

THE WESTBY BORDER NEWS

April 20, 2009

Volume 4

Issue 73

.50/Copy

TEACHING CAREER ENDS ON A HIGH NOTE

When Sandra Hansen McCracken graduated from Westby High School in 1964, she wavered between a career in teaching and a career in nursing. On a whim, she chose teaching. McCracken's students and peers apparently feel she made the right decision as they recently honored her as Teacher of the Year for the inspiration and enthusiasm she has brought to the profession.

Sandi credits many, from her school years in Westby, with influencing her decision to teach, but two in particular stand out. "Mrs. Hovik, my high school music teacher, had a profound influence. She brought joy to singing and an appreciation for piano playing into my life. Fresh out of college, Jim Weiler returned to Westby to teach, young and full of enthusiasm, making it such an appealing profession. There were so many, but right now, these two stand out as the biggest influence for what my future may hold," states Sandi. "And, you know, it's been wonderful!"

Upon graduation from WHS, Sandi attended MSU and began her teaching career in Great Falls. There she would meet her future husband, Fred, a military man and after their marriage, the two would lead a military life of reassignments. Fred's career brought them too many different locations in the US, as well as an assignment in Germany. Along the way, Sandi and Fred's family became complete when they added two children, Katie (who resides in Portland with her husband, David) and Pat (who lives in Columbia Falls with his wife, Janelle).

Since Fred's retirement from the service, 15 years ago, the couple has made their home in Billings where Sandi will soon wrap up her rewarding career.

After a lifetime of teaching music to children, Sandi has come to believe that the arts make a person complete. She teaches music to students at all grades at Washington Elementary and Orchard Elementary, and teaches music to kindergarten and special education students at Boulder Elementary. She believes music can be a pathway to learning in other academic areas and incorporates language and movement into her teaching. Her work impacts hundreds of students a week, and her colleagues said she reminds them that learning can be fun without sacrificing behavior or work ethic expectations. It is little wonder why, then, the Billings Education Association bestowed their highest honor upon her. The award comes at a special time as this spring Sandi is retiring after 39 years of teaching. She and Fred plan to settle in the Flathead Valley area and enjoy whatever the future may hold. As she wraps up an illustrious career she says, "What a rewarding career. If anyone has any inkling to chose the profession I strongly encourage them to go with it." She adds, "You know, who else can dance, and play and sing all day; that's a pretty great way to get through your day. I don't know how I could have been so lucky all these years."

Sandi is the daughter of the late Eldon and Metta Hanson and her siblings include Sharon Ward, Mary Ann Hagen, Barb Espeland and Eldon Hanson.

[Return to Westby on the Web](#)

[Next Page](#)



Randy's Restaurant

Chocolate & Vanilla Soft Serve



Chicken to go (potatoes included)
2 pc - Barrel 20 pc

406. 765. 1661

Randy & Bonnie Matzke Owners

We Serve Extra Lean
Ground Beef
Nite Specials
DINING ROOM ONLY

MONDAY - Chicken Strip Dinner w/ coleslaw & fries

TUESDAY - Waffle Special

WEDNESDAY - Halibut, Shrimp or Walleye w/ baked potato, toast, choice of salad

THURSDAY - 8 oz. Sirloin

FRIDAY - Chicken Fried Steak w/ fries, toast & salad

SATURDAY - Hamburger Steak w/ baked potato, toast & choice of salad

A Day in the Life

By Sandy Elm

Faye and Dick Johnson are home after spending two months away from the cold and snow this winter. They stayed with Faye's brother Craig Anhalt in Glendale, Arizona. One of the highlights of the trip was going to Hawaii with their friends, the Fischers from Phoenix. They spent one week on the island of Kauai and one week on the big island of Hawaii. On the way home they went through the Grand Canyon, and the Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks.

On April 2nd the Senior Citizens met at the Community Center. The Club hosted the meeting. Progressive whist winners were Anita Bjorgen first, and Shirley Quam second. The door prize was won by Milo Nordhagen. Guests were Ruth Brown, Mark Nordhagen, Fay Moore, Vicki Ruby, Marilyn Petrick and Kathy Jensen.

Enid Kittelson hosted Senior Citizens on April 9th. Progressive whist winners were Allan Ekness first, and Marvin Nelson second. Allan also won the door prize. Guests were Ruth Brown, Mark Nordhagen, Rose Frickson, and Fay Moore.

