

# The Westby Border News



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## OLSON NAMED MVP IN 6-MAN ALL-STAR FOOTBALL GAME

The 17<sup>th</sup> annual 6-man all-star football game was held in Custer on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Twenty- thirteen WHS graduate Brady Olson was selected to play on the Red All-Star Team and play he did. Olson scored five touchdowns leading the east/west Red Team to a 63-40 win over the north/south Blue Team. On the defensive side, Brady also contributed 8 tackles. With four rushing touchdowns the first half including 59 and 52 yarders, the Red Team had a comfortable lead at halftime 36-12. In the fourth quarter, Olson's fifth touchdown,



*Brady pictured with his family and MVP award: His brother Cooper, a WHS junior, his mother Shari, Brady, dad Kelly and sister Samantha.*

an 8 yard sprint, sewed the game up. Brady was named his team's offensive MVP. In a Billings Gazette interview Brady said, "They were bigger and stronger, but we knew we were faster. We got on our game plan and it worked." The Westby-Grenora standout has signed to play college football for the University of Mary Marauders this fall in Bismarck, North Dakota. Olson was also an all-

state performer in basketball and helped guide Westby-Grenora to a second-place finish at this year's State C tournament.

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# Happy Birthday, Westby!

## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

We have received the nicest letters from Kenneth Brasher and Jan Rasmussen wishing Westby a happy birthday. You can send birthday greetings as well by emailing:

[westbycentennial2013@gmail.com](mailto:westbycentennial2013@gmail.com).

We'll be posting all the greetings we receive on the Centennial site.

I want to wish a big happy birthday to my hometown of Westby! When people have asked over the years where I'm from, I always say, "a little town in the NE corner of Montana but you've never heard of it" and every now and then, someone HAS heard of it! I always love coming "home" and Westby will always be "home" to me. When I say to my kids, "back home", they know I mean Westby! I also want to say a BIG THANK YOU to all of the Westby folks who planned this celebration and made it happen! I am very much looking forward to being there! Happy birthday, Westby!

Jan (Onstad) Rasmussen, WHS 1957

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I was cruising the net and decided to check out what was happening in Westby and found that the best town in America was celebrating it's centennial this year. I was privileged to attend Westby High school my sophomore year (1967/8). If I had my way I would have graduated a Westby Ranger and settled down to live there. My mother had other plans, so when my father retired from the oil fields we moved back to Texas. It has been 45 years since I have been back to Westby but a part of me is always going to be in love with her. Westby and the people of the area for ever changed my life for the better. No place I lived had ever accepted me for the person that I was. And no group of people influenced the course of my life like my friends, school mates, and their families in Westby did. I sought a degree in electronics, worked for the Army Civil Service, joined the Air force and attained the rank of E-5 in 3 years. I have since worked as a hospital engineer and taught school in 2 districts. As I am nearing retirement age I am working in a hydraulic repair shop in Palestine, Texas. There is a lot less stress outside the classroom.

Still i wish that life had twisted my fate differently sometimes and kept me among you all. Who knows what might have lay in store for me in Westby. Such was not to be my fate. So i wish to offer my congratulations to the grand city of Westby on her centennial birthday and I would like to give a hardy East Texas howdy to those that remember me. But especially to my best friend Wade Bjorgen and all his brothers and sisters and to Tanya, Peggy, and Scott Oksa and Lynn Tangedal and Jean Hagen. I remember you all and too many others to name. Maybe before my time is up I might find my way back for a visit one never knows what fate has in store.....

Kenneth "Wilber" Brasher  
Palestine Texas 75801

**SEVEN EARN STRAIGHT A's**  
HONOR AND HONORABLE MENTION LIST  
FOURTH QUARTER WESTBY SCHOOLS  
2012-2013

**HONOR ROLL**

Seniors:

KAYLA RUST \*  
TESS BJORGEN\*  
MAKAYLA WESTGARD\*  
MAKENZIE WESTGARD

8th Grade:

FALLON GARMAN  
FARRAH GARMAN

7th Grade:

Juniors:

THAYNE EKNESS\*

6th Grade:

KATIE NIELSEN\*

Sophomores:

COOPER OLSON\*

**HONORABLE MENTION:**

6th Grade:

ALICIA LAGERQUIST

Freshmen:

KEVIN RUST\*

\*DENOTES STRAIGHT A'S

**RUST EARNS NDSU  
SCHOLARSHIP**

Kayla Rust, daughter of Robert and Kimberly Rust, Alkabo, N.D., received the North Dakota State University Freshman Academic Scholarship in the amount of \$4,500. The scholarship recognizes high academic achievement. Rust will enter NDSU in the fall and plans to major in elementary education and human development and family science. In high school, she was active in volleyball, basketball, track and Immanuel Lutheran Youth Organization.

NDSU is recognized as one of the nation's top 108 public and private universities by the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education.

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**Danny Moore**  
Westby Manager



GIANT GRASSHOPPER KILLED  
NEAR WESTBY MONTANA

Postcard from 1937



Have you ever found something you didn't know you lost only to be overjoyed by the discovery? That has been our experience this past week as four distant cousins from Sweden who journeyed to the United States took the time to look us up and share with us their time, culture, traditions and family history. In addition, we were joined by cousins from Billings who we also had the pleasure of becoming better acquainted with. They were here only three short days (48 hours), but we made the best of every moment and besides getting to know them individually, we shared family legends and stories, discussed our countries likes and differences, and dispelled some perceptions about the way of life in the "old country". I believe I have a habit of grouping the Scandinavian countries and their customs, culture, and beliefs under one big umbrella. Not necessarily so. I have recently discovered.

Ooftah! You say. I have imagined Scandinavians running around all day saying things like: "So, you are out of lutefisk! Ooftah!" Well, it seems only one out of four of my Swedish relatives has ever heard the expression and she was now trying to explain to the other three what the slang expression might mean. Really? Hard to believe isn't it. Here we have been blaming them for the way we talk and they don't even know their own language... I guess I will blame it on the Norwegians and I have nary of drop of their blood. I could perhaps blame it on my Danish quarter as I think some of these traditions could stem from there. Ooftah! I have to say!

I also discovered in Sweden lut-fisk as they spell it, is not a staple, but is served generally only on Christmas Day. And, believe it or not, lut-fisk is served not with butter, but a béchamel sauce with allspice. Very interesting since in my experience it is butter served with lutefisk, not the other way around. And lefsa, well, in northern Sweden it -



may be available, but not plentiful and again not something that this group was real familiar with and ate with their lut-fisk. . Ya. Sure, you betcha. Not so. I have learned.

Swedes do enjoy kropp-kaka (potato dumplings) as does my family and gathers with friends and family for knyt kalas (potlucks). Their summers are short and snow is generally plentiful. They enjoy simple, fresh foods, the outdoors and family. Midsummer Festival, celebrated around the summer solstice, is the most celebrated annual event in Sweden next to Christmas. Since our guests could not be home for Midsummer Festival they brought it to Montana with them. It was our pleasure to be entertained by singing and dancing around the maypole (we pretended) in our yard and a couple of us even joined in on the fun.

The work force enjoys a minimum of five weeks a year for "holiday" and both mother and father are given one full year off, if they so chose, for the birth of their child. Employees are fully compensated for this time off. Before you quit your job and head to Sweden, realize taxes are high (maybe no higher than ours) as the Swedish government claims to take care of their own from birth to death. The citizens are minimalists' in many ways -something we Americans could take away from them.

The visit, which was our pleasure, was very enlightening and will be treasured always....did I mention I have my suitcase packed and can't wait to see and hear the experience of Sweden first hand never to lose what was found again. In our Swedish relative's honor, I have pulled recipes from the Centennial cookbook which make reference to their heritage. *(Continues next page)*

Ingeborg Ward was the most beloved Swede in Westby, known for her delicious cooking and baking. Many enjoyed the pleasure of her company and her delicious delicacies.

### **FRIDA-KRANSAR**

7 oz butter

7 oz flour

5 Tablespoon sweet cream

Preheat oven 400 degrees. Mix flour and butter, then pour cream over top. Mix, using as little handling as possible. Chill. Roll out; cut with small doughnut cutter. Rub lightly with egg white; dip in sugar. Bake in hot oven until brown.

This recipe was submitted by Naomi Hall, a former pastor's wife.

### **SWEDISH AGGKAKA**

¼ pound butter

3 eggs

Put butter in a 9X13 pan and place in hot 450 degree oven to melt. In a medium bowl, beat eggs well with egg beater.

Add to eggs in order given and mix well after each addition:

2 cups milk

1/8 cup sugar

½ tsp salt

1 cup flour

Pour in pan with butter. Bake 20-25 minutes.

Will become puffy. Serve hot with syrup. Serves 4. Good brunch dish.

The last recipe is compliments of Ione (Anderson) Hanson and the name indicates it roots.

### **SWEDISH NUTS**

3 ½ cups nuts (any combination of walnuts, pecans, & or almonds)

Toast nuts in jellyroll pan at 325 degrees for 10 minutes. Remove and cool.

Melt

### **MERINGUE:**

2 stiffly beaten egg whites

1 cup sugar

Dash salt

Mix meringue ingredients together with nuts and put in pan. Bake for 30 minutes, turning every 10 minutes with spatula. Cool and store in air tight container.

This last recipe was my Grandma's and is a family favorite. My kids and grandkids love them and we even have my daughter-in-law, who is not a big pancake lover, requesting them.

### **SWEDISH PANCAKES (crepes)**

3 eggs beaten

2 cups milk

2 tablespoons sugar

½ tsp salt

½ tsp baking powder

2 tablespoons oil

1 ½ cups flour

Mix and add 1 tsp vanilla

Heat a sauté pan over med high heat. Brush with light coat of vegetable oil. Pour ¼ cup of batter in pan and swirl pan to make a thin even coat. Fry until lightly browned, flip to fry remaining side.

Re-coat with oil as needed. Serve with cream and brown sugar, whipped cream and strawberries or maple syrup.

