

ALMENA NEWS

By FLETA HANLON

Joe and Virginia McMillin of Delia; Connie and Stan Zapac, Voluntown, Conn.; Debra Bryant, Topeka; and Lyle and Nancy Engelhardt, Aurora, Colo., spent March 10 to 12 with Fleta Hanlon, Mark McMillin and Chaim Almema; Mike, Candy and Charles Brown, Norton. They were here for the memorial service held for Lowell Bryant at the Norton Christian Church. Burial was in the Norton Cemetery.

Fleta Hanlon and Chaim McMillin spent spring break with his grandparents, Virginia and Joe McMillin and his Uncle Kevin in Delia. They also visited Debra Bryant in Topeka and Brad and Laurie McMillin and family in Wamego.

March 20, they took a side trip to Chapman to visit Cliff and Jonetta Rector and other friends. Fleta had lived in Chapman for eight years before transferring to Topeka with Southwestern Bell. She was also

able to visit with friends in St. Mary's where she lived before moving to Almema. She and her nephew returned Sunday after spending Easter with his Uncle Brad and family in Wamego.

The Almema Junior PRIDE is very proud to finally get their "Welcome To Almema" signs up. They have worked on them for the past two years. It was a long process to get approval from the city council and the state highway. The design was approved by both and painted last year on Clean-Up Day. Prior to that, they had sanded and painted the background. A picture of the sign and location had to be approved by the State. A fee of \$250 had to be paid for a license. After installation, the State came again to inspect the location and approve it.

The members drew the design, sponsored a pancake supper and paid for the supplies. The community recognizes them for all their hard work.

JENNINGS NEWS

By LOUISE CRESSLER

Terri Hanke, Jennings, was part of a group of 16 members of the Immanuel Lutheran Church, Norton, who went to Juarez, Mexico, March 15-20. The group joined others in Garden City. A total of 70 people built a two-room home for a family of five; a two-room home for a family of three and a four-room home for a family of seven. The community is called "Granjas del Desierto" and has no roads, no reliable electricity and no plumbing.

The three houses were built with "people power" without the aid of power tools. They replaced the existing dirt floors and cardboard and plywood structures with cement floors, sturdy stucco walls and real doors and windows. The group spent nights in the AMORE Ministries Campsite in tents and got to experience outdoor cooking and cold water bucket baths first hand. Their volunteer group ranged in age from 10 to 68 years.

Stan and Ramona Shaw enjoyed Easter Sunday dinner at the home of Carol Shaw, Selden. Additional dinner guests were: Scott and Janet Shaw, Hoxie; Chris and Andrea Graham, Palco; Laura Shaw and Tucker Sexson, Weskan; Ron Shaw, Rick and Tammy Shaw and Corey, Steve Shaw, Selden;

and Jessica Shaw, Colby, were afternoon visitors.

Curt and Valerie Brown, Millie and Dashiell, Quinter, held a birthday party at their home for Kaye Brown on Saturday. Others attending were Kara and Gordon Kuntz, Katherine and Zachary, Hays; Galen and Eleanor Augustine and Ben, Lenora; Doyle Brown and Joel Kuchera and Chase, Quinter.

Kara and Gordon Kuntz, Katherine and Zachary, Hays, were Easter Sunday guests of Kaye and Doyle Brown.

Approximately 20 people attended the Easter breakfast at the Jennings United Methodist Church. Sunday services followed the breakfast.

United Methodist Women will meet April 2 at 2 p.m. Marguerite Curry, Connecting Link, will give the program. Devotions will be by Helen Rhodes and Roll Call will be "Favorite Spring Flower". Hostess is Kaye Brown.

The floor of the Community Hall is being sanded by the Norton Correctional men in preparation for a polyurethane finish. The community appreciates all the work the men do for us.

Controlled burning within the city limits of Jennings was allowed through Wednesday, March 26.

LYLE NEWS

By VEDA WOOD

Lyle Methodist ladies met March 11 to sew and sort clothing donated to them.

Veda Wood spent Monday to Tuesday noon visiting Dwight and Teresa Wood and Sheryl Patterson. Teresa is now doing Dwight's hemo-dialysis at home and his foot is healing well.

