

Norcatour News

By the Norcatour News Committee

Justin and Hollie (Strevey) Ricke of Andover are the parents of a son, Jared William, born Dec. 10. He weighed 6 pounds, 7 ounces, and was 18 inches long. Grandparents are Bob and Kay Strevey of Norcatour, and Jerome and Susan Riche of Medicine Lodge.

The Streveys went to Wichita on Saturday morning to meet their new grandson. Trudi and John McCollum of Platte City, Mo., and Wendy and Loren Tien of Andover were all at the birthing center to meet the newest member of the family. Bob and Kay spent the night at the Tien home and returned home Dec. 12.

Birthdays and anniversaries: Glenn Alexander - Dec. 14; Bryndon Wentz - Dec. 16; Justine Miller - Dec. 17; Tom and Betsy Jakowski - Dec. 19.

The Norcatour Rural High School Alumni Banquet will be held Saturday, May 28, 2005. All alumni and spouses, spouses of deceased alumni and any who attended school here are invited. A dance will follow the banquet.

Canned goods and non-perishable items for the Decatur County Good Pantry may be left at the County Line Cafe.

David Huff was home the week-

end of Dec. 4 to go hunting with Steve Wessel.

Liberty Star Club met in Oberlin at the LandMark Inn on Dec. 8 for their Christmas party and drew secret sister names. Those present were Toots Magers, Kathy Van Meter, Veda Wood, Cathy Anthony, Angie Wilson, Theresa Wood and Carolyn Plotts.

The County Line Cafe and Grill will close at 4 p.m. on Dec. 24 and be closed on Christmas Day. A New Year's Eve party is planned there, with serving beginning at 6 p.m.

Troy, Deb, Anthony and Amanda Marshall, Adam Spanier, and Forrest and Inez Jackson went to the University of Nebraska at Kearney to see Andrea Marshall perform at her band concert on Dec. 2 and vocal concert on Dec. 5.

The following day, Dec. 6, they attended the Oberlin Elementary School concert for grades 4-6. On Dec. 11 Anthony and Destry Jackson, as well as other Decatur Community High School students, gave a concert for the district Kansas Music Educators Association in Hays.

Darrel and Alice Barnett left Dec. 8, to visit her sister, Mary and Tom Wright and family in Salina. Thursday morning they went to

Haysville to see their son, Mr. and Mrs. Darren Barnett and family. All saw the new Cessna Citation Customer Service facilities, where Darren works. On Friday Darrel and Alice went to Abilene to buy chocolates at the Russell Stover factory. On Saturday, Dec. 11, 35 members of Alice's family had a noon buffet dinner at the Vagabond Restaurant in Hays for their Christmas gathering.

Three Prairie Unit met at the Cardinal Bar and Grill for their annual Christmas dinner. Those enjoying the food and company were Norma McCallister, Betty Reid, Helen McVay, Maxine Brooks, Estella Harold, Bee Nelson, Marguerite Clark and Lee and Lora Arnold. Christmas cards were signed.

Royal Neighbors met on Dec. 8 at the Cardinal Bar and Grill for their annual Christmas dinner and gift exchange. Those enjoying the day were Joyce and Virgil Price, Bill and Dorothy Woods, Francis and Arlene Hix, Bob and Neoma Tacha, Lee and Lora Arnold, Maxine Brooks, Marie Delimont, Estella Harold, Beth Johnson, Gail Bailey, Mark Bailey, Olive Arnold and guest, Jim Hustin, field representative from Loomis, Neb. Christmas cards were signed.

Kenneth Price came home Dec. 3, following double by-pass heart surgery on Nov. 17 and having a pacemaker installed on Nov. 22. He is doing well and enjoys company, the mail and telephone calls. Recent visitors at the Price home have been: Virgil and Joyce Price, John Gallentine, Lee Eckhart, Larry Deifer, Joe Morse, Max and Norma Ward, and the Greg Vanover family delivered a 4-H cheer basket.

Crop failures lead to new ideas

Over the last five years, dryland corn production has been anything but consistent.

Most farmers have experienced complete crop failures most of these years. These failures led us to question whether there are better ways to grow dryland corn that minimize the risk of crop failure.

One method being evaluated today is to plant corn skipping a row or rows. Skip-row practices were used years ago with grain sorghum. However weed control in the skip-row was a big problem without a broad spectrum postemergence herbicide. Now, with the advent of Roundup Ready corn, a treatment method is available.

Skip-row corn, when compared to the same crop planted every row at the same population, will likely yield less in years when moisture is OK. In a skip-row scenario, young plants are spaced closer together. This will cause an increase in plant competition early in the growing season, decreasing how robust the plants become. However, the skip-planted row will not have a crop growing in that space, and if kept clean of weeds, it will likely have more moisture at the end of the growing season when corn is filling out the kernels.

In 2003, research from the University of Nebraska North Platte Research Center indicated skip-row dryland corn produced 32 percent better yields than did conventional planting. In these trials, two rows were planted and two skipped.

Another treatment, where every other row was skipped, produced 17 percent better yields than the traditionally planted field. The treatments yielded 54 and 48 bushels per acre respectively compared



Extension Lines

By Brian Olson
Extension Agronomist

with 41 bushels per acre for the conventional planting. The area around North Platte was dry that year, similar to northwest Kansas.

In 2004, three Kansas sites evaluating skip-row corn, Tribune, Quinter, and Belleville, were established in Kansas. Unfortunately for the study, rainfall was sufficient for crop growth, with yields of over 115 bushels per acre recorded at each site. As you might expect in these conditions, corn planted every row, at the same population, typically did better.

All in all, there is some research suggesting a benefit for corn planted as skip-row in dry conditions, whereas with sufficient moisture, corn planted every row should do better.

Skip-row corn comparisons will continue at sites throughout western Kansas next year. As of right now, there are no results from Kansas that would suggest a benefit. However, farmers should keep in mind that moisture was sufficient for optimum crop growth this past year.

If you want to try skip-row corn, there are a couple of suggestions to keep in mind. If one row is planted and one skipped, half the rate of corn indicated on the seeding chart of the planter is being planted. If two rows are planted and one is

skipped, then two-thirds the rate of the seed as indicated by the seeding chart is being planted.

A post emerge application will be needed to control weeds in the skipped row. I would strongly suggest using a Roundup Ready corn hybrid so glyphosate can be applied at this stage. For fields where a post emerge application will not be needed, thought, a glyphosate application will just add to the cost.

Results of the skip-row corn at Quinter, Tribune, and Belleville can be viewed by going to the website www.oznet.ksu.edu/agronomy-block2/ and clicking on the skip-row icon, or visit your county extension office to pick up a copy.

Brian Olson is Kansas State University 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.



Rexford News

By Sondra Barnett

I want to start the column this week with a wish for each of you to have a great Christmas this year, filled with love, family, friends, most especially a heart toward God and the most wonderful gift of all time — Jesus!

Betty Nickols, and Steve and Terri Allen were in Colorado Springs attending a week-long seminar, Biblical Concepts in Counseling. The instructor was world-renowned speaker John Regier.

The Allens returned to Rexford, but Betty had an appointment with her doctor concerning back surgery. When Betty returned, she picked up right where she left off with the Red Barn Gang band. They played at the two nursing homes in Colby and also went to Goodland.

We are all so happy to hear that Lula Thieler is home from the hospital and is feeling better.

Koffee Klatch attendees last week were Berneda Zoberst, Delores Dible, Vesta Roth, Jean Hawkins, Eunice Sanford, Deb Stepper, Grace Cheney, Janette Dible, Frