



**THE OPEN CLASS BUILDING** at the Decatur County fairground is getting a new look, with all of the walls and ceilings being covered with new wallboard. Josh Niemi (above), an employee of Stallman Construction, measured and cut new boards which cover the old cement-block walls. All of the poles have been removed to make it one long display area, said owner Brent Stallman. The men are being helped by Kyle Breth.

— Herald staff photo by Ramell Taylor

## Open class building undergoes updates

By MARY LOU OLSON  
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The open class building on the Decatur County Fairground is getting some major improvements, thanks to the efforts of Kathy Nauer of Jennings and Theresea Reeves of Oberlin, who spearheaded a project to help the county Fair Board update the building.

During the fair last year, Mrs. Nauer said, several people came up with the idea of raising money to remodel the building. The two women decided to approach the board, which was open to the suggestion. However, members said they also faced the realities of a limited budget.

Several days later, Mrs. Nauer said, she received a call from Jesse Carter of Oberlin, a member of the fair board, who suggested they try to get donations for refurbishing the building.

"That's where the Decatur County community entered the picture..." Mrs. Nauer said. "As a result of the area's generosity and the hard work of a number of individuals, the open class building will look a bit different at this year's fair."

Project plans include replacing existing doors with new overhead doors and two new walk-through doors, reinforcing the roof trusses so support posts can be removed, opening up the interior, and covering the walls and ceiling with oriented-strand wallboard.

Although the fair board had bids for a bare-bones job which it could pay for, the estimate did not provide for new lighting or fans.

"We contacted people who we

felt might be interested in helping with this project," Mrs. Nauer said, "including Dan and Jim Wasson, who said their father had been one of the original fair board members. With phone calls by volunteers, the money was raised from residents of Decatur County.

"These donations were sought to help preserve the building for future fair exhibitors. Total cost for the project is just over \$21,000."

Stallman Construction of Oberlin received the bid for the job and owner Brent Stallman and his crew, Josh Niemi and Kyle Breth, are completing the work.

"Thank you to everyone who contributed to make this project a reality," Mrs. Nauer said. "We look forward to seeing you at this year's fair and encourage you all to help fill up the new and improved open-class building with the best exhibits Decatur County has to offer."

Among exhibits displayed in the building are flowers, garden produce, quilts, photography, 4-H booths, hobbies and more. Jody Shike is working to increase yarn projects and other displays and Mrs. Reeves is encouraging more quilt projects for the 2013 fair.

Robert May, president of the Fair Board, said he'd like to express the board's appreciation to these two women and the volunteers who helped gather the money, as well as the contributors who made this improvement possible.

"The fair board is excited about the new improvements," he said, "and we hope this will spark more interest for those who would like to make open class entries."

## People in Our Community

Mary Lou Olson, society editor  
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Jacob Daniel Larue, son of Bruce and Marianne Larue, received in the mail his "Order of the Gold" plaque for academic achievement from Butler Community College in El Dorado. The "Order of the Gold" was established in 1985 to award students who maintain a 4.0 grade point average. These students received a special plaque at commencement, but Jacob was not present to receive it as he was attending the graduation for his sister, Annamarie Larue at Emporia State University, which was at the same time.

Mary Henzel's sister, Dottie Manz and her granddaughters, Alexis Bradley and Austynn Holder, of Las Vegas, Nev., visited for eight days the end of June with Mary and Stuart Henzel. The girls enjoyed riding horses with Stuart while Dottie and Mary visited.

Denise Abbey recently returned home from visiting her daughter and son-in-law, Kenzie and Garrick Reichert in Temecula, Calif. Mrs. Abbey spent two weeks helping the family and babysitting her grandchildren, Grace and Porter, while the family welcomed their new baby, Archer James Reichert.

Brad Fredrickson of Independence visited Friday and Saturday with his parents, Don and Lois Fredrickson, and his sister, Kristi and Gene Gallentine, and family.