**OOFTAH!  
LIFE  
is  
Good!**

*We look forward to seeing  
you soon in Westby!*

## STAGEBERG HONORED BY MONTANA GOVERNOR

Irene Stageberg of Westby was one of several Centenarians - those who have lived 100 years or more - honored at a special luncheon held during the Governor's Conference on Aging in Glasgow May 7. Sixteen Centenarians and their families were able to attend in either Glasgow or its sister event in Great Falls May 9, where Governor Steve Bullock presented certificates to Irene and over eighty other Centenarians from across Montana. They all had responded to a DPHHS questionnaire that asked their secret to longevity, the most amazing event in their life, and a favorite quote. Their brief stories were read to the audience. Irene's favorite saying is, "I can do it!" And she certainly can!

Randy Nordhagen accompanied Irene to the Glasgow gathering. Other Sheridan County residents attending included Mary Tvedt, Evedine Lane, Linda Hendrickson, Clarence and Mabel Sherman, and Vicki Ruby.

The annual Conferences on Aging offer information on issues of interest to local seniors and their families. This year's conference covered a number of topics such as estate planning, mental health and aging, fraud and abuse, drug interactions, home safety, identity theft, and tracing family genealogies. The two day events are planned jointly by Montana State DPHHS and by people local to the communities in which they are held. Kalispell will host the single Conference on Aging for 2014.



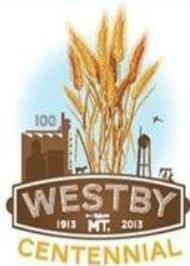
*Pictured Above: Rene Stageberg receiving her certificate from Governor Steve Bullock. (inset) Rene Stageberg.*

### FOR RENT

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## Centennial Central

westbycentennial.yolasite.com

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## Centennial Radio Report

KATQ Radio in Plentywood is featuring a weekly history spot in honor of the 2013 Westby Centennial.

The spots are written by Jandy Jorgensen and Jandy, along with a variety of Westby residents, will read the brief histories which air Tuesdays at 10:10 am (1070 AM and 100.1 FM).

### CENTENNIAL REPORT #1

Well, folks, there are only a few weeks remaining until the big celebration of Westby's 100th year as the little town with the big heart. I hope that your reservations have been made for your participation in this historic celebration! While you wait for this party, I'll share with you some more information about the community and its important landmarks.

Back in the beginning days, many people homesteaded for the opportunity to own some of their own piece of ground to support and supply themselves for the duration of their stay in the north part of the country. If it was to be successful, hard work, stamina, and faith that all would work out would be the binding straws that kept those early folks in the area. Of course, not everyone could be homesteaders, so services as well as suppliers needed to be present also.

Now, I mentioned faith in the previous statement and it was faith which helped draw those folks together at least once a month, sometimes more frequently. By faith, I mean the desire for churches!

Can you imagine -- 9 churches around the area of Westby back in the teens and early -

twenties? Some were in town, some were rural and not all churches had a building proper in the beginning. Many faithful folk gathered at first in homes or barns of generous neighbors to hear the words they needed to keep up their faith that all would be provided for them as necessary and as the higher being would see to it. Some churches began to build official houses of worship as their congregations grew too numerous to keep them in the house walls.

Daneville Danish Evangelical Lutheran was probably the first building built in 1906, but that building was then moved onto the Montana side and was then used as a public school building -- hey, there was no issue with separation of church & state back then! 1913 found their new Daneville church building being constructed. In 1915 Oslo and Scandia built their buildings, St Elizabeth's Catholic Church followed a year later building in town. Pleasant Valley placed their church in 1919, St John in 1921, Westby Assembly of God in 1922. A few years later First Lutheran built in 1927 and Lone Tree finally put up a building proper in 1929. Emmaus built a house of worship in there as well. Our Saviors church was formed in 1946 which joined the Lone Tree and Pleasant Valley Congregations of rural Westby.

Immanuel Lutheran Church was the last to be organized in 1964, which realigned First Lutheran, Daneville, Oslo, and Scandia Congregations. Five years later Our Saviors merged into Immanuel also, which left St John as the only rural church, of which the congregation celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2012!

The church buildings have changed locations or been removed to accommodate different venues. Emmaus was the only church in the area which burned after being struck by lightning in 1976. The congregation did rebuild the following year and when Emmaus closed its doors in the mid-nineties, the building was moved to Medicine Lake. Oslo Lutheran moved their church into Westby which is currently the Assembly of God building on Main Street. *(Continues next page)*

# Centennial Radio Report

*(Continued)*

The Daneville church building was moved to Crosby, ND to the Pioneer Village where it can be enjoyed as a piece of history. Lone Tree was a basement church and the foundation still remains at its site northwest of Westby. Pleasant Valley became Our Saviors when merging with Lone Trees. Then Our Saviors later merged with Immanuel in town when the current building was constructed. The first St Elizabeth's Catholic church still sits near the town's water tower. St Elizabeth's congregation moved into First Lutheran's building in the seventies after First Lutheran merged with Immanuel. The abandoned first Catholic church building was used a few years by the school to present school plays. I can remember seeing at least one performance from the balcony and I thought it was amazing with all the lighting and "professional actors" creating such an impressive entertainment in our small town!

