

THE OBERLIN HERALD —

People in Our Community

Mary Lou Olson, society editor mlolson@nwkansas.com

Annette Miller retired as postmaster at St. Francis at the end of the year. She has served in the post office there for 7 1/2 years, and previously had worked at post offices in Burr Oak, Selden and Blue Rapids. She is married to Gary Miller, a native of Norcatar, who is a former postmaster in Oberlin.

Recent visitors at the Don and Lillian Sulzman home in Dresden were Mr. and Mrs. John Truetken, Kendra and Brittney, Scranton, N.D.; Jarold Truetken, Hoxie; Mr. and Mrs. Lad Truetken, Aimee and Landon and Harold Sulzman, Selden; Mr. and Mrs. Mike Sulzman, Grace and Hope, Overland Park; Blanche Skubal, Oberlin, and Kurt Sulzman, Pleasant Valley, Mo.

—DCHS Vocal chili supper, Friday, Jan. 19, 5-8 p.m. at cafeteria.

Randy and Jan Evans of Hoisington visited her uncle and aunt, Elmer and Helen Tacha, at Cedar Living Center on Saturday.

The Forget-Me-Nots and Wheat Ridge Terrace will sponsor free bingo for senior citizens at 7 p.m. on Thursday at Wheat Ridge Terrace.

Mattie Arlene and Megan Lorraine, two-month-old twin daughters of Paul and Denise Nepodal, were baptized on Sunday at Faith Lutheran Church. Officiating was Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler. Among others present were the girls' grandparents, Rollie and

Patsy Nepodal, Detroit Lakes, Minn., and Arlene Johnson, Potter, Neb., and their great-grandmother, Maureen Luxa, Sidney, Neb.

Gly Shaw is spending time with her son and his wife, Jerry and Elisa Baker, in Berryton, where she is consulting a specialist. Mail will reach her at 7920 S.E. Adams Road, Berryton, Kan., 66409, phone (785) 862-2491.

Natalie Brown, daughter of Kevin and Jackie Brown of Oberlin, was named to the Dean's Honor Roll list at Kansas Wesleyan University for the fall semester. To be on the list, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.25 to 3.749 and be enrolled full time.

Steve and Cynthia Haynes, Oberlin; Felicia Haynes and Nik Wilets, Augusta, Ga.; and Lindsay and Lacy Haynes, Lawrence, vacationed last week in Cabo San Lucas, in the Baja of Mexico.

Winning highs at pinocle at Golden Age Center last week were Floyd Edgett, Donna Kent, Max Carman and Elsie Goodnight. Lows went to Henry Edgett, Aleen Van Vleet, Edith Richards, Eva Marie Vacura and Joanne Castle. Pitch highs were won by Myrtle Waldo, Kenneth Van Vleet, and Henry Edgett with lows going to Floyd Edgett, Vada Shaw, and Veanna Orr. Bridge highs were won by Phyllis Berry, Marie McKisson, Duane Blodgett and Henry Edgett.

—American Legion open to public for dinner, Saturdays, 6 p.m.

Kurt Sulzman of Pleasant Valley, Mo., visited his mother, Lillian Sulzman, at the Decatur County Hospital on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Monday visitors of Mariam Allison were her grandson and family, Rick and Lexie Robinson, Ashley and Bethany of Hays.

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Lee and Estella Waldo returned home Sunday evening from Denver, where he had undergone heart surgery at St. Joseph Hospital. They went to Denver on Thursday.

Herschel and Jody Betts attended the Fort Hays State basketball game on Friday night in Hays and also visited Alex Francis, who observed his 91st birthday on Jan. 16.

Lyle and Mara Crawford of Topeka visited relatives and friends from Saturday night to Tuesday. They were houseguests of Elmer and Vi Kathka.

Elmer Kellner of St. Francis, Aid Association for Lutherans District Representative, retired Dec. 31. He had served members, including those in the Oberlin area, for more than 28 years.

Herald correspondent retires

By MARY LOU OLSON
Alvina Unger, correspondent for the Mount Pleasant News for *The Oberlin Herald* for many years, stepped down from that position at the end of the year. Dianne Bremer has replaced her.



Alvina Unger

Though Mrs. Unger lived for many years in that community northwest of Oberlin, she was born in a stone house on a farm near Augusta, Saint Charles County, Mo., on Nov. 19, 1908. She was the oldest of three daughters of Fred and Olinda (Koerschield) Fuhr.

She said that when she was quite young, the family moved to a farm in the Missouri River bottom, some 35 miles from St. Louis. Her father died during the flu epidemic on Dec. 29, 1918, when she was 10 years old and her youngest sister, Hertha Kelley, of St. Francis, was just past a year old. After his death, her mother and her three daughters moved to Augusta, Mo.

Mrs. Unger attended Christ Lutheran School for eight years and graduated from Augusta High School in 1926.

"My pastor from Christ Lutheran Church encouraged me to apply as a teacher for a Lutheran Parochial School," she said. "At that time, it was possible to teach by passing a test for a teaching certificate.

"Shortly before Labor Day in 1926, I received a telegram with an offer to

teach the Lutheran School at Immanuel Lutheran Church near Hoxie. Moving to Northwest Kansas was a big change for me, since I grew up in the foothills of the Ozarks where every October we could see the beautiful foliage on the many trees."