Marlowe and Elaine Onstad were Easter dinner guests at Kolby and Terry Ruggles. Other guests were Barry, Lindsey, and Caleb Johnson of Plentywood, Dave and Helen Ruggles of Raymond, and Carol Ruggles from Three Forks, Montana

Shirley and Don Quam spent Easter day with their son Pat and wife Tina Quam in Plentywood. Also attending were Leroy, Colleen, Travis and Carissa Sorenson, Shari and Jay Stockdill and Hannah, and Elisha and Michael Sandoval, Joe Quam and his friend Ivy from Bismarck.

Dinner guests at the Lorna and Bob Lagerquist home were as follows: Robert, Regina, Curits and Megan Forrester from Bromhead, Sask., Gary and Shirley Nelson from Williston, ND. Joann and Vern Lind and their granddaughter Cassie from Epping ND, and Ken Keldsen and Erwin Olson.

Jeff and Darcy Nordhagen were in Bozeman at their daughter Janel's for Easter. Devin's friend from Pocatello also was a guest.

Guests of Casey Elm and Marilyn Ming were: her mother Teresa Garneau and brothers, Joe and Mike Nistler all of Plentywood. Also attending were Josh and Jared Ming and Sandy and Slugger Elm.

Rose Frickson, Teresa and Clifford Johnson, Shannon and Mike Gebhardt and Cole and Rylie all got together and had dinner at the Prairie Kitchen. Everything was delicious as usual.

Just a reminder, I would love to get your Easter news also and anything else that you would like to add. Please email me at sandyelm@nemont.net, call me at home 406-385-2356 or at work 406-765-1721. Or you can also mail it to Sandy Elm, Box 95, Westby, Montana 59275. Thank you all, and I hope you had a joyous and blessed Easter.



New Century
Ag

**YOUR LOCAL SOURCE FOR
BULK FUEL, GAS, & OIL
FERTILIZER, CHEMICALS
FEED & SALT
CUSTOM SPRAYING & FERTILIZING
VET SUPPLIES
PHONE 406-385-2472**

Danny Moore
Westby Manager

SCHOEPPER

Memorial services for Lance Schoepper were held at 2:00 PM Monday, April 13, 2009. Pastor Barbara Westhoff officiated at the service at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Westby; interment of cremated remains was in Westby Cemetery.

Urn bearers were Phoebe Vest, Jim Vest and Jesse Schoepper; honorary bearers were Terri Schoepper Milton, Jamie Vest Putnam, and all of Lance's nephews and nieces; usher was Lynden Lagerquist.

Lance died at his home early Wednesday, April 8, of complications of diabetes; he was 45.

Lance Edward Schoepper was born to William "Wes" and Phoebe Rae (Overgaard) Schoepper September 18, 1963 in Plentywood. Lance moved to Portland, Oregon with his big sister, Theresa (Terri) and his parents in 1963.

In 1967, after his Dad, Wes, passed away, the family moved back to Montana.

Baptized and confirmed at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Lance graduated from Westby High School in 1982, and attended Eastern Montana College in Billings and the University of North Dakota Williston Center.

He worked with his uncle, Warren, in the oilfields before going to New Mexico, where he realized his love of painting. He loved to take something old, and make it "brand new." Always a perfectionist, Lance was an artistic, creative person, passionate about his work.

He later moved to Phoenix, where his son, Jesse, was born October 10, 1986. Lance said without a doubt, this was the happiest day of his life!

Lance also worked in Minneapolis, Minnesota and Minot, North Dakota before returning home to Westby in 1996. He was proud that he had painted almost every house in Westby—whether inside or out!

In his free time, Lance enjoyed working with wood. He designed and created custom cat condos, arbors and decks, shadow boxes, name plaques and many other things. The last five years, although slowed by his diabetes, he kept painting and doing carpentry.

Lance was a fun companion, and a great helper to his mother. He was very knowledgeable with past and current events and rarely missed the news. He loved music from Jazz to Country to Hard Rock.

Lance is preceded in death by his father, Wes, uncle, Billy Overgaard, grandparents, Ervin and Irene Overgaard and Duward and Virginia Pilling, his aunt, Diane Pilling; his great-grandparents Emil and Minnie Bundt and Alfred and Dena Overgaard...and by his dogs Beau and Mr. Jiggs.