The Liberty Star club met March 12 with Kathy Van Meter as hostess. Carolyn Plotts had a program on John Philip Sousa;

Cathy Anthony had a fun game, trying the dexterity of our fingers, and if Toots could have kept Veda from juggling the table, it may have been more fair, but not more fun. Kathy served a delicious lunch.

Sheryl Patterson received word that Twila (Van Gundy) Vernon had been in the hospital, but is now home.

Margaret Magers and June Jolly played in the pinochle tournament at Norton on Sunday evening.

NEW ALMELO

By BETTY OTTER

Marion and Marilyn Otter attended the confirmation in the Catholic Church of their grandson, Robert Kessler, at Lakin on March 9.

Funeral services were held March 11 for Mary Calhoun, 90, at St. Joseph Church. Father Vincent Thu Laing was the celebrant. Burial was in St. Joseph Cemetery. Mary was born to William and Jane Donnelly. She and Leonard Calhoun were married in 1935. They were the parents of a son, Leland.

Leland died in April of 2000, and Leonard died in October of 2001.

Survivors include three granddaughters, Jane, Robin and Mary; eight great-grandchildren; and one sister, Patricia Munsay, LaVerne, Calif.

Adrian Streit and Jo Hessig are spending a few days in New Almelo.

Rose Mary (Hickert) Lewis and her husband, Marvin Lewis, spent a few days in the New Almelo area. They had attended the funeral of her sister, Rita Law, in Ellinwood.

Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"Why" By Mike Sander,

Student Minister, Norton Christian Church

Why would an otherwise "normal" truck driver walk into an Amish schoolhouse a few years ago and execute innocent children? Why would, just a week earlier, another man in a state thousands of miles away shoot and kill an innocent girl in a tiny mountain school?

Teenagers and adults alike are asking these hard questions and more all across our nation every day. And there is no easy answer. As a matter of fact there is no single answer. These kinds of man-made tragedies are not usually the result of just one factor but many that collide at a single point in time. These factors can range from repressed childhood memories to mounting stress in a marriage to isolation to a whole slew of mental disorders. Supposedly the truck driver who destroyed these innocent young Amish kids had some kind of a vendetta against girls for something that had happened to him twenty years ago.

Whatever. As a minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ it is not my job to psychoanalyze psychotics but to offer hope in the midst of profound evil. So where is

the hope? It is in the courageous spirit of the survivors of such tragedies. As they fight their way through their fears and work their way through their loss, they become a shining example of what it means to overcome.

It is in the determination that something can be done to change the hearts of men, even evil men. That something has to be more than what the medical establishment can accomplish through medication, the psychiatry world can ac-

complish through therapy and the government can accomplish through incarceration. The problem of evil is that it is beyond the grasp of what any of these can touch. It goes much deeper than any psychologist or doctor can probe.

Thoreau once said, "For every thousand hacking at the leaves of evil, one is hacking at the root." The only one who can truly hack at the root of evil is the Creator himself.

Because ultimately evil is a spiritual problem it can only be answered with a spiritual solution. Jesus Christ provided this solution for evil when he allowed himself to be murdered for the sins of humanity. His death provides the forgiveness of sins for all who accept it by faith. His resurrection provides hope that we too one day shall rise from the ashes of this broken, sinful world into a real and everlasting hope.

My prayers go out for past victims and their families. My hope is that the good news of Jesus and the strong will of the survivors will lead to an eradication of such future events.



Plenty for All

Birds flock to the feeder when it is full. They gather to eat the seeds, wings fluttering, beaks chirping. God gives birds the instinct to forage for food.

God gives us instincts, too; we know we need food for nourishment, but we also want to fulfill our needs for human interaction and spiritual awareness. As He provides for the birds, God provides us with even more. He gives us strength to gather our daily bread and He gives us a source of food for our soul...a place where we can gather in community and joyfully fill our spirit. That place is our house of worship!

Won't you visit God's house and replenish your strength with the seed He has sown? With the seed of God's word planted in you and a community of worshippers to support you, all your needs will be fulfilled. There is plenty for all!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Matthew 28.1-20	1 Corinthians 15.1-34	1 Corinthians 15.35-58	Hebrews 3.1-19	Hebrews 4.1-13	Hebrews 4.14-5.10	Hebrews 6.1-20

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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