

# People in Our Community

Mary Lou Olson, society editor  
ml.olson@nwkans.com

Karen and Larry Smith traveled to Southeast of Saline School at Gypsum to watch the Class 3A state music on Saturday. Students of their daughter and son-in-law, Theresa and Matt Fischer, from Fredonia High School, took part in the 3A state music competition. Theresa is a graduate of Decatur Community High School.

Goldie Stapp has moved to Cedar Living Center in Oberlin from Garden Valley Retirement Center in Garden City. Her son, Larry Stapp of Holcomb, brought her to Oberlin. She is a former resident of Norcat and Oberlin.

Shelbi McKenna will be part of the Colby Community College dance team and cheer squad for the 2013-2014 school year. She is the daughter of Cindy and Patrick Shirley, Norcat, and Richard McKenna, Norton.

**—Hoedown tickets available. Call Dianne Bremer 475-3400.**

Cheryl Votapka attended the Winnebago state rally in Hutchinson this past week. The group caravaned to Wichita and toured the Coleman plant where RV air conditioners are made. The M&M Sisters from Smith Center entertained Saturday evening. She visited her daughter and family, Rick and Luanne Rowlinson and boys at Hays, en route to the rally on Monday. She returned home Sunday afternoon.

Dewaine Stapp and Charlotte Meints attended the First Communion Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hays, when Charlotte's great-grandson, Dylan Werth, made his First Holy Communion on Sunday, April 21. Deb Bryan, Dylan's grandmother, also attended. Dylan is the son of Cory and Amber (Walinder) Werth. They all attended a reception for Dylan and two cousins following the Mass.

**—Bargain Box+ Open House May 6-11.**

Ken and Mona Hoehner of Wheat Ridge, Colo., visited relatives and friends over the weekend and attended the ArtFest, where Mrs. Hoehner had art pieces entered. They also attended the open house honoring a 1951 classmate, Joy Votapka, on Saturday.

Marie McKisson attended memorial services for her sister-in-law, Lorene (Ferguson) McVicker, 83, of Abilene at Martin-Becker-Carlson Funeral Home in Abilene on Monday afternoon. She died Thursday at Memorial Hospital in Abilene. Inurnment was at the Abilene City

## Musicians entertain at Rotary

Decatur Community High School vocal music seniors who received I ratings at the regional music festival and qualified for state competition, presented the program for the April 23 meeting of the Oberlin Rotary Club at The Gateway.

The students, director Susan Nelson and pianist Jennifer Tally were introduced by program chair Charles Haag. Their numbers in-

## 4-H Club meets at church

By ANNA CARTER and ISABEL GRAFEL

The monthly meeting of the Stick-To-It 4-H Club was held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 14.

Seventeen members and two leaders answered roll call with "What is

Cemetery.

**—Hoedown tickets available. Call Dianne Bremer 475-3400.**

Steve Soderlund of Parker, Colo., spent the weekend visiting his parents, Dale and Lenora Soderlund.

Weekend guests of Joy Votapka were her sister, Vera Durr, Hutchinson; her daughter, Nancy Ellis, Topeka; and her granddaughter and husband, Nicole and Don Semple, Chicago. They all came to attend the 80th birthday celebration at the Bohemian Hall on Saturday afternoon. Additional Saturday supper guests at her home were Al and Marilyn Roedel, Topeka; Phil Durr, McPherson; Eldon and Bev Sundgren, Leonardville; Tara Votapka, Westminster, Colo.; and Dan Votapka, Rowena Cathcart, Carolyn Hackney, Lynn and Joyce Rippe, Julie Plotts and Vicky Ray, Oberlin.

Petty Officer Chad Evans, who is stationed in Norfolk, Va., spent a month visiting his mother and sister, Joan and Kristy Evans, of Oberlin, and his father, Karol Evans, of Hastings, Neb. He had completed a 324-day deployment in the Middle East on the USS Mesa Verde. While in the Middle East, the Mesa Verde and crew received the NATO Award for their assistance in the take down in Iraq and Libya. He is a 19-year career man and has been around the world five times and visited 50 countries. He will complete his 20-year career at Oceanna Naval Air Base at Virginia Beach, Va.

