

Good Samaritan News

Following devotions on Dec. 23, Little Sam's Day Care children joined residents in creating reindeer door decorations. Myrna Jones shared holiday music while the STAR committee served hot wassail and cookies. The committee includes Andrea Scott, Linda Hollowell, Joan Evans, Andrea Hannah, Violet Krizek, Paula Corcoran, Frannie Nordurft, and Rose Hargitt.

The Little Sam's Day Care children sang, "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer", for residents Tuesday. Ladies gathered in the reminisce corner to hear the legend of the candy cane and tell of their Christmas memories. Jan Badsky and Joyce Ploussard presented the ornaments purchased by family in honor and memory of loved ones. Christmas cards from JAM, a youth group from Jennings, were shared. Bingo was played in the evening. On Christmas Day, many resi-

dents either went out with family or received visitors.

Garrah Gaumer played the piano for devotions. Word Scrabble was played and a tape of the Oberlin Elementary School musical performance was shared by Lois Buchholz. It was compiled by Candy Dejmaj's television communications class.

On Friday, current events were read by Dennis Brown. Several residents gathered to plan the January calendar, with requests for Kansas history and continuance of career spotlight.

Florence Jones celebrated her 100th birthday on Friday, with family bringing cake and mints.

Dennis Brown led devotions Saturday, and Samuel Smith served Social Hour.

Sunday's worship service was held by the United Methodist Church. Social Hour was served by Shirley Nichols.

Recent guests: **Dorothy Wolters** - Elsie Wolters; **Garrah Gaumer** - Alexis Hissong, Pastor Glenn and Betty Krebs; **Hazel Flaska** - Larry and Myrna Lacina; **Maxine Chambers** - Carol Allen; **Pauline Zander** - Linda Smith and Samuel; **Dena Gillespie** - Erma Gillespie, Floyd Gillespie, Daniel, Dena, Brian and Julie Way, James Davis, Jill Cook, June Vavroch, Steven Hartzog; **Harold and Eleanore Demmer** - Cindy Traphagan and family, Carole and Jeremiah Unger; **Lorna Bishop** - John and Muriel Ready; **Florence Jones** - Don and Shirley Carlisle, Lisa Carlisle, Lori Chavez; **Ruby McKenna** - Ed and Gloria McKenna, Donna and Anita Chambers; **Elfie Brown** - Clara Ann (Brown) Hoffman. Additional guests were Jody Chambers, Pastor Glenn and Betty Krebs, and the Holle family; **Hattie Olson** - Rex Seth, Sam and Abbie Olson, Dr. Beth Kinneavy.

Chamber banquet scheduled

Chamber News

By Glenva Nichols

The Christmas rush is over and it's time to relax a little, make New Year resolutions and pay your chamber dues.

The next big event to take place in your chamber office is the annual meeting and banquet. This will be at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 16 at The Gateway. It will begin with a steak supper, followed by entertainment from the Decatur Community High School music department. Tickets are now available at the chamber office for \$12.50 each.

This year the Chamber has appointed four committees to select people or organizations that have made outstanding contributions to

the area. These awards will be presented at the annual meeting.

Guest speaker, Ronnie Averyt, has retired recently after teaching nearly 40 years at Ottawa University. He chaired the Department of History and Political Science. The topic will be "Don't Squat with Your Spurs On", which will include western history and humor, cattle trail rides and working ranches.

Three new board members will need to be elected. If you would like

to serve on the board or know of someone who will, please let us know and their name will be placed on the ballot.

Everyone who decorated their homes and yards needs to be congratulated. The entire community looked very festive this season. Thank you.

Happy New Year to all, and remember to stop by as the pot is always.

Cedar Living News

Bingo was played on Monday with Beldon Jenik and Eva Marie Vacura sharing the first blackout. Myrna Jones and Carol Witt gave the music program.

A Christmas Candlelight Service was held on Monday evening with lighting of candles, singing carols, and scripture verses and poems. Fern Jording assisted with serving cookies and coffee.

Residents were treated to bags of fruit and candy donated by the Oberlin Community Fellowship Church.

Residents received surprise gifts on Christmas Eve, thanks to the generosity of friends of the center. Each man received a pair of socks and the ladies received jewelry. Every resident received a special gift from an employee of Decatur Health Systems on Christmas. Members of the Faith Lutheran Church also donated gifts for residents. The residents and staff are grateful for these lovely gifts.

Charley Vavroch and his family had a pizza supper on the patio on Tuesday evening.

