very stable.”  
Mr. Haas said that Officer Scott Zeigler’s plans are uncertain for now, but should he retire soon, the department could be looking for another replacement in the summer.  
“I would hope he stays,” the chief said. “It’s hard to replace someone with that much experience.”  
Mr. Haas said normally, if another department hires an officer within a year of his graduating from the academy, that department has to pay back the cost of sending the officer.

# Chamber manager quits

The manager of the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce has turned in her resignation.  
Carolyn Hackney, who has been the Chamber manager for 3 1/2 years, said that her last day will be Monday.  
“Due to differences in the way the Chamber was heading,” she said Monday, “I chose not to be involved any longer. I will be at the (board) meeting Wednesday, though, to answer some questions about upcoming activities.”  
David Swank, Chamber president, said that everyone at the Chamber is sorry to see Ms. Hackney go.  
“She has made a lot of contributions during her tenure,” he said. “This will be a time of change for the Chamber. We will continue to focus on and expand value-added services to the community. We wish Carolyn well in all her endeavors.”

# Trial postponed again

By STEPHANIE DeCAMP  
sdecamp@nwkskans.com  
The trial of Dylan Coryell, charged with first degree murder in the shooting of Oberlin serviceman Corey Cook last fall, has been postponed until the last two weeks of March.  
Ron Keefover, who works for the office of judicial administration in Topeka, said that the same jury pool selected for the trial when it was scheduled for the last two weeks of October will be recalled in March. Neither Mr. Keefover or Janet Meitl, the clerk of the district court for Decatur County, could say when the next hearing for Mr. Coryell will be.  
Mr. Coryell faces charges of first-degree premeditated murder (or an alternative charge of felony murder), felony aggravated battery and felony aggravated burglary after the shooting death of 22-year-old Corey Cook on Sunday, Oct. 16, 2011. Mr. Coryell allegedly shot Mr. Cook while he lay in bed with Sarah

Campbell, who testified she’d had relationships with both men.  
Mr. Cook’s father, Todd Cook, said last year that Corey was assigned to the 823rd Special Tactics Unit out of Moody Air Force Base in Georgia. He had been at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio for school and was on his way to Georgia. His dad said he had two weeks to get there and had come home for a visit.  
Mr. Cook’s death was the first homicide in Decatur County in 15 years. In 1997, Ernest J. Isenhour, 52, was found beaten to death in the former Star Motel after having picked up a hitchhiker. That hitchhiker, Gary R. Grant, then 50, was arrested less than a week later in Arkansas, where he had lived at one time. He was found guilty of first-degree murder and aggravated robbery, and sentenced to life in prison.  
He died Feb. 14, 2009, at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility.

# \*Voters turn out for general election

## Ballot totals just 2 percent shy of four years ago

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is looking forward to serving the people of Decatur County, adding that he’s excited for a new challenge.  
Although there were lines at the polling places today, Decatur County voters were 2 percent under in the number of people casting ballots compared to the last presidential election four years ago, said County Clerk Colleen Geihlsler.  
Unofficial numbers showed 1,576 voters out of the 2,031 registered in the county for 78 percent. In 2008 1,609 voters turned out to cast a ballot out of the 2,012 registered, or 80 percent.  
Even though the numbers were down a little, election officials counted results into the wee hours

of the morning.  
In the uncontested races, the incomplete results showed:  
• Incumbent Tim Huelskamp, Republican for U.S. representative seat for the 1st District with 1,006 votes.  
• Incumbent Ward Cassidy, a Republican, state representative for the 120th District, 1,068.  
• District Judge Preston Pratt, Republican, for the 17th Judicial District, 1,029.  
• Jay Tate, Republican, for district magistrate judge for Decatur County, 1,042.  
• Incumbent Colleen Geihlsler, Republican, for county clerk, 737.  
• Incumbent Jean Hale, Republican, for treasurer, 1,045.  
• Incumbent Kari Ketterl, Repub-

lican, for register of deeds, 969.  
• Incumbent Ken Badsy, Republican, for sheriff, 972.  
• Incumbent Steve Hirsch, Republican, for county attorney, 975.  
In the presidential election, Decatur County would have put former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, the Republican, at the helm with 964 votes. President Barack Obama, the Democrat, got just 188.  
The Oberlin Herald will carry the official numbers from the general election in next week’s issue.  
Those numbers will include the results for the court of appeals and township offices.  
We will post the final unofficial figures on our Facebook page when they are released.

# \*Banquet to precede season opening

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Also on the auction block will be a Browning Silver Hunter 20-gauge shotgun given by the Norman Wendelin family, he said. It features the Pheasants Forever logo and Norm’s name engraved on the stock. Two other special items were painted and donated by Oberlin artist Anna Seeber Shaw. Mr. Haag said the money for the paintings will go to the Forever Shooting Sports Endowment.

he said.  
“The live auction at the banquet will hold around 45 items, and the silent auction will have about 20,” said Mr. Haag. “There will be the usual four-gun, stretch, two-gun, youth table, pistol and small item raffles, along with the 104-card raffle, where the winner can take any item off the auction table except

for the mystery gun, military salute rifle, Norman Wendelin gun and Anna Shaw prints.”  
Tickets for the 104-card raffle will be \$20, he said, for the youth raffle one for \$5 or three for \$10, and for the stretch raffle six tickets for \$5, or all you can stretch between your arms for \$20.  
A vacation will go to the highest

bidder this year for a week-long stay for six at a cabin in northern Minnesota, at the High Banks Resort on Lake Winnibigoshish.  
In the event of bad weather Friday afternoon, or for more information about the turkey shoot, call (785) 470-1689. For information about the banquet or prizes, call Mr. Haag at (785) 475-8967.

# A clean sweep!



IT WAS THE PERFECT FALL NIGHT to be doing a little yard work. Lily Marine (above) and a friend helped sweep up leaves last Monday with the rest of the Oberlin students for the annual Halloween Cleanup organized by the Decatur Community High chapter of the National Honor Society.  
— Herald staff photo by Stephanie DeCamp

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