Winning highs in pinochle at the Golden Age Center last week were Dorothy Moore, Henry Edgett, John Cederberg, Doris Fringer and Norma Anderson. Lows went to Ivis Hanson, John Cederberg, Neil Marshall, Ardis Roe, Marie McKisson and Dorothy Moore. Gladys Geis and Doris Fringer were Mexican Train domino winners. Pitch highs were won by Henry Edgett and Dorothy Moore with lows going to Elden Haas and Dewaine Stapp. Taking highs at bridge were Marie McKisson, Cynthia Matson and Shirley Simpson.

Funeral services were held on April 10 at St. Joseph Church in New Almelo for Doral Allen, 84, of Ozawkie. Burial was in the church cemetery. He was born in rural Norton County and was a 1947 graduate of Lenora High School. Survivors include his wife, the former Rosalie Mindrup; three sons, Jerry, John and James; a daughter Pam; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a sister, Alene Hickert.

cluded love songs, spirituals and art songs.

President Duane Dorshorst conducted the meeting and greeter was Cynthia Haynes. Guests were Norma Unger and Pat Dorshorst.

Jesse Carter, a member of the Decatur County Fair Board, said that improvements are to be made at the open class building and the board is looking for donations.

your favorite day of the week?" Programs were done by Clayton and Anna Carter, Hannah May and Zeke Jimenez. Recreation, a human knot game, was led by Maddie Johnson and Clayton Carter. Refreshments were provided by the Johnson and Jimenez families.

## Couple planning wedding

Della (Russ) Phillips and Jack Dale Province of Bentley are engaged and plan a spring wedding.

Parents of the couple are Richard and Clara B. Russ of Oberlin and Glynda Province, Bentley, formerly of Oberlin, and the late Jack Provin

The bride-to-be is a licensed practical nurse and is enrolled in Cowley County Community College in Arkansas City.

Her fiancé is a diesel mechanic in Bentley.



Della (Russ) Phillips and Jack Dale Province

## Woman honored on 80th

Joy Votapka was honored by her children and grandchildren with an open house Saturday afternoon at the Old Bohemian Hall on the grounds of the Last Indian Raid Museum.

Hosts included Charlie and Gina Votapka, Ogallala, Neb.; Nancy Ellis, Topeka; and Dan and Lisa Votapka, Oberlin, and their families.

Out-of-town guests included Don and Nicole Semple, Chicago; Dorina Votapka, Norcat; Charlie Votapka, Ogallala; Tara Votapka, Westminster, Colo.; Vera Durr, Hutchinson; Phil Durr, McPherson;

Al and Marilyn Cathart, Topeka; Patti Purvis, Connie and Brynne, Goodland; Lynn and Joyce Rippe, Danbury; Doris Crosley, Arapahoe, Neb.; Diane Hagan, Madrid, Neb.; Mary Anderson, Osborne; Jill Reichert and Amy Anderson, Dresden; Wayne and Betty Grafel, Culbertson, Neb.; Jack and Evelyn Hook, Indianola, Neb.; Donna Lawver, Colby; Ken and Mona Hoehner, Wheat Ridge, Colo.; Mary Lou Olson, Herndon; Bobbie Young Duell, Colby; and Eldon and Beverly Sundgren, Leonardville.

## Chapter welcomes members

The John Athey Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution met last Wednesday at the Oakley Public Library.

The meeting was called to order in ritualistic form by Regent Sharon Maurath. Six members, Gayle Bremerkamp, Cheryl Goetz, Frances Mann, Sharon Maurath, Kay Weber and Eva Lee Wheeler, and three guests, Leona Feldt, Detta Anderson and Donna Kelley, were present. Ms. Bremerkamp and Ms. Goetz were welcomed as new members.

Reports given included president general's, national defense, Ameri-

can Indian, Constitution, National Library Week, conservation and the chapter insignia.

Roll call was answered with a literary media you would recommend.

Eva Lee Wheeler, 96, was wished a belated happy birthday.

Librarian Vicki Halbleib showed what is available at the library for genealogical research, including old issues of various Logan County newspapers, census reports and equipment for reading these resources.

The group had lunch at the Neighborhood Nook.

## Survivors to be honored

With no Relay for Life in Decatur County this year, 30 or more cancer survivors here have been invited to join in the Norton County Relay for Life on Friday, June 7, at the courthouse square.