Who needed Broadway or New York for that matter? Little did I know at the time that the actors were high school students.

The church histories are much broader than I have had time to share with you today. They still remain monuments to our communities which in larger metropolises might be called suburbs.

Our Westby community has had the religious suburbs of Lone Tree, Oslo, St John, Emmaus, Pleasant Valley, Scandia and Daneville, the only one still remaining is St John. But, the part of history which all of these houses of worship played is extremely important in the development of what is now the town proper. Glimpses of the past can be seen on some hills and on monumental rocks or steeples which now mark the spot. Don't forget to seek those special places while taking a moment at the Westby Centennial to ponder how vital those people with faith sought words of encouragement to keep the area of Westby in their vision! It took a lot of hard work and stamina to continue, but faith in whatever denomination was the cornerstone.

This was a fun project to learn about as I pursued this avenue of information. I hope you can be on the Main "Avenue" of Westby in about a month to celebrate with all of those who still call Westby "home". Enjoy your last few days of summer because the Centennial will be here before you know it...

## CENTENNIAL REPORT #2

In just under a month, the 100 year old town of Westby and its populated surrounding area will be breathing a sigh of relief after the festivities are over, and at the same time smiling at the great event that made an historical party one special weekend for an entire community! Less than a month, people! That's all that remains of the planning part. Then it's your participation that will make the weekend truly a successful celebration!

Over the past 100 years, it seems that Westby has always known how to be entertained. Even though it was the last town on Hwy 5 before reaching North Dakota, or the 1st town into Montana after leaving the North Dakota prairies of the high plains, the folks of Westby needed some form of "enlivenment" after their long days of farming, building, delivering, servicing, cooking, and cleaning in order to maintain a smile to begin another day or another week of life with the prairie dogs.

Chautauqua was an adult education movement in the United States, highly popular in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Named after Chautauqua Lake where the first was held in NY, Chautauqua assemblies expanded and spread throughout rural America until the mid-1920s. The Chautauqua brought entertainment and culture for the whole community, with speakers, teachers, musicians, entertainers, preachers and specialists of the day.

*(Continues next page)*

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# Westby Border News Centennial Radio Report

*(Continued)*

Former U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt was quoted as saying that Chautauqua is "the most American thing in America."

The first "Circuit Chautauquas" (or, Tent Chautauquas) would be presented in tents pitched "on a well-drained field near town." After several days, the Chautauqua would fold its tents and move on. Circuit Chautauqua began in 1904. Each performer, or group, appeared on a particular day of the program. Thus "first day" talent would move on to other Chautauquas, followed by the "second day" performers, and so on, throughout the touring season. By the mid-1920s, when circuit Chautauquas were at their peak, they appeared in more than 10,000 communities to audiences of more than 45 million; by about 1940 they had run their course. And Westby was not left out of the circuit despite their remote location!

The popularity of the Chautauqua movement can be attributed in part to the social and geographic isolation of American farming and ranching communities. People in such areas would naturally be hungry for education, culture, and entertainment, and the Chautauqua movement was a timely response to that need. By the turn of the century, however, other entertainment and educational opportunities, such as radio and movies, began to arrive in American towns to compete with Chautauqua lectures. With the advent of the automobile after 1910, and the radio after 1920, middle class Americans could now listen to or attend cultural events previously available only in urban areas and the Chautauqua movement lost popularity. I invite you to research more on the Chautauquas as this part of Montana was on their national circuit, often as the end of the line...

Other entertainment in the first years also included dances, basket socials, and debating clubs which were held in homes. Once schools were built, those became gathering places for areas. If there was something being planned, no texts or emails were sent out in those days, not even a mailman would deliver.

Instead, the "Paul Revere" method was used to notify neighbors of the particulars!

The Knutson Opera House was the first building to be constructed in the new townsite. The name was later changed to the Orpheum Theatre. Silent movies were shown once a week and an old player piano provided the background music. Card parties were held quite often there as well, with Norwegian whist as the most popular game played. Dances and basketball games were held there as well as annual spring programs presented completely with a good stage and colored footlights.

Baseball games attracted much attention in those days. Westby's team was one of the best in the area, with pitcher Hans Larson and catcher Hub Wirtzberger and many other good players such as Leo Kenny, Palmer Erickson, Mart & Leo Brady, Roy Broadland, Bennie Anderson, and Bill Flaskerud who really put on a good show. Harold Borg was the manager of one of the first successful baseball teams which played against the bigger towns of Crosby, Williston and even Dooley!

I'm not sure exactly when the first ballgame was played in Westby, but I found a photo of some 30+ old-time cars lining the outfield watching the game alongside the railroad tracks! Some of the ladies are even in their Sunday go to meetin' dresses and fancy hats!

A couple of other stories I unearthed which I thought would make a few people smile are shared from the Rostads who ran the drug store. CN Rostad was the first radio dealer in the entire area. An incident recalled when at a specified time, the town's people packed in the drug store to hear the first word on radio. After much trial and error in tuning in a station, the first message was finally received from a radio station in Regina, Canada. In the excitement that followed, the listeners drowned out the radio station with their shouts of joy so they missed just what the first message actually said!