Gertrude Fleckenstein spent Christmas at the home of Leonard and Doris Fleckenstein.

Darlene Stanley spent Christmas Day with family members.

Louise Nauer spent Christmas week at her home with family members.

The flu bug made an unwelcome and unscheduled visit during the holidays, but most of the residents and staff are on the mend now.

Recent visitors: Janice Doyle, Lincoln, Neb.; Allan Vavroch, Manhattan; Larry, Sandy and Kyle Wolfram, Liberal; Ann Martin, Herndon; Nikole DeWitt, Inman; Trudy Stockham, Norton; Patrick Shaughnessy, Las Vegas, Nev.; Andrew Shaughnessy, McPherson; Leanna Pauls, Amanda Wehotere, Salina; Phillip Winstead, Hays; Kellie (Stanley) Meier, Margate, Fla.; Gary Matheny, Steve Martin, Ethyl Siegfried, McCook; Don Ashley, Selden; Larry Sumner, Jerry Temple, Norcatur; Monte, Julie, Cade and Carson Burrell, Wauneta, Neb.; Tom and Glenva Burrell, Max, Neb.; Jack and Glemma Macy,

Lebanon, Neb.; Bob and Sarah Matheny, Danbury; Curt, Connie and Kim Meixner, Arkansas City;

Wilbur May, Bill Goscha, Marie Jean Vavroch, Bernard Corcoran, Donald Stapp, Barbara Solko, Eleanor Kircher, Duane Jording, Jan Matheny, Sabrina Cooper, Don and Ann Mines, Elvin and Orlin Beneda, Rachel Gallatin, Deb MacFee, Wendell Frickey, Gary Fredrickson, Jerry and Jack Fortin, Donna and Walt Fortin, Ardith Louderback, Vayle Rohan, Bob Keenan, Elaine Bryan, Betty Jenik, Dennis Thomas.

Ag census is valuable tool for all

Many farmers have received an ag census form from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and as typically happens in a busy farm operation, the census is probably underneath a stack of papers with all of those other things a person intends to get to.

Most might not give it a second thought, thinking it is just another form that they really don't need to fill out. I would argue to the contrary.

Information obtained from the census helps improve farm and ranch operations and agribusinesses in many ways, but information obtained from an individual producer is confidential by law. By filling out the census, producers will provide data that will be used by farm organizations to propose ag policy, by businesses to develop market plans, by public and private analysts in making projections, by



Extension Lines

By Brian Olson
Extension Agronomist

colleges and universities to develop improved methods of production, and, last but not least, by federal, state, and local government in drafting legislation or forming policy. The time spent filling out the census really can be time well spent in providing information to others on what is going on in agriculture in northwest Kansas.

In addition, don't forget to register for the Insect and Disease Management and Drought Management in Dryland Cropping System

schools next week by calling (785) 462-6281. You can visit the web site: www.oznet.ksu.edu/agronomy-block2 or visit your local county extension office for more information. Please e-mail me at bolson@oznet.ksu.edu if you have any questions or would like to see a newspaper article on a specific crop production topic.



Rexford News

By Zula Horinek

Edna Colson's family had a reunion at the Red Barn on Dec. 22, with 49 of the Colson family present.

Vesta Roth celebrated Christmas with Dan and Janice Roth, Becky, Christina, and Ryan, and Ryan's friend, Carrie, on Dec. 22. Her guests on Christmas Day were her son, Rick and family, Christopher, Jason and Eric, Garden City.

Jack and Mary Minnick of Wichita visited Cleda Moeder on Monday. On Tuesday they attended Gus Bruggmann funeral service in Selden.

Cleda Moeder spent Christmas in Colby with Tim and Shelley Moeder, Taylor and Payton.

Lawrence and Zula Horinek had their sons, Larry Horinek, Sumner, and children; Clyde Allyssa and Andrew, and Gary Delzeit, Colby, as guests for Christmas dinner and a gift exchange.

Dean and Marie Adams, Scott City, were Christmas dinner guests of Alfred and Jean Hawkins.

Several Rexford residents decorated for Christmas. Alfred and Jean Hawkins had the most outstanding yard display.

Plans are being made for the New Year's party at 7 p.m. at the American Legion on Tuesday Dec. 31. Everyone is welcome. Please bring

finger food and snacks. There will be games and card playing.

Guests of Charles and Pat Williams for Christmas were Ronnie and Jeanette Dible, Dwight Williams, and Pat's mother, Eileen Dible, of Colby. Mary and Danny Withers Dave and Christy Gray and Derrick, Wichita also visited them.