Letters are being mailed to the known survivors, said Melba Witt of Norton, but organizers hope newly diagnosed patients, care givers and survivors who do not receive a letter will come. Call her at (785) 871-1975 to register.

"Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society's primary event each year," she said. "At the event, we celebrate our survivors, remember those that we have lost and encourage everyone to fight back

against this terrible disease. The money raised goes towards various programs, education and research for finding a cure."

The American Cancer Society says about 21 Decatur County residents will hear the words "You have cancer" this year. In the early 1990s, cancer patients had a 1 out of 3 chance of survival, but today, that number is 2 out of 3. The society says it won't stop fighting until that number is 3 in 3.

For details, go online at www.cancer.org. For information about the Norton County Relay, contact event Chairmen Lee Russell at (785) 871-1539 or Karen Wright at (785) 877-2707.

## Antique appraisal set

Bring your antiques and collectibles to McCook on Friday for two shows designed to raise money for the Hillcrest Nursing Home there.

The first session will be from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the nursing home, 308 W. Seventh St., and the second from 7 to 9 p.m. at the High Plains Museum, 413 Norris Ave.

Tom Bassett of Bassett Appraisals in Lincoln, Neb., will be in charge. He says he developed his collectible and antique appraisal events after the popular *Antique Road Show* on television. He teaches at Southeast Community College in Lincoln and helps people evaluate antiques and collectibles.

For details, contact Pam Harsh at (308) 345-4600 or foundation@hillcrestnh.org.

Please come help **Veda (VanGundy) Wood** celebrate her 90th birthday with a lunch potluck on **Saturday, May 4**, at noon at the Norcat Methodist Church Community Building



If you are unable to attend, but would like to send a card, her address is: P.O. Box 6, Norcat, KS 67653. No gifts, please.

## Water Truck Drivers wanted

Well-established Highway Construction Company Has openings for Water Truck Drivers

- Excellent Opportunity** with Competitive Wages & Benefits
- ⇒ Must have Class B CDL License – Class A Preferred
  - ⇒ Must have tanker endorsement
  - ⇒ Must have a good driving record
  - ⇒ Must be dependable
  - ⇒ Must be a team player

Qualified applicants should apply on-line at [www.kossconstruction.com](http://www.kossconstruction.com)

Koss Construction Company is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug-Free Workplace. Women & Minorities are encouraged to apply.

## Oberlin couple helps with cancer program

Chuck and Diane Frickey of Oberlin are among community leaders across Kansas who have joined in the fight against cancer as volunteer members of the new Midwest Cancer Alliance Funding Partners.

The council's goal is to help spread the word about the alliance and to help raise \$5 million to further its mission.

The alliance links the University of Kansas Cancer Center with a network of 19 member hospitals and research organizations across Kansas and western Missouri. These institutions have united to bring cancer research, care and support professionals together to advance the quality and reach of cancer care, prevention, early detection and survivorship in this region.

Other inaugural members include Dave Hendricks, Emporia; Peggy

Johnson, Wichita; Mark Mingenback, Great Bend; Liz Sosa, Garden City; Keith Swinehart, McPherson; Alan Townsend, Goodland, and chairman Barbara Wasinger Hays.

Mr. Frickey is a lawyer and his wife is a retired social worker.

The cancer center is a partnership that includes cancer research and health care professionals associated with the KU Medical Center and the University of Kansas Hospital in Kansas City; KU's Lawrence campus; the KU School of Medicine-Wichita; and alliance.

The campaign is managed by the KU Endowment, the independent, nonprofit organization serving as the official fund-raising and fund-management organization for KU. Founded in 1891, the Endowment was the first foundation of its kind at a U.S. public university.

## Church plans malaria project

The Oberlin United Methodist Church has joined the Kansas West Conference in the fight to end malaria in Africa.

Bishop Scott Jones set a goal of having every congregation in the state do something to fight the disease through the "Imagine No Malaria" ministry by the end of the year.

Every 60 seconds, the church says, malaria claims a life in Africa.

It kills an estimated 655,000 people each year, most of them children under 5 and pregnant women. Malaria is caused by a parasite transmitted through the bite of a female anophelous mosquito, but the disease is 100 percent preventable, treatable and beatable.

Donations may be sent to the church at 102 N. Cass Ave., Oberlin, Kan., 67749. For details, call the church office at (785) 475-3067.