Lance leaves behind his son Jesse, and Jesse's mother, Lori Godijohn; his parents, Phoebe Vest and the only Dad he ever knew, Jim Vest. He is also survived by his sister, Terri Milton and her husband Bill, nephew Christopher, niece Amber (Brian) Marshal, and great niece Ariel; and sister Jamie Putnam and her husband Brian, niece Courtney and nephew Bridger. Other survivors include his grandparents, James and Marge Vest, and numerous uncles and aunts, including Warren and Eileen Overgaard, David and Laurie Overgaard, and Mike Overgaard; Merri and Bert Loomis; Kris Bozart, and many cousins and friends. He is also missed by his faithful and obedient friend and companion, his dog, Tucker.

We will miss your kind spirit and friendly nature—we love you, Lance.

Fulkerson Funeral Home of Plentywood had charge of arrangements.





Aloha,

My family and I have just returned from the beautiful island of Kauai and “aloha” would be one of few native words I left there being able to pronounce. By the end of the week, I could recognize names of places and areas being referred to, but as far as saying them, not so much. It is evident from touchdown to take-off, the reason Kauai has been coined the “garden island”. Life for the 63,000 inhabitants of Kauai appears very laid back and the estimated 16,000 daily visitors to the island seem quite happy to follow suit. Of course, it goes without saying, Danny and my personality also fit right in with this laid back, slow paced life. It was evident from the get-go, when we hit the road in our rental car. Approximately three-fourths of the perimeter of the island is accessible by a two lane highway (and this is the only road on the island) with the speed limit topping out at 50mph (I later read the top speed is 55, but we didn’t happen on to the, perhaps, ¼ mile with that luxury) and much of it 35mph with some 25mph. Now, I’m not saying these aren’t friendly people, but they have never heard of a \$5.00 speeding ticket. No, sir-ree. Over there, speeding is an arrest-able offense and all offenders will appear in court. As we leave the airport, the night of our arrival, we are speeding along the 45 miles to our condo (it was too soon to know about the arrest thing) having a hard time keeping up with the ever changing speed limit signs. Danny says, “What is with this 50mhp, then 25 mph, then 35mph thing?” Of course, at this time of the night, it seemed the entire island had gone to bed and the roads are curvy, but there was little traffic. “Don’t tell me you can’t drive over 50 mph!” By now, it is dark, and in my brief conversation with Chel, upon our arrival, he mentioned the beautiful drive from the airport to Princeville, our home for the next week.

I said to Danny, “They probably think you should slow down so you can enjoy the scenery.”

“Well, we’ve got all week!” was his reply. Like I said, we fit right in. Danny, Ashley and I finally made it to the condo and were happy to see Chel and Heather and little Colton, who was sleeping after a long 12 hour day of travel. Our condo offered a beautiful view of the ocean from our balcony, and in the coming week we would enjoy many a meal there amongst the native bird sightings, beautiful tropical trees and spouting whales.

I could elaborate on the beautiful things that Kauai has to offer, as there are many, but it is much more fun to tell of the unusual and things I would probably avoid or do differently if ever I should return. First of all, I want to be the one to tell you, it is not, I repeat, not hot in Hawaii. At least, not Kauai, in April. Seventy-fiveish, with gusty winds and intermittent rain. Now, the rain really was not a problem as it was warm and the showers would come and go, day and night. But, the wind! The first few days, I thought there must be some mistake. “Oh, no,” I was told. “This is pretty typical. Maybe not always quite this bad, but the wind blows a lot.” Yippee! It wasn’t all bad, though, as there was very little desire to whip out the one piece, covers not-nearly enough, old lady (I was told) swimsuit, I brought. The weather did improve some and we learned the other side of the island isn’t quite as windy and overcast, thus I may recommend lodging on the Poipu, Lawai or south side of Kauai. Enough about the weather, because no matter what I’ve led you to believe, it was, oh, so much better than NE Montana.

Chickens, chickens everywhere. Chickens have free reign over Kauai. For chickens, they are quite beautiful, full of color-oranges, reds, and browns, with a speckled one thrown in for good measure. The interesting story behind them goes back to 1982 when Kauai had a devastating hurricane. At the time, many natives raised chickens and during the storm they became displaced. The chickens were left to roam and because they are quite hearty and have no natural predators that exist on Kauai, they have continued to thrive. In 1992 another hurricane hit the island leaving more chickens without homes. Although the chickens are protected, they have become a catch-22 for the residents and tourists alike. Many visitors enjoy the birds until all hours of the night when the roosters, who seemed to be on their own time clock, give their trademark wake-up call again, and again, and again.