There were four pinocle players at the Barn Dec. 26. They were Jean and Alfred Hawkins, Dick Sanford, and Lawrence Horinek.

Cleda Moeder went to the David and Terry Gould home Christmas morning.

Guests of Rex and Betty Carswell for Christmas were Steve and Terry Salter, McPherson; Curran Salter, Garden City; Jeremy Salter, Daryl and and Darron Carswell, Hays; Robert, Peggy Jered, Sara and Brady Dible, Menlo; Vince and Peggy Carswell, Emily Perry, Sabryn O'Gara, and Jeff Williams, Oberlin; Scott, Kristin, and Brooklyn McKenna, and Kaden O'Hare, Hillsboro; and Lula Thieler, Colby.

Louis Bastin of Fort Smith, Ark., is visiting his parents, the Dean Bastins, during Christmas and celebrated his birthday with them.

Dean and Glendora Bastin, Kenneth and Louis, were Christmas dinner guests of Regena and Evan Barnum and sons of Colby.

"My Struggle with Christmas"

By Pastor John Strecker-Baseler of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, McCook

I live in Oberlin and work in McCook. My struggle with Christmas, however, started several churches ago in another state, and more than a decade ago. Actually, my struggle with Christmas began when I began as a parish pastor. Up until that time I did not have to contend with others' feelings about the seasons of the year in the church.

My struggle with Christmas is better described as a struggle with the secular Christmas that has overwhelmed the meaning of Christmas. Our society has taught us that in order to be truly good Christians, we must hype and promote the Savior's birth for one month or more, in order to truly feel it or experience it. We have been sold a bill of goods that says that there is no virtue in waiting as the season of Advent in the church tries to teach; rather, you are not "with it" if you do not put up your tree before December 1. I resent that the secular soci-

ety tells the church when Christmas is and when it is not! When did secular society become the authority on a religious holiday?

My struggle with Christmas is a struggle with a culture that determines a "good" Christmas on the basis of the bottom line sales at the end of the week! Perhaps my struggle is not a struggle with Christmas after all, but the notion of Christmas that our culture has sold us on. After all the secular Christmas is over, but the real Christmas has just begun on Christmas Day.

The true meaning of Christmas is not the number of presents, but the quality of the gift in the manger. The true time of Christmas is not the time spent promoting shopping but the 12 days, Dec. 25-Jan. I guess my main struggle is with letting go of my anger at the secular Christmas and embracing the true Christmas message of peace and hope for a better world. May God so bless us with peace for all the world this coming year. Peace.



Schedule of Oberlin and area church services:

OBERLIN SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
785-475-3103

The Rev. Mathew Vazhappilly,
The Rev. Mr. Stan Chapin,
MASS: 10 a.m. Sunday

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC, LEVILLIE
The Rev. Mathew Vazhappilly
MASS: 8 a.m. Sunday

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, SELDEN
The Rev. Mathew Vazhappilly
MASS: 10 a.m. Sunday

OBERLIN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
Arlin Cochran, Minister
539 E. 2nd St., St. Francis
SATURDAY: Sabbath School, 9:15 a.m.; Saturday Worship, 11 a.m.

JENNINGS-DRESDEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH JENNINGS
Glenn Krebs, pastor
SUNDAY: Church School, 10 a.m. Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
DRESDEN
SUNDAY: Morning Worship, 9:30 a.m.

PRAIRIE CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST
The Rev. Doug Hasty
SUNDAY: Church Services, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 8:30 a.m.

HERNDON IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
The Rev. Nolan and Barbara Pierce
SUNDAY: Morning Worship, 10 a.m.

UNITED CHURCH OF OBERLIN
109 North Griffith-American Baptist, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian USA
Rev. Barbara and/or Nolan Pierce
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Choir practice every Wed. at 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion, 1st Sun. United Church Women, 2nd Wed at 2 p.m. Parish Council, 2nd Wed. at 8 p.m.
OBERLIN COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP (Southern Baptist)
Pastor: Bobby Cornelius
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m. Evening Service, 7 p.m. WEDNESDAY: Service, 7 p.m.

OBERLIN UNITED METHODIST
102 North Cass — 785-475-3067
The Rev. Doug Hasty
SUNDAY: Church School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m. (Nursery provided.) WEDNESDAY: Choir practice, 7:30 p.m.

CLAYTON UNITED METHODIST
Pastor: Charles Keller
785-693-4339
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.