*(Continues next page)*

# Centennial Radio Report

*(Continued)*

One of the first burglaries in Westby occurred at the drug store, when it was discovered in the early morning hours that the safe had been broken into and all the narcotics, money and five diamond rings (Rostad was also the town jewelry dealer) were stolen. The burglars were never apprehended.

And finally, we've heard the story about the old cow which tipped over the lantern in a barn in Chicago starting the fire which caused the great Chicago fire of 1871. Well, that cow must have had some relatives which moooooooved to Westby some 40 years later. Seems that Old Coalridge had a town cow that was a real town character.

This cow would rob the clothes lines of clothes hung out to dry. All the neighbors had to watch their clothes lines. At one time this cow ate the mosquito netting off the window of the Rostad house, pushing her head through the window and snatched a doily from a table near the window and ate it!

I certainly hope you enjoyed this little bit of entertainment from 100 years ago in the Westby area. And all through these changes the most important commodities of all remain constant: Hospitality and friendliness of the people, smog free air and Montana sunsets! You can enjoy all of them at the Centennial celebration July 12,13 & 14 with everyone else! And you won't even have to worry about the cow this time!



## **PRESS RELEASE: Special Forces Soldier killed in action**

FORT CAMPBELL, KY. (USASOC News Service, June 3, 2013) - Warrant Officer Sean W. Mullen, 39, of Dover, Del., died June 2, 2013, in Ghur Ghuri, Afghanistan, of injuries sustained from an improvised explosive device. Mullen was assigned to Company B, 2nd Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Fort Campbell, Ky., as an assistant detachment commander for a Special Forces Operational Detachment-Alpha (ODA), or A-team. He was deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan. This was Mullen's sixth deployment in support of an overseas contingency operation. Mullen enlisted in the Army in November, 1995, as an Infantryman. Upon completion of basic training and advanced individual training, Mullen was assigned to 3rd Bn., 327th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). After successful completion of the Basic Airborne Course at Fort Benning, Ga., he was assigned to 1st Bn., 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C. In March 2001, Mullen was assigned to 1st Bn., 503rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Casey, Republic of Korea. In April 2002, Mullen was assigned to instruct at the Basic Airborne and Pathfinder courses at Fort Benning, Ga. Mullen volunteered for the Special Forces Assessment and Selection Course and completed the Special Forces Qualification Course in April 2007. He was assigned to Co. A, 2nd Bn., 5th SFG (A) as a medical sergeant and later became the senior medical sergeant for the company. Mullen spent two years on a Special Forces team until his selection as the company operations sergeant. After a successful deployment as the company operations sergeant in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Mullen was assigned as the senior medic for a Special Forces team in Company A. Mullen deployed again to in support of OIF. Mullen was a member of the first battalion within the U.S. Army Special Forces Command (A) qualified to conduct Unconventional Warfare. Mullen additionally deployed to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in support of Special Operations Command - Central requirements.

Mullen was selected to attend the Warrant Officer Technical and Tactical Certification Course; graduating as a Warrant Officer in November 2012.

Mullen's military education includes the Special Forces Qualification Course, Warrant Officer Technical and Tactical Certification Course, Advanced Special Operations Technical Course, Special Forces Medical Course, Special Operations Combat Medical Skills Sustainment Course, Total Army Instructor Training Course, Warrior Leader Course, Advanced Leader Course, Senior Leader Course, Combat Life Savers Course, Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (SERE) Course, Combatives Level 1, Pathfinder Course, Static-line Jumpmaster Course, Infantry Mortar Leaders Course, and the Airborne Course.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal with seven oak leaf clusters, the Good Conduct Medal with four knots, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with two campaign stars, the Iraq Campaign Medal with three campaign stars, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Korea Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon with numeral "2" device, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon with one oak leaf cluster, the Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, the Joint Unit Meritorious Award, the Army Meritorious Unit Commendation Award with one oak leaf cluster, Special Forces Tab, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Air Assault Badge, Senior Parachutist Badge and the Parachutist Badge.

He is survived by his wife and parents.

## MULLEN

Sean W. Mullen, 39, passed away on June 2, 2013, while conducting combat operations in the Nimroz Province of Afghanistan. He was born on March 13, 1974, in Allentown, PA and moved to Delaware when he was three years old. Sean grew up in Dover, Delaware and graduated from Caesar Rodney High School in 1992. As a child Sean enjoyed playing sports and being a Boy Scout. He was known as "the organizer" of neighborhood baseball games for years.

After high school Sean attended Delaware Technical and Community College and served in the Maryland National Guard. Sean went on active duty with the U.S. Army in 1995 as an Infantryman with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. During his career in the Army he became an instructor for the Airborne and Pathfinder courses in Fort Benning, GA. Sean was selected for and completed the Special Forces Qualification Courses in April 2007 and served as a Senior Medical Sergeant. In November 2012 he was appointed as a Warrant Officer and rejoined Company Bravo, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne), Fort Campbell, KY as the Assistant Detachment Commander for Special Forces Operational Detachment-Alpha 5221 and deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan. In total, Sean deployed six times in support of Overseas Contingency Operations.