Another interesting tidbit was seeing where “Puff the Magic Dragon” lives. We all know he lives by the sea, but as we visited the land called Hanalei, I didn’t put two and two together. It sometimes takes me awhile and by our second visit the light bulb went on. It was one of my favorite spots; both the quaint little shops and restaurants were the best we found. Another proof of the laid back customs of Kauai, surfaced on our way to Hanalei Bay. Heather and I are driving along and I’m the navigator so am engrossed in a map when Heather exclaims, “Now, what?” I look up as 4 cars are coming across a one lane bridge and wonder just how we are suppose to get to the other side. I then notice a sign to my right explaining, ‘one lane-bridge, Island courtesy- yield to 5-7 cars’. Not sure if the island courtesy was adhered to, we waited well past the 7 car limit, but soon found the cars stopped on the other side and waited their turn. We found the courtesy very refreshing, in our adventures that day, as we came upon two more similar bridges and with the same results.

Last, but not least, or maybe it is my least as this is one thing I would have a hard time recommending or encouraging anyone to try. It is a local menu favorite and the name alone should be the first clue you may wish to stay away from this one. It is called Moco Loco. The description reads: A hamburger patty topped with a fried egg, covered in gravy, served over a bed of rice. The super version includes mushrooms, onions and cheese. One thing about it, it covers all the bases and Danny and Chel were not above trying it. I got the impression, though, once was enough.

Aside from spending time with our family, the highlight for both Danny and I was the sunset cruise we took on the beautiful 25 mile stretch of the Na Pali Coast. This area, inaccessible by car, is absolutely breathtaking with its sea caves, vertical cliffs and waterfalls that drop to the ocean. We were lucky enough to see dolphins, sea turtles and despite it being toward the end of the season for humpback whales, we witnessed many sightings.

I am happy to report we are back home in Montana and no, Danny was not arrested nor did he have to appear in court. It is now back to reality and, although spring seems a little closer than when we left, despite the fact I have mounds of deer droppings, sticks where trees once stood and a multitude of tasks to catch up on, there is no place like home-at least until the laundry is done and the suitcase repacked for adventures yet to be determined.

(Continued on Page 7)



Danny and I and the Na Pali coast

HAMMER

Funeral services for Melvin Hammer were held at 2:30 PM Tuesday, April 7, 2009. Pastor Barbara Westhoff officiated at the service at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Westby; interment, with military honors by the Westby, Grenora, and Plentywood American Legion Posts, was in Scandia Cemetery, southwest of Westby. Casketbearers were Allen Ekness, Dennis Kittelson, and Jody, Lynden, Rick, and Robert Lagerquist; Ken Keldsen was usher. Melvin died early Thursday morning, April 2, at Sheridan Memorial Hospital in Plentywood; he was 91.

The third of 6 children of Carl and Marie (Fulsaas) Hammer, Melvin was born September 20, 1917 on the family farm south of Westby. He grew up there, attended rural schools, and graduated from Westby High School in 1936. He worked at the Lagerquist coal mine, served in the Civilian Conservation Corps at Missoula, and on a sheep ranch near Hinsdale as well as for farmers in the Westby area.

On October 30, 1943 he entered the U.S. Army for service in World War II. He served in Europe, and was on his way to the Pacific when the Japanese surrendered ... Melvin loved to joke and tease, and he often said that "the Japanese heard he was coming, and they gave up!" He did serve in the occupation of Japan until he was discharged March 15, 1946, then returned to Westby and took over the family farm.

He raised grain and cattle until retirement, then moved into Westby, where he lived until declining health forced him to LaCasa Personal Care in Plentywood. An avid reader, he was well-informed, familiar with history, and knowledgeable about a wide range of things.

Melvin was kinda set in his ways – for example, Louis L'Amour was his favorite author; but after his death, the novels by his successors just weren't the same! He maintained his dry sense of humor until his death; and loved to work crossword puzzles – with a ballpoint pen! – and enjoyed teaching other residents of LaCasa to do crosswords.

Never married, Melvin is survived by a brother, Olaf Hammer, of Tacoma, Washington; and a sister, Ethel Harshbarger, of Westby, and by nephews and nieces. Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Clarence, Selmer, and Clifford.