## Farm agency offers loans

Farmers in Decatur, Norton and Phillips counties who suffered crop or livestock losses due to drought after April 2 may apply for emergency loans, says farm loan officer Pat Bohl of the U.S. Farm Service Agency in Norton.

The counties became eligible under a federal law which provides that farmers in counties bordering those designated for disaster assistance may also qualify for government help. Applications will be accepted until Dec. 10.

"Loans covering physical and/or production losses are scheduled for repayment as rapidly as feasible," said Bohl, adding that the current interest rate is 2.375 percent, subject to monthly changes until approved.

The agency will go beyond the

typical lender's efforts, he said, offering farmers consultation, advice and creative ways to make a farm or ranch thrive. The loan staff can refer customers to other public and commercial financing sources.

Loans covering production losses may be used to buy feed, seed, fertilizer, livestock, or to make payments on real estate and other debts.

"Funds can also be used for other essential operating and living expenses," Bohl said.

To be eligible, an applicant must be operating a family-size farm or ranch, unable to get credit elsewhere and have suffered a qualifying loss from the disaster.

Contact the loan office at 11506 Pineview Dr., Norton, or (785) 877-5156 for information.

The High Plains ArtFest would like to express appreciation to the following Patron Sponsors for their support of the 9th annual High Plains ArtFest.

- |                             |                                 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Dr. & Mrs. Jay Anderson     | Mr. & Mrs. Robert Martin        |
| Mr. & Mrs. Herschel Betts   | Mr. & Mrs. Sid Metcalf          |
| Mr. & Mrs. Doyle Brown      | Mr. & Mrs. Gary Walter          |
| Barbara Dehlinger           | Stanley Hardware                |
| Grafel Farms, LLC           | Haynes Publishing               |
| Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Frickey    | Pauls Funeral Home              |
| Mr. & Mrs. Bob Gaskill      | Dr. & Mrs. Mark Olson           |
| Mr. & Mrs. Charles Haag     | Farmer's Bank & Trust           |
| Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Shirley  | Mr. & Mrs. Dan Wasson           |
| Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Shirley   | JRV Ranch, Inc.                 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Rusty Addleman   | CMA Distributing                |
| Mr. & Mrs. Bob Castle       | Mr. & Mrs. Brad Moore           |
| Kelly's Home Medical        | Mr. & Mrs. Randy Ostmeier       |
| Ann Williams                | Wagner Chevrolet                |
| AmFirst Bank                | Mr. & Mrs. Richard Anderson     |
| Gifford and Cox             | Mr. & Mrs. Spencer Ketterl      |
| RAS Inc.                    | Mr. & Mrs. Ron Temple           |
| Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Vollertsen  | Mr. & Mrs. Ben Jimenez          |
| Mr. & Mrs. Ken SHobe        | Decatur County Title & Abstract |
| Mr. & Mrs. Rich Shaw        | Mr. & Mrs. Armin Sowers         |
| Mr. & Mrs. Michael Wasson   | Knowlen & Yates                 |
| Mr. & Mrs. Daren Fortin     | Mr. & Mrs. Joel Shaw            |
| Missy Kasson Uehlin         | Mr. & Mrs. Don Demovich         |
| Mr. & Mrs. Kerry Louderback | Mr. & Mrs. Justin Terry         |
| Judy Scott                  | Paul & Lacy Tally               |
| The Bank                    | Jay & Annetta Ketterl           |
| Decatur County Museum       | Ilene O'Leary & Francis Moore   |
| LandMark Inn                | Home Range Real Estate, Inc.    |
| Mr. & Mrs. Larry Thompson   |                                 |

*Without your support, the show would not be possible.*

### FFA Alumni Banquet

#### May 16, 2013

FFA members, Friends, Family, and Alumni; you are all invited to the Oberlin FFA Banquet May 16th at 6:00 p.m. in the DCHS cafeteria. Following opening ceremonies, supper will be served and then the FFA will have a slide show, awards, and new officer installations. Please join the fun and help celebrate a great year.

Please RSVP to Mr. Ketterl by Thursday May 2nd. Call the school at 475-2231 between 8:00 a.m. and 4 p.m. during school days. Please let Mr. Ketterl know how many are planning to attend.