

Norcatour News

By the Norcatour News Committee

Tami Cook will be running as a write-in for the Norcatour City Council. The Norcatour Council will have three positions open for the election in April. To serve as a council person, those interested must be a registered Decatur County voter, a citizen of the U.S., 18 years old, and cannot have been convicted of a felony. Interested persons are asked to contact Chris at the city office for more information.

The Rapps visited with Velma Rogers at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She is recuperating from three heart attacks. Mail will reach her at 600 S. Mission, Apt. 4, Colby, Kan., 67701.

The News Sheet Volunteers hosted a birthday party for Arlene Hix on Feb. 18. Dorothy Ward furnished the cake and Marguerite Clark furnished the ice cream.

Those attending were Marguerite Clark, K.G. and Dorothy Ward, Arlene Hix, Betty Reid, Lula Hix, Lorretta Carter, Laverne Milner and Dee Magers.

Betty Reid entered the Norton Hospital on March 10 for a 24-hour observation.

Tara Nelson reported that her folks, Bill and Bee Nelson, drove to Wichita over the weekend to see their son, Todd and family. Bill's

last treatment will be Wednesday and they will probably be home soon after that.

Birthdays and anniversaries: K.G. and Dorothy Ward - March 10; Sharee Dempewolf - March 14; Jim Plotts, Jason Briener - March 15.

Julie (Miller) Olson had surgery recently in Garden City. She will be there a few more days. Mail will reach her at: St. Catherine's Hospital 410 E. Walnut, Garden City, Kans., 67846, or her home address is: 911 Millwood Circle, #101, Liberal, Kans., 67901.

Teresa Reves and Dwight Wood spoke with Del Goetz Sunday afternoon and he sounds like he's doing better. He will be staying with his brother in Denver while getting treatment. His address is: Delbert Goetz, 6167 Independence St., Arvada, Colo., 80004.

Mr. and Mrs. Oran Milner went to Denver on Feb. 26 to attend the wedding of Paul Bishop's grandson, Scot Hail and Jayme Santa at Brittany Hill in Thornton, Colo.

They stayed with Vera Bishop and Bruce Bishop. They also visited Minnie Ruth Bailey and went to Golden, Colo., to visit George and Wilma Bishop. George was recuperating from recent hip surgery on Feb. 20.

Senior Citizens met March 7 with 24 present. There were ties for first and second place, and the winners were Twila Henry, Arnold Jackson, R.D. Thornton, Lula Hix, and Dorothy Lawn. Carol Ann Salter brought her father, Arnold Jackson of Norton. The next meeting will be at 6 p.m. on Friday. The Royal Neighbors will be hosting a soup and pie supper for the group. Cards will follow at 7 p.m.

Supper guests of Dwight Wood and Teresa Reves on Saturday, March 8, were Gary and Cathy Anthony.

Sharee Dempewolf was surprised with an early 16th birthday party on Saturday, March 8. Her classmates came to help celebrate. Laci Leichter assisted by taking Sharee and M.J. out to supper at the Chinese restaurant in Norton before the party.

Congratulations to Inez Keller for winning \$30, to be spent at her choice of restaurant. She bought tickets from M.J. Dempewolf. The Untouchables fast pitch softball team sponsored the drawing.

Margaret Magers and Kathy VanMeter visited Rea and Dee Magers on March 5.

Rea and Dee also enjoyed the pancake feed at the educational building on March 8.

Can your dry pasture recover?



Extension Lines

By Brian Olson
Extension Agronomist

In addition to making the difficult decision about what to plant, farmers and ranchers are trying to decide how they are going to manage the grazing of their cattle on native pastures. The grasses in these native pastures are in a precarious state. Dry conditions over the last few years have decreased the ability of the plant to store nutrients for next year's growth. In addition, plants are less able to make carbohydrates, which reduces the amount of moisture stored in their crown and roots during the fall.

Therefore, there is an overall reduction in stored building blocks available to produce growth this spring, or to withstand adverse weather conditions. This can allow the plant to degrade even more, continuing a spiral down in fitness until there are very few healthy plants left in the pasture. So, the next question is, how can this problem be managed?

Many would say all we need is some moisture this spring to green up the pastures so cattle can be grazed at normal stocking rates. True, moisture is what the grass needs to recover; however, according to Paul Ohlenbusch, grazing specialist with K-State Research and Extension, native pastures may take three years of normal precipitation, growing conditions, and reduced stocking rates before obtaining normal forage production. Moisture and growing conditions are out of our control, but producers can manage stocking rates. These vary across our area, but Ohlenbusch suggests at least a 50% reduction in stocking rates from normal. In addition, stocking rates should allow the grazing height to average around 2 inches. A lower

grazing height will impede grass recovery.

The next question is how much the pasture is worth when paying rent. According to Dan O'Brien, Ag Economist with K-State Research and Extension, "From an economic value perspective, flexibility on rental rates should occur on damaged pasture; otherwise, long-term productivity could be hurt which will decrease the long-term value of the land". Since most landlords count on that fixed income, reducing rent given for pastures will be unpopular. However, to ensure the value of their land for years to come, landlords should actually insist on the stocking rate reduction.

So how should rental rates be set? One rule of thumb is if the stocking rate needs to be reduced by 60%, then the rental rate should be reduced by 60%. There is no doubt reduction of rental rates will be un-

popular. However, both parties need to realize that the pastures need to be managed in such a way that they will recover from these dry conditions and regain full production.