Fulkerson Funeral Home of Plentywood had charge of arrangements.

FATAL ACCIDENT KILLS ND MAN

Kenneth Davis, 49, of Crosby, North Dakota, was killed in an accident on Monday afternoon, April 13, in Westby. Davis was working for a crew setting up a water-well-drilling rig at Westby's north city water well when a stabilizing wire he was installing contacted an overhead high-voltage power line, killing him instantly. Davis originally from Dunseith, ND, resided in Crosby with his fiancée, Lisa Bossingham, and their 2 year-old son, Chayton. Funeral services were held April 17, at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church, in Dunseith.

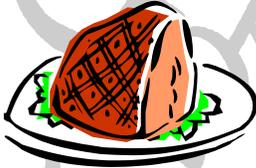
Al's Meats

212 Main Street
Westby, MT
385. 2349

1/2 Grain Fed Beef
\$1.99/lb.
Cut & Wrapped



**Check out our Extra Lean Hamburger
On sale all the time!**



Pork Whole or Half
\$1.29/lb.
Cut & Wrapped

All kinds of curing!

In town butchering available.

I bet you thought I was never getting to the recipes. I will just share a couple since I was so long winded with my “whatever you wish to call my spouting off”.

Spring, spring, spring. Speaking of spring, these recipes are perfect for a spring brunch. I had to try the first one, because the recipe claims to combine two of my favorite things: bread pudding and quiche. After trying it, I might add French toast to the list.

BREAD PUDDING QUICHE WITH BERRIES & BACON

7-8 slices cinnamon swirl bread cut in ½ inch cubes (about 5 cups)

1/3 cup butter, melted

5 eggs

1 ½ cups milk

1 ½ cups finely shredded Gruyere cheese (6 oz)

2 tsp flour

¾ cup chopped cooked ham

½ chopped green onions

2 cups assorted fresh berries

4 slices bacon, crisp-cooked, drained, broken in large pieces

Preheat oven 300 degrees. Spread bread cubes in single layer on large ungreased baking sheet. Bake 10-15 minutes or until dry. Set aside 1 cup of cubes. For crust, place remaining bread cubes in food processor. Cover and process until reduced to fine crumbs. With food processor running, pour in melted butter until combined (mixture will be crumbly). Increase oven temp to 375 degrees. Press crumb mixture onto bottom and 1 ½ inches up sides of ungreased 9 inch spring form pan. Bake 4-5 minutes or until lightly browned; cool. Reduce oven to 325 degrees. In med bowl whisk together eggs and milk. In small bowl toss together cheese, flour, and ¼ tsp each of salt and pepper. Add to egg mixture. Fold in reserved bread cubes, ham, and green onions. Pour into prepared crust. Bake 50-60 minutes or until knife inserted in center comes out clean. If necessary, after 30 minutes tent with foil to prevent over-browning. Cool on wire rack 15 minutes. Remove sides of spring form pan, loosening sides with a knife if necessary. Serve with assorted mixed berries and bacon pieces. 8 servings

I prefer the bacon in the quiche and do away with the ham. Additional bacon could still be served on the side. I would also drizzle just a little maple syrup over the quiche before serving.



Colton testing the water.

This salad will add just the right touch to your spring brunch.

HERB SALAD WITH CREAMY LEMON DRESSING

Finely shredded peel and juice from 2 medium lemons

3 cloves garlic, minced

2 tsp Dijon-style mustard

½ cup olive oil

½ cup sour cream

2-3 medium heads butterhead lettuce, torn, or 6-8 cups of mixed baby salad greens

1 ½ cups assorted fresh herbs, such as chives, basil, parsley, or mint, torn

12-16 radishes, thinly sliced

For dressing, in bowl combine lemon peel and juice, garlic, mustard, and ¼ tsp each salt and pepper.

Slowly whisk in oil until thickened. Whisk in sour cream. Toss together lettuce and herbs; transfer to serving platter. Top with sliced radishes. 6-8 servings.

MAHALO, and I hope you
ENJOY
For
LIFE IS GOOD!

FOR RENT

Westby Manor, Inc. has one-bedroom apartments for rent in Westby. Very nice, utilities paid and free laundry. Eligible tenants will not pay more than 30% of their adjusted income. The Westby Manor, Inc. will be temporarily renting apartments to all persons without regard to income restrictions.