She taught school for three years at Hoxie, where she had 40 students, plus a first-grader who started after Christmas. However, she felt that was really too many students for one teacher, so she

resigned. Her plans at that time were to return to Missouri, but when she was offered a better position at St. John's Lutheran School, west of Oberlin, she took it. She stayed with Albert and Marie Lueke and taught there for two years, but spent her summers attending college at Warrenton, Mo. She also played the church organ and taught a Bible class at St. John's Lutheran Church.

While teaching at the parochial school, she became acquainted with a neighbor, Tony Unger, who noticed her walking home from school each day.

"One day, he drove by and asked to take me home, then asked me out on a date," Mrs. Unger said. "He told me after we were married that he had had his eye on me for over a year."

They were married at Christ Lutheran Church in Augusta, Mo., on Oct. 25, 1931. They lived on a farm in Lo-

gan Township for over 62 years, which was just one-fourth mile from the school where she had taught. After her husband died in 1994, Mrs. Unger moved to Oberlin.

"While we were living on the farm, I was called years ago by *The Oberlin Herald*. They asked if I would be willing to write a community news column. I was also asked to give a name to the column. After thinking it over, I decided to call it 'Mount Pleasant' after the country school which was just one mile east of our house."

She said, "My husband and I were blessed with three children: Shirley (Mrs. Robert) Gaede of San Antonio, Texas; Duane of Colby, and Ralph, who lives on the Unger farmstead. Ralph and his wife, Norma, moved the parochial school to the farmstead later and remodeled it into a modern home. Their son, Dr. Ryan Unger, lives in the Tony and Alvina Unger family home on the same farmstead. Mrs. Unger also has seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Though Mrs. Unger, 92, won't be writing the news, she is active in the church, Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Progressive Homemakers Unit, and still drives her own car in the Oberlin area. She and her sister, Mrs. Kelley, are also able to visit each other quite often by riding the Care-A-Van between Oberlin and St. Francis.

"I am very thankful that the Lord has given me such a good life," she said.

Jennings student wins geography bee

The Prairie Heights Elementary School held its annual National Geographic Bee on Friday with students from the fifth through eighth grades competing.

Craig Reeves, the moderator, read a question to each student about geography. They had a few minutes to write down their answer before handing it to the judges, Mary Wahlmeier and Lila Jennings. If the answer was correct, the student continued to the next round.

After 10 rounds, the field closed with two competitors. Four more rounds proved sixth grader Seth Ritter as winner over eighth grader Bradley Gawith. Mr. Reeves awarded the champion-

ship medal to Seth after the competition. He will now take a 60-minute written qualifying test which contains about 70 questions.

The test will be sent to the National Geographic Society in Washington, D.C. where they will be graded.

In March the top 100 students of each state will compete at their own state capital. If a student wins at state level they will go to Washington to compete there.

Seth is the son of Sharla and Philip Ritter, and Bradley's parents are Bill and Kristy Gawith.

Other finalists in the competition were Toliver Bird, Tyler Bolt, Jake

Kramer, Rocki Bochert, Jody Brooks, Kyle Kinser, Kaitlyn Gillespie and Marcus McKenna.



K-State pizza party set for Jan. 25 in Norton

Kansas State University will hold a free pizza party from 6-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 31, at the Pizza Hut in Norton for all area high school seniors.

The informal party will provide a fun way to find out more about the university. The pizza will be ready at 6 p.m., but guests may come anytime during the party. Prizes will also be given away.

Students interested in attending the

party should contact Carrie Cook at Kansas State University Office of Admissions, 119 Anderson Hall, Manhattan, Kan., 66506, or call (785) 532-6250, or 1-800-432-8270. Registration must be received by Friday, Jan. 26.

Seniors from the following high schools are invited: Decatur Community, Eastern Heights, Hill City, Jennings, Lenora, Logan, Morland, Norton, Northern Valley, Phillipsburg, Stockton and West Smith County.

Cooking program planned

A program on small-scale cooking, or cooking for one or two will be held from 2-3 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 25, at the Gateway Community Room.

It is sponsored by the Decatur County Extension service and will also feature ideas on different time schedules; dealing with leftovers; avoiding unnecessary shopping expenses, and food spoilage.

Participants will also learn how to shop wisely and save, reduce favorite family recipes for one or two, and other time-saving and small-scale cooking tips.

Those planning to attend are asked to contact the Decatur County Extension Office at 475-8121 by Monday so there will be enough supplies for all participants.

Get the Internet tonight!
Call 475-2206.

NOTICE

2001
Annual Dog Licenses Are Now Due.
There is a penalty in addition to the license fee after March 1st.
Please bring current certificate of rabies vaccination when applying.
City of Oberlin
#1 Morgan Drive
Oberlin, Kansas 67749
785-475-2217

Super Bowl Party

Oberlin American Legion
Sunday, January 28
Open at 4 p.m.
BIG Screen TV
BBQ Sandwiches & Chips
Drawings throughout the game for all kinds of neat items donated by our local merchants.

Alltel

OBH ONLY



4 x 10

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