For further information on native grasses, please visit the Web site: www.oznet.ksu.edu/agronomy-block2 and click on the Pest and Production icon to view the paper entitled "Pasture Management - Before, During, and After a Drought" or visit your local county extension office to pick-up a copy.

Brian Olson is multi-county extension agronomist for Decatur, Gove, Norton, Sheridan, and Trego counties. E-mail bolson@oznet.ksu.edu if you have any questions or would like to see a newspaper article on a specific crop production topic. For more information, contact the county extension office, 475-8121.

Cedar Living News

Edna Mott and LuVerne May have returned to their homes in Oberlin.

The Girl Scouts, led by Deb Helm, made and delivered St. Patrick's Day door decorations for all of the rooms.

Linda Fox and Othelia Vacura assisted with activities all week.

Carol Witt and Myrna Jones gave the music program on Monday.

Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler led the monthly communion service on Tuesday afternoon.

The Alif Be Khe club hosted the March birthday party on Wednesday afternoon. Residents honored were Alvin Jording, Eva Marie Vacura, Harold Frickey, and Melba Anderson. The Decatur Community High School jazz band did a wonderful job of providing entertainment.

Barb Solko played pinocle with Dean Gallatin on Wednesday afternoon.

Dennis Brown hosted social hour on Thursday afternoon and served coffee and cookies.

The baking group made pineapple cookies on Friday afternoon.

Recent visitors: Mary Matheny, Samantha Cooper, Eureka; Don Ashley, Selden; Charley and Eloise Holliday, St. Francis; Margaret Riener, Ann Martin, Herndon; Jerry Temple, Howard Sumner, Larry Sumner, Norcatour; Paul Nauer, Jennings; Lela Huff, Paula Maloney, Kristin and Camilo Robledo, Northglenn, Colo.; Chris, Carla and K.J. Fleckenstein, Sterling, Colo.; Frances Mosier, Norton; the Stanleys, Wichita; Gary and Karen Matheny, Steve Martin, McCook; Greg, Tyson, Dillon and Amelia Sayer, Cambridge.

Betty Jenik, Mary Lemman, Faye Miller, Irene Fringer, Nadean Stoney, Eula Juenemann, Frances Nothdurft, Phyllis McKay, Ira Kolsky, Ron and Patty Uehlin and Koby, Marie Jean Vavroch and Rocko, Don Stapp, Bill Goscha, Lois Carlson, Phyllis McCartney, Elsie Goodnight, Millie Lippelmann, Sondra Young, Bernie and Othelia Vacura, Dewaine Stapp,

Vayle Rohan, Kay Chambers, Carol Allen, Elvin Beneda, Orlin Beneda, Esther Noren, Fern Jording, Esther Lindquist, Alvina Gambelin, Rachel Gallatin, Elaine Bryan, Oberlin.

'The Old Apple Tree'

By Pastor Bobby Cornelius of Oberlin Community Fellowship

We used to listen to a song called "The Old Apple Tree." It was about a preacher who got on a train and took a seat by a young man. He noticed the young man seemed down, so the preacher said, "Son, I'm a minister and if there is any way I can help I will."

The young man said, "Preacher, a long time ago I lived with my Dad and Mom a ways from this railroad track. When I was younger I started drinking and going the way of the world. I went so far as to hit my parents, and one day my dad said, 'Son, we love you but you have got to leave. We can't stand this any more.'

"That was a long time ago and I haven't been home since. But I met a person that told me about Jesus and now my whole life has been changed. I

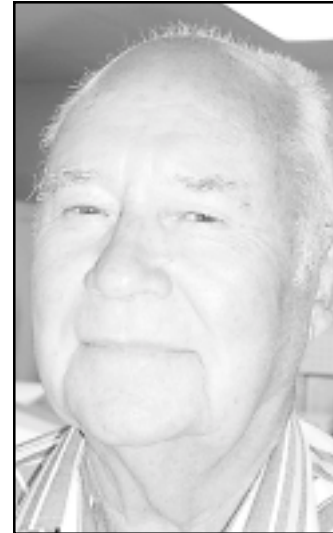
wrote my folks and told them if it was all right for me to come home, just hang a white rag in the old apple tree."

He continued, "I just can't look. Would you please look and see if you can see a white rag?"

When they got to the place, the preacher looked out the window and smiled. He said, "Son, you don't have anything to worry about. That old apple tree is in full bloom. Sheets and rags are all over it, and a sign says 'Welcome home, son.'"

That is the way it is with us. When we get off in sin, Jesus is there waiting with outstretched arms, saying, "Welcome home, child."

How about it? Do you need to come home to Jesus' outstretched arms? He's waiting.



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: 6 p.m. Saturday

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. Visit us on the web at www.pioneerbaptist.org

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.

NORCATOUR 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, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m. WEDNESDAY: Bible Study, 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
Interim Pastor: Don White
Secretary: Norma Unger
785-475-2333

Share the Faith — as for me and my household we will serve the Lord!
SUNDAY: Sunday School and Bible class, 9:45 a.m.; Divine Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Holy Communion: 1st and 3rd Sundays; Tuesday: Lenten Services: 7:30 p.m.; Wednesday: KICK- 3:45 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.

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