Call Brenda at 385. 2577

Equal Housing Opportunity

Upcoming Events April

- 20th Culbertson Golf Meet at Sidney
- 21st Track Meet in Culbertson Gr. 5-8
Golf Meet in Wolf Point
- 22nd JH Academic Olympics in
Glasgow
- 24th Golf Meet in Glasgow
- 25th HS Track in Sidney
JH & HS Track at Scobey
Whitewater Golf Meet at Malta
- 27th National Honor Society Banquet

Lutheran Parish April

- 26th WORSHIP
I—10:00 am, SS—11:00 am,
Confirmation—9:00 am, SJ—11:30 am,
SS—10:30 am
- 28th Bible Study Leaders Meeting—7:00 pm
- 29th Imm Council Meeting—7:00 pm



Sheridan Electric Cooperative, Inc.

**P.O. Box 227
6408 Highway 16 South
Medicine Lake, MT
59247**

**Phone: 406-789-2231
Fax: 406-789-2234**


A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
The power of human connections®

BJORNSON

Memorial services for Esther Bjornson will be held at 2:00 PM Monday, April 27. Pastor Brandon Smithson will officiate at the service at the Plentywood Lutheran Church; interment of cremated remains is planned for St. John's Cemetery, east of Plentywood. Esther died Tuesday, December 23, 2008, in Fort Benton, MT; she was 91.

Esther was born on May 8, 1917 on a farm near Comertown, MT to Oscar and Anna (Jensen) Fransen. She grew up and went to grade school in a building that her father Oscar Fransen had donated the land to the county. Then she went to Comertown High School where she was Valedictorian in 1936. She was very dedicated to education throughout her life and was always taking college classes by telephone connection and extension classes with Dawson College and Carroll college. She managed to take enough classes to acquire enough college credits to graduate the oldest graduate Dawson College ever had in 1987 with a Associate of Arts Degree with Honors. Through her efforts and value of education she inspired all of her children to complete college.

After High School graduation she went to North Central Business School (now North Central University) in Minneapolis for a year. While in Minneapolis, she worked for Hogenson Construction Co., a company who built several elevators on the highline. This was where she met Bjorn Bjornsen. They were married on June 4, 1949 in Trondheim, Norway, where Bjorn was from. They moved to Plentywood where they built their home and raised their family. Esther worked for Bob Nelson Accounting, Gordon Holte Insurance, Western Implement; she did accounting work for Paul Olson at home, and she did several income taxes for people in the area up to last year.

Throughout her life, she worked to enrich her community. She was involved in 4-H, Camp Fire Girls, and Cub Scouts while her children were growing up and continued to volunteer through last year. Esther was involved in many organizations, helping where ever she was needed. Esther was a member of the Plentywood Assembly of God church. She enjoyed their garden and canned and filled the freezer with their bountiful produce. She was the volunteer the Golden Years Club as the treasurer from 1988 to recent years. She also helped with the congregate meals. She was a RSVP volunteer in Plentywood and involved with the Council of Aging for Sheridan County.



As a 4-H volunteer she has helped writing grant applications for 501c3 classification for the district. She has been involved with 4-H since 1961. She was honored by the Montana State 4-H Council for volunteering. She received the Friend of 4-H in 2002. She was still volunteering until this last February for both the Golden Years and 4-H. She loved music and every chance she went to the school and other concerts in the area. She taught the appreciation of music to her children. She loved to be with people and attended many community functions and events. She was involved with the Sheridan County Fair every year for several years.

Esther liked to travel. She and Bjorn went to Norway to get married. She took several trips in the US. When Bernhard was in the military stationed in Germany she made two trips to Europe to visit him. One time to Norway and one that included a tour of several other European countries. Esther, Bjorn and Bernhard took two other trips to Norway. She also went with Bernhard and her granddaughter Diane again to Norway after Diane graduated from high school. She made several trips to California. The last one, last June, she travelled with Bernhard to California to her grandson's, Daniel Bellonzi, High School Graduation and visit with family and friends.