PIONEER BAPTIST CHURCH
Meeting Temporarily at
119 S. Cass Ave., Oberlin
Pastor Steve Smith
Phone 785-475-3844
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.; Morning Service, 11:00 a.m.; Evening Service, 6:00 p.m. WEDNESDAY: Bible Study & Prayer Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Transportation is available to all of the services.

OBERLIN ASSEMBLY OF GOD
The Rev. Royce Leitner
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Evening Worship, 7 p.m. WEDNESDAY: Adult Bible study, 7 p.m. King's Kids, 6:30 p.m.; Youth, 8 p.m. Women's Group, 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 2 p.m.

OBERLIN CHURCH OF CHRIST
Beaver and Mill
Bill Duncan — Phone 785-475-3259
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Hour, 10:45 a.m. Junior Worship, grade 3 & down; 2nd Sundays: All-church dinner. WEDNESDAY: Ladies Home Bible Study, 9 a.m.; Home Bible Studies, 7:30 p.m.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC, HERNDON
The Rev. Damian Richards
Phone 785-322-5560
MASS: SUNDAY, 8 a.m.

HERNDON COVENANT CHURCH
Keith Reuther, Pastor
Phone 785-322-5316
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Bible study, 7 p.m.

NORCATUR UNITED METHODIST
Pastor: Charles Keller
785-693-4339
SUNDAY: Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.; Church School, 10:30 a.m.

LYLE UNITED METHODIST
Pastor: Charles Keller
785-693-4339
SUNDAY: Morning Worship 8 a.m.

EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH OF OBERLIN
The Rev. Heidi Wiebe
810 West Cedar, Oberlin
Office Phone 785-475-2769
SUNDAY: Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship Time, 10 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m. TUESDAY: Bible Study, 7 p.m.; WEDNESDAY: Worship Celebration, 7:30 P.M.

LUND COVENANT CHURCH
Pastor: Tom Smith
10 miles south, 4 miles west of Oberlin
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m. SATURDAY: Men's breakfast & Bible Study, 7 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Rev. Chad M. Eckels, Pastor
785-475-2333
Share the Faith — as for me and my household we will serve the Lord!
SUNDAY: Sunday School and Bible class, 9:15 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Adult Bible Study, 6:30 p.m. WEDNESDAY: Quilters 9 a.m.; Midweek School, 4-7 p.m. THURSDAY: Information Class, 7 p.m.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
404 North York Avenue
Oberlin, Kansas
Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler
Church Office Phone: 785-475-2053
SUNDAY: Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship and Educational Hour, 10:45 a.m. Holy Communion first and third Sundays. Congregation Council, third Sunday, 10:45 a.m. Youth Group, first and third Sundays, 10:45 a.m. WEDNESDAY: Confirmation class, 6:30 p.m.; Women's Bible Study second Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

McGraw News

By Karl Launchbaugh

Sara and Viv Herrmann celebrated their birthdays at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Smith on Saturday, Dec. 21.

Mr. and Mrs. John Herrmann spent Christmas Day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Gayle Bainter went to Judy Gaumer's to celebrate and visit relatives on Christmas Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Weis had as holiday visitors Mr. and Mrs. Norbert Weis and Sarah, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Long, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Weis, Chris, Melissa and Dennis Weis, Frank Weis, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Mauck and Adam, Rose Weis, Mylinda Mengel, and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cech and Josh.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Kness, Thornton, Colo., spent the weekend of Dec. 22 with Mr. and Mrs. Dee Lewis.

On Christmas, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Lewis, Jay and Dustin of Charles-

ton, N.C., visited Mr. and Mrs. Dee Lewis. Deadra Sealock and Jeremy Samson also stopped by to see them.

Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Rhodes had dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Dee Lewis on Dec. 29.

On Dec. 24, Mr. and Mrs. Tim Lewis of Concordia visited Mr. and Mrs. Dee Lewis and also saw Mr. and Mrs. Dan Lewis while there.

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Launchbaugh, G.G. and Karl were guests of Edith Wasserman to celebrate Christmas with cousins and various relatives on Dec. 24.

On Christmas Day the Launchbaughs returned to Edith Wasserman's to open presents and visit with relatives.

Dinner guests on Sunday of the Launchbaughs were Mr. and Mrs. Bart Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Sines, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Metro, and Mr. and Mrs. George Launchbaugh.

These sponsors urge you to attend church regularly:

Herndon Insurance Agency
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504 N. Penn
Oberlin, Kansas
Phone 785-475-2219

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