Classmates and former friends having lunch on Wednesday at the LandMark Inn with Jan Orthmann Cappell, Holdrege, Neb., and Cindy Orthmann Hillard, Beeville, Texas, included Jill Reichert, Shayla Williby, Carol Smith, Dianne Bremer, Janice Cundiff, Marian Fraker, Charlotte Meints, Evelyn May and Joy Votapka

**-Breakfast buffet from 7:30 to 10 a.m. Thursday, LandMark Inn. Call 475-2340.**

Linda Pope is recuperating from a bad allergic reaction from a medication she was taking for sinus infection and lung problems, which caused the build up of uric acid in her left foot, plus other symptoms.

Funeral services were held Monday morning at Memorial Methodist Church in McCook for Robert K. Cox, 90, who died June 20, 2013, at the Great Plains Medical Center in North Platte, Neb. He was the

father of Betsy (Charles D.) Haag of Oberlin. Alisa Parde, associate pastor, officiated and burial was in Fort McPherson National Cemetery.

Family members attending funeral services for Dorothy (Everist) Hague in Hutchinson on June 25 included her grandchildren, Jennifer Rice, Phoenix, Ariz., and Nick Hague, Hutchinson; a sister, Marilyn Buchanan, Abilene, Texas; and son, Craig Edwards, Lubbock, Texas; and two nieces, Carol (Nitsch) Weibert, Manhattan; and Janice (Nitsch) Lawson and her husband, Gerald, Littleton, Colo.

Jacob Larue, son of Bruce and Marianne Larue, completed instruction and testing for his commercial pilot's license in June.

Crista Sauvage, Austin and Junior took enchiladas and Magnum Classic ice cream bars to the home of her parents, Ed and Melba Witt, at Norton to honor Mrs. Witt on her birthday on Sunday afternoon. They also enjoyed watermelon.

Julie Hubbard and Brandon, Lakewood, Colo., and Jessica Hubbard, Denver, were weekend guests of Gail and Kay Marcuson.

Mary Ann Amack was honored for her Fourth of July birthday with Sunday dinner at the Frontier Cafe by Elaine Bryan, Laurene Van Otterloo, Cecil Hess, Joy Votapka, Dorothy Cochran and Marie McKisson.

Annamarie Larue, daughter of Bruce and Marianne Larue, has accepted a teaching position at Wallace County Elementary School in Sharon Springs. She has been assigned third grade and will also be the head coach for junior high girls basketball.

Winning highs in pinochle at the Golden Age Center last week were Ivis Hanson, Max Carman, Dewaine Stapp, Ardis Roe, Norma Anderson, John Cederberg and Kelva Dryden. Lows went to Dorothy Moore, John Cederberg, Henry Edgett, Neil Marshall, Veanna Carman, Doris Fringer and Norma Anderson. Neil Marshall and Gladys Geis were domino winners. Pitch highs were won by Henry Edgett and Pat Abbey with lows going to Dorothy Moore and Ardythe Cederberg. Taking highs at bridge were Marty Olson, Charlotte Meints and Marie McKisson.

## Salina police officer to receive Gold Award

V. Aaron Carswell is among five officers with the Salina Police Department who will be honored on Friday, July 19, at a banquet in Newton for valor in the line of duty in connection with an incident in which one of them was shot in the eye.

Mr. Carswell, a canine handler, is the son of Vince and Peggy Carswell of Oberlin and a grandson of Rex and Betty Carswell of Selden.

The officers will receive the Gold Award from the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police.

The group said Lt. Scott Siemsen of the Salina Police Department said the five Salina police officers entered a house on Sept. 28 to try communicating with a teenager in the basement about a car that had been reported stolen.

Several attempts to contact the 19-year-old had failed before the five officers entered the house and asked him to come upstairs and talk

to them.

The teen responded by firing four shots with a 9 mm handgun.

The shots were fired toward the officers through a kitchen wall and a door to the basement, and one of the bullets struck Officer Chuck Hein in the eye. The teen then shot himself.

Other officers to be honored are Gabriel Walz, Lt. Allen Salzman and Capt. Michael Sweeney.



Carswell

## New president at helm of Oberlin Rotary Club

Karen Larson will be the new Oberlin Rotary Club President, for 2013-2014. She took over her new position on July 1.

She joined Rotary in 2010 and shortly after was elected as the secretary, the first step in learning the many Rotary services.

She said, "I am very excited to begin the new year and see how we as a club can make a difference in people's lives; something that is very important to me."

The theme for Rotary this year is, "Engage Rotary, Change Lives."