Sean was incredibly humble about the many military awards and decorations that he earned throughout his military career. Most notably Sean has received personal commendations from the Commanding General of United States Army Special Forces Command and was awarded the prestigious Bruce E. Price Leadership Award. He earned two Bronze Stars prior to his death and a third, along with the Purple Heart, posthumously. He was an Expert Infantryman and Master Parachutist. He also earned the Combat Infantryman Badge along with several other decorations and awards.

Sean married the love of his life, Nancy (Nelson) Mullen in 2005 in Scobey, Montana.



### EDITOR'S NOTE:

Nancy Mullen is the daughter of Marvin Nelson of Westby, MT.

They were happily married for 7 years and enjoyed life in TN with their ever faithful dog children, Patton and Gwennie. More than once Sean and Nancy have rescued and treated stray dogs at their own expense. Sean had a strong network of Army brothers who have surrounded the family with love and support. Sean enjoyed hunting, collecting antique guns and renovating old Jeeps. As an adult he became an avid reader with a passion for learning how to be the best at everything he did. He was known to his Army comrades as a "walking encyclopedia", a leader, mentor and teacher. One of his teammates stated it like this "there are men alive today because of Sean".

In addition to his loving wife, Sean is survived by his devoted parents William and Miriam Mullen of Dover, Delaware as well as his sister Christina Eilers (George) also of Dover. He was a very special uncle to Leo and Willow Eilers of Dover and Keeley Nelson of Colorado. Sean was chosen to be Leo's Godfather as well as the Godfather of his best friend's child Joseph Deluzio of Tennessee.

Funeral services were held at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Dover, DE on June 22, 2013, at 10:30 am. Burial with full military honors will be at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA on June 25 at 9:00 am.

Condolences may be left on Sean W.

Mullen's online guest book at [legacy.com](http://legacy.com). In addition the family asks that we all remember our soldiers on foreign soil and the sacrifices they and their families are making to better the lives of others.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions be made in Sean's memory (IMO WO1 Sean W. Mullen) to The Special Forces Association, Chapter 38, Attn: Treasurer, PO Box 223, Fort Campbell, KY 42223 ([sfa38.org](http://sfa38.org)).

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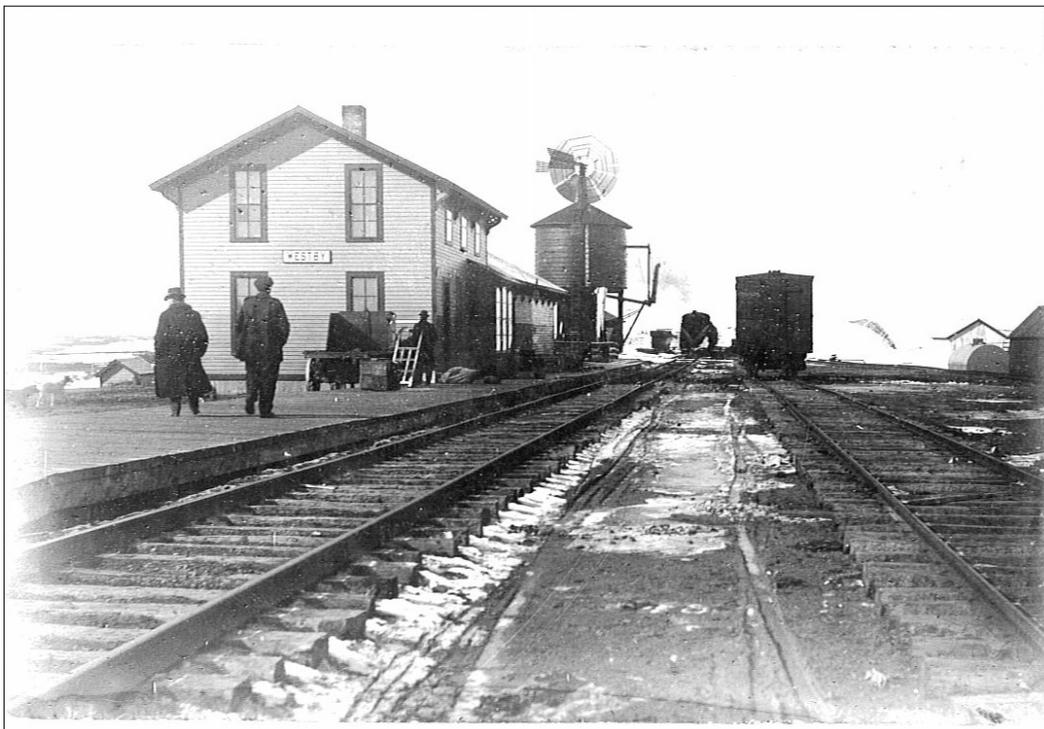
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**Thank You!**

Marlys and Allan Ekness would like to give their sincere appreciation for all of the cards, flowers, plants, hand-made items and food that has been sent over the past few months. The heart of this small community is simply amazing and our children, as well as ourselves, will be always grateful for its love and support during this difficult journey. Thanks so much!