Esther is survived by her son and two daughters and their families, Bernhard and Gloria Bjornsen of St. Paul, MN, Emelie and Oscar Trunk of Ft. Benton, MT and Helen and Peter Bellonzi of Watsonville, CA. Also surviving are five grandchildren, Elaine (Aaron) Fields of Sidney, MT, Diane (Morton) Thomasson of Billings, MT, Daniel, Nicole and Abigail Bellonzi of Watsonville, CA. and one great-granddaughter, Laryssa Fields. She is also survived by a brother, Edwin Fransen, and a sister, Edith Haarstad. Esther was preceded in death by her parents, Oscar and Anne Fransen, her brother John Fransen, her husband, Bjorn, in 2000 and daughter, Marianne in 1998.

Fulkerson Funeral Home of Plentywood has charge of arrangements.

You're Invited



The children of Florence and Deane Lautenschlaager will be hosting an open house in honor of Deane's 80th birthday.

The party will be held on May 2nd from 2:00-4:00 in the conference room at the Quilt Inn in Kenmare, ND.

Deane will be 80 years old on April 24th.

If you are unable to attend, but wish to send a card, they may be addressed to:

Deane Lautenschlager
PO Box 123
Kenmare, ND 58746

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY MEET

The Westby American Legion Auxiliary held their meeting on April 6th, 2009 at 1:30 in the Community Center. President Christine Schmidt officiated. Irene Stageberg, chaplain, offered prayers, followed by silent prayers for our war dead and peace with special thoughts of Melvin Hammer who passed away on April 2nd. We sang the National Anthem and repeated our Preamble. Roll call was taken and we are glad to have Chris Barstad back from California. Secretary Adeline Lagerquist gave the minutes of the last meeting and the financial report for Ethel.

Geraldine Pennell's letter of the month was read by Christine. The American Legion Auxiliary convention will be held in Plentywood on April 25th. Registration is \$15.00 and the Westby Auxiliary has been assigned to sit on the national constitution & by-laws committee. Several other bits of correspondence were read.

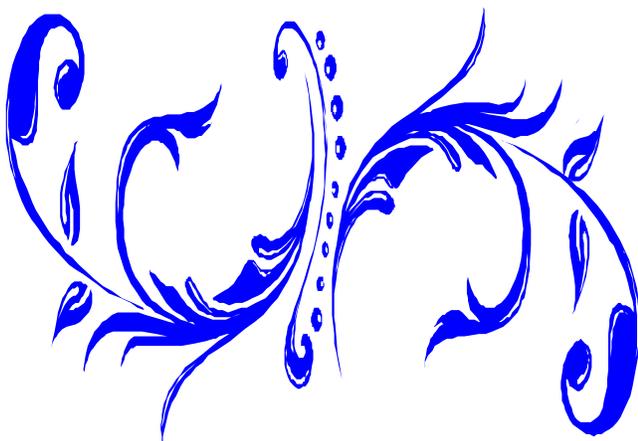
Discussion was held on the upcoming Memorial Day Observance to be held on May 25th in the Westby School Gym.

The next meeting will be at the home of Audrey Anderson in Williston at noon Montana time. Poppies will be distributed that day.

In closing, "America" was sung, followed by "peace prayers" offered by Irene and ending with the "Auxiliary" song. The meeting was adjourned and Adeline Lagerquist served lunch.

WHS CLASS OF 1979 PLAN REUNION

The Class of '79 is planning their 30th year class reunion to be held in Westby on 19 - 20 June, 2009. A social event / open house is planned for Friday evening in the Community Center. Numerous events are on board for Saturday. Please contact Kim D'Angelo (Moericke) at: dangelo@mcn.net or Curt Weiler at: curtis.weiler@us.army.mil or go to classmates.com and the Westby HS link, here you will see discussion on the reunion along with a method to RSVP or leave a message.



TRACK SEASON IN FULL SWING

The junior high and high school track students attended the Nashua Invitational Track Meet in Glasgow on Saturday, April 18th. The results are as follows:

HIGH SCHOOL:

Samantha Olson—1st-Long Jump, 1st-Javelin

Kylie Ryals-2nd- Long Jump, 2nd-Javelin

Willie Bice-5th-Discus

Colton Hellegaard-3rd-Javelin

JUNIOR HIGH:

Brady Olson-5th-100 M (13.4), 2nd-Long Jump (15'4³/₄"),
6th-200M (29 sec.), 3rd-Triple Jump (32' 11")