She added, "In the Oberlin club, you'll find members volunteering to support education, leadership training, and other unique concerns and needs of our community."

The spirit of service is not new to Mrs. Larson as she has worked for

the City of Oberlin since 2004 in the capacity of treasurer and City Clerk and has been the City Administrator since June of 2010.

She is married to Craig Larson who is a life-time resident of Decatur County.

"The community is very important to our family and I am grateful to be a part of such a wonderful town, with people that care and help each other," she said.

Other officers include: John Sater, vice president; Charles Haag, secretary; Ken Shobe, treasurer; and Duane Dorshorst, past president. Other board members are Jesse Carter, Lee Gilliam, Herschel Betts, past district governor; Gary Fredrickson and Gary Anderson, pianists; and Jim Hollowell, newsletter editor.



Karen Larson

## Rotarian gives program on ancient Kansas seas

The June 25 meeting of the Oberlin Rotary Club meeting was conducted by outgoing President Duane Dorshorst. Karen Larson was greeter. Guests were Margaret Gabelmann, Constituent Service Representative for U.S. Senator Jerry Moran, and Kay Brown.

Program Chair Dan Nedland spoke and showed slides of "The Oceans of Kansas." He said there were oceans in Kansas 100 million years ago and there is much evidence to prove it. An ocean ran from the Gulf of Mexico to the Arctic Ocean. He discussed the area of Kansas covered during the

Late Cretaceous period, as well as the many life forms such as marine reptiles, pteranodons and toothed birds that inhabited in and out of the water. The fossils found in the Cretaceous rocks of western Kansas and elsewhere in the great plains is evidence of the amount of water (an ocean) that was present.

He said that oceans of Kansas have led researchers to the account of the paleobiology of the Western Interior Seaway. He added that The Sternberg Museum of Natural History in Hays exhibits many of the extinct animals related to this era.

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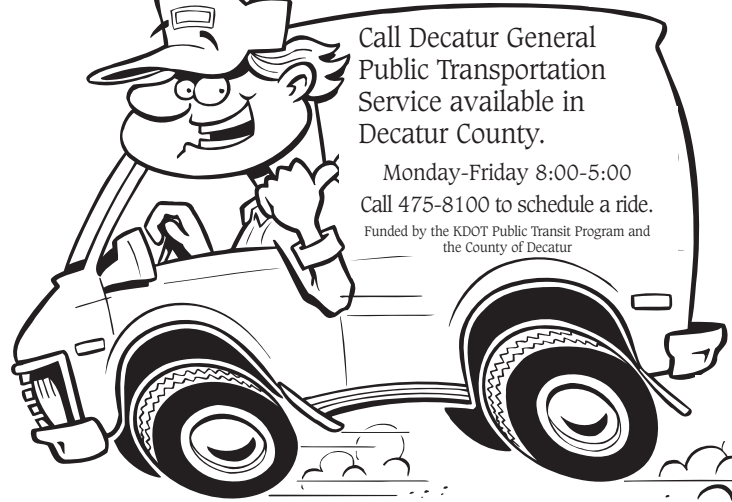
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## Pastor appointed to serve three Methodist churches

Ed Woods is the new pastor for the Clayton, Jennings and Norcatat United Methodist churches. He and his wife, Linda, have moved to the parsonage in Jennings and he will deliver his first sermon on Sunday.

He has served the churches in Almena, Norcatat and Clayton since September 2010. Morning worship services will begin at 8:45 a.m. at Norcatat; 10 a.m. at Clayton and 11 a.m. at Jennings.

Mr. Woods graduated from Midland Lutheran College in Fremont, Neb., with a degree in religion. He retired from the Mission Police Department in Johnson County in 2005, then he and his wife moved to Goodland. He said he was asked in August 2009 by District Supervisor Max Clayton to take the Almena, Norcatat and Clayton churches.

The Dresden United Methodist Church, which was formerly yoked with Jennings, is being served by a United Methodist Church superin-

tendent appointee, Sarah Durham of Norton. Services begin at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday.

The Almena church will be served by the pastor at the Norton United Methodist Church.

Happy 90th Birthday

## Rachel Carter!

Reception for family and friends

**Saturday July 6**  
**2-4 p.m.**  
Jennings United Methodist Church