**Pictured below:**

*Jim Sundsted shared this old photo of the train depot. No other information is available.*



# SIZZLIN' SUMMER

## STEAK FRY



Every Friday

Main Street

Beginning at 5:30 PM

**MENU INCLUDES:**

8 oz. bar-b-que'd sirloin  
Baked Potato  
Salad  
Garlic Bread  
A Bar  
Lemonade

**\$12.50**

**ALSO AVAILABLE:**

**HOT DOG PLATE**  
**\$8.00**

**CHILD'S HOT DOG PLATE**  
**\$5.00**

# EVERYONE WELCOME!

Sponsored by Immanuel Fundraising Committee

### COMMUNITY PRIDE

With the Centennial less than two weeks away it is time to get the mowers, trimmers, matches- whatever it takes- to get our town, our yards, our lots in shape for the upcoming celebration. Plant a flower pot, put out some balloons, display a flag, a banner, let your imagination run wild with ideas to spiff up our community to welcome our extended family home.

### REUNION PLANS

A reunion is planned for all affiliated with the Fortuna Radar Base on Saturday, July 13th, from 2:00-4:00 PM at the New Century Ag Grain Terminal. Bring your own beverage.

Classes of 1954-57 are getting together at Onstad Park on Friday, July 12th at 2 PM. Please bring your own beverage and a snack if you would like.



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# IMPORTANT CENTENNIAL SCHEDULE CHANGES AND INFORMATION

Please note the following changes to the schedule of events:

The Sizzlin' Summer Steak Fry on Main Street will run from 5:00 PM-7:30 PM on Thursday, July 11th

The Centi-Mental Journey Program at the Westby School will run from 4:00 PM-5:30 PM on Friday, July 12th.

The BBQ on Friday, July 12th will begin at 5:30 PM

The Continental Breakfast on Sunday, July 14th will begin at 8:30 AM

## VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED:

*To see a complete listing of all volunteer positions needed please see page 15.*

Additional volunteers are needed for Short Shifts in these areas:

- Drive tractors to pull shuttle
- Parking attendants
- Models for Centimental Journey program
- To assist backstage during Centimental Journey program

You can volunteer by visiting and filling out the volunteer form at:

<http://westbycentennial.yolasite.com/volunteers-needed.php>

Or by emailing:

[westbycentennial2013@gmail.com](mailto:westbycentennial2013@gmail.com)

## TICKETS GO ON SALE FOR "IN THE SPIRIT OF WESTBY" WINE 101



Tickets are now on sale for the special wine event to be held in conjunction with the 2013 Centennial.

One hundred tickets will be sold at \$15.00 per ticket for the event to be held on Thursday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 on Main Street. It is expected to last an hour and promises to be fun, educational, and pleasing to your palate. Three wines will be reviewed, discussed and sampled over the course of the evening.

Chuck Ubben, a Certified Wine Specialist, has worldwide knowledge of all aspects of wine and has offered to share his expertise. Chuck is the On-Premise Wine Manager for Southern Wine and Spirit of Kirkland, Washington, and will be on hand to offer this little class on wines and what makes them different.

Tickets may be reserved by requesting tickets online at:

[www.westbycentennial.yolasite.com](http://www.westbycentennial.yolasite.com), or by calling Jody Bednarzyk at 385-2630 or 406-390-0118 or picked up from her at the New Century Ag Terminal.



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**Sheridan Memorial CLINIC**  
Monday through Friday  
9:00 – 12:00 1:30 – 4:30  
**(406) 765.3718**

# Nielsen's Celebrate 60 Years



Friends and family gathered on Sunday, June 23rd, to honor Howard and Irene Nielsen and celebrate their 60 years of wedded bliss. The celebration was held at the Immanuel Lutheran Church fellowship hall and family came from as far as Colorado, South Dakota and various parts of Montana.

The event was hosted by their children Sue (Kim) Meyer, Eric (Cindy) Nielsen, & Cheryl (Mike) Anderson.



## Sheridan Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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## “A CENTIMENTAL JOURNEY”

When did you last take a “Centimental Journey”? Join in a visit to Westby in celebration of its upcoming Centennial, and wander through the eras of the last 100 years of the little town with a big heart. What did people wear in 1913 or in the 1930’s? Did Hollywood have any effect on Westby and its surrounding population? “A Centimental Journey” shares much of its impact coming from the reels of the biggest movies of the last 100 years. What was the biggest movie in 1923? Or in 1953? Or now in 2013? Who were the biggest stars? What did they wear? Who did they portray, and how did their roles and costuming affect the star-gazed audience members who paid to see their faces on the big screen? Maybe Hollywood had an effect on you, and you didn’t even realize it! It continues today as the stars on the red carpet often define what may be considered the latest fashion must-have! Through the annals of Westby’s history, discover some of the highlights of the town, its background, what major sporting events occurred, what were the politics of the day, what businesses were on main street, and what’s happening now - 100 years later. How did Westby get its name as being ‘west’ when it’s located on the most eastern end of the state of Montana? What about the cars that were designed?