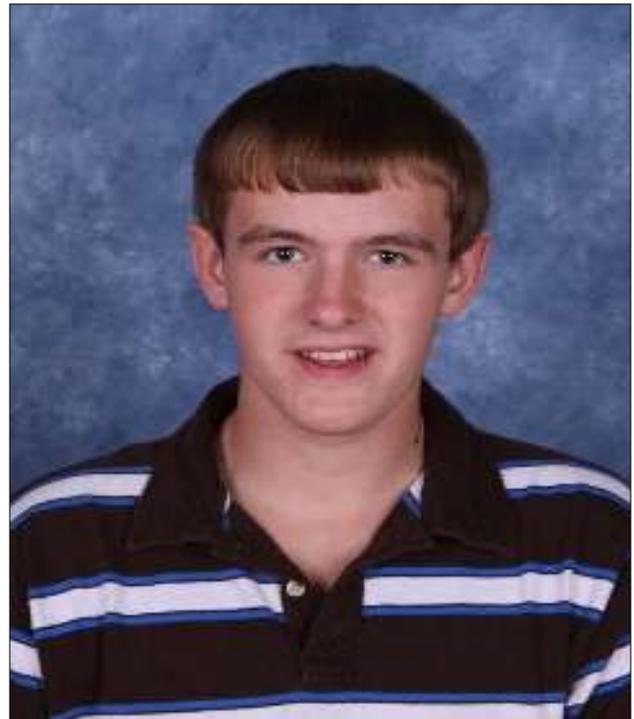
Makenzie Westgard-5th Discus

Sophia Ekness-5th-400M (1:14)

Kayla Rust-3rd-Pole Vault

Tess Bjorgen-2nd-Pole Vault

Track coaches are Sue and Kim Meyer.



Terrance Bjorgen will be competing at the upcoming State Music Festival.

WESTBY CONCERT BAND RECEIVE SUPERIOR RATING

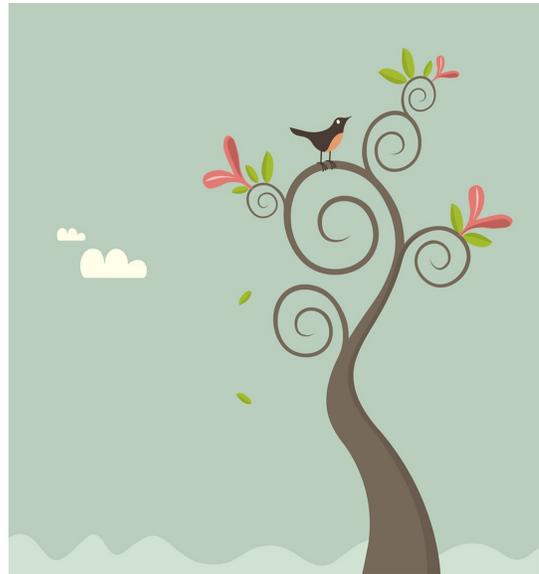
The Westby Concert Band, comprised of both junior high and senior high students, received a I, or Superior rating, on their performance of "Suite for Native Americana", as well as on their sight reading piece at District Music Festival. This year's festival was held April 17th and 18th in Culbertson. Senior Sasha Carter, for her vocal solo, and sophomore Terrance Bjorgen, for his flute solo, each also received a I (Superior) rating earning them the honor of competing at the State Music Festival in Billings on May 1st and 2nd. Brett Nielsen and Abby Westgard each received a II (Excellent) rating. The music department is under the direction of Mr. Greg Janick



Sasha Carter will be competing in the upcoming State Music Festival.

“I stuck my head
out the window this
morning and spring
kissed me bang in
the face.”

Langston Hughes



| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  | <i>Westby Border News</i> <i>Contact Information</i> | <i>Subscriptions</i> |
| | Editor: Val Moore P.O. Box 36 Westby, MT 59275 E-mail: dvmoore@nemontel.net | Subscriptions are \$24.00/year. Mail your check made payable to: |
| | Publisher: Tracy Johanson P.O. Box 124 Westby, MT 59275 E-mail: loopy_fruits@hotmail.com | Westby Development Corporation % Val Moore or Tracy Johanson Westby, MT 59275 |
| | <i>Submission Deadline</i> 6 P.M. FRIDAY before Publication | <i>Advertising Rates</i> Personal Ads—\$3.00 for all ads up to 2 inches, and \$1.00 extra per each additional inch 1/4 page—\$8.00 1/2 page—\$12.00 Full page—\$20.00 |
| <i>LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME BUT MUST BE SIGNED.</i> | | |