*“The ache for home lives in all of us. The safe place where we can go as we are and not be questioned.” - Maya Angelou*



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Did Westby have the opportunity to experience what was happening in Hollywood? Or on the west or east coast? Featuring local models who will be wearing various and dated clothing from the past 100 years, follow the Centimental Journey and its story in Westby, beginning in 1913 until its 2013 Centennial celebration coming July 12 – 14. The program will be presented at 3 PM on Friday, July 12 at the Westby school gymnasium. The program is free and open to the public.

Westby, Montana  
July 12th - 14th, 2013



## SODERQUIST

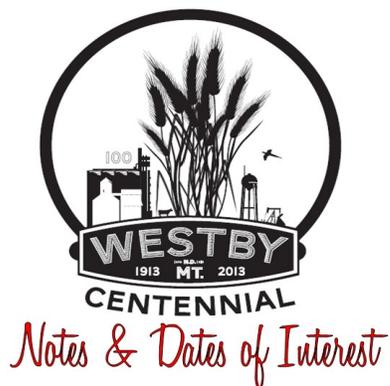
Funeral services for Dale Soderquist will be held at 11:00 AM Friday, June 21. Pastor Barbara Westhoff will officiate at the service at Plentywood Lutheran Church, with military honors following the Christian rites. Cremation will follow the services, with interment of cremated remains in St. John's Cemetery east of Plentywood on Sunday, June 23. Dale, 80, died at Sheridan Memorial Nursing Home in Plentywood Tuesday afternoon, June 11.

Dale Leroy Soderquist was born at Dooley, Montana December 10, 1932, the fourth of six children of Swen and Clara (Anderson) Soderquist. He grew up on the family farm between Dooley and Comertown, and attended school in Comertown, graduating from high school there in 1952. He entered the U. S. Army in 1953, and was honorably discharged in 1955. He returned to Sheridan County to farm, first with his father, and at his dad's retirement, taking over the operation, raising small grains and cattle until he retired two years ago. Baptized and confirmed at the St. John's Lutheran Church, Dale married Elona ("Toni") Brunner there November 6, 1964, and lived on the farm until they moved to the Montana Pioneer Manor in Plentywood last November. Dale and Toni have been active members and leaders in the St. John's congregation. Dale was active in many community affairs, serving not only on the St. John's council, but also as a director of the Sheridan County Stockmen's Association, Farmers Mutual Insurance, and of the Farmers Union Oil Company (now Big Muddy Co-op) in Plentywood. Whenever something needed to be done, Dale could always be counted on to lend a helping hand.

Dale was not a prolific traveler but he did make several trips during his life; many for "work," starting with his Army enlistment trip to Texas, to committee meetings for his various boards, and one special trip to tour parts of Canada with his daughter, Jessica. When Jessica had the opportunity to travel to the East Coast with her son, Devin, Dale insisted that she was going to join him. Even as his health was failing, he would not hear of her giving up the trip. "Anything here can wait," he told her. With heavy hearts, both Jessica and Devin accepted this final gift and stayed with the tour even when their greatest desire was to come home to be with the family.

Dale is survived by his wife, Toni, at the Pioneer Manor; son Jeffrey and his wife Stephanie, and their children Michael, Nicholas, and Jaimison; daughter Jessica Schwanz and her husband Roger and their children Jeremy (Becky), Kyle, and Devin, and three great grandchildren; Alexis, Caiden, and Jackson. He is also survived by three sisters and their families: Adeline Lagerquist, of Westby; Lorraine Pedersen and her husband Chris (Junior); and Sharon Germann and her husband Adolph (Junior), both of Plentywood. Besides his parents, Dale was preceded in death by a brother, Lyle at age 5, a brother and sister stillborn, and his sister, Mae Anderson, whose husband, Don, and family survive. He is also survived by numerous nephews and nieces, and by Toni's large, extended family of siblings, nephews and nieces.

Fulkerson Funeral Home of Plentywood has charge of arrangements: Post remembrances, send cards and flowers online at [www.fulkersonsplentywood.com](http://www.fulkersonsplentywood.com)



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Westby Centennial Committee is working enthusiastically towards a successful event, but outside help is needed in several different areas, particularly, the week of the celebration.

A group will be setting up tents, tables, and chairs on Thursday, July 11th so any willing and able to help with this project call Danny 385-7439 or watch for posted times.

Volunteers are needed on Friday and Saturday for short shifts during registration. We encourage those visiting to take a shift, as it allows them a chance to see a lot of people. Also, the fundraising committee could use help in the souvenir shop.

Other areas needing help Friday and Saturday are shuttle drivers and parking attendants. These too, would just be short shifts to allow all to enjoy the weekend. A big area of concern is clean-up each day (night) to ready things for the next days events. This could be a paid position and would include cleaning up debris and garbage and dumping trash barrels Friday, Saturday, and Sunday morning. Contact Val Moore, Brenda Ryals, or Gene Kavon for further information. Sign-up sheets have been posted in many Westby businesses and on the Westby Centennial web site or email: [westbycentennial2013@gmail.com](mailto:westbycentennial2013@gmail.com).



*A postcard dated February 1, 1916*



**Westby Border News**  
**P.O. Box 36**  
**Westby, MT 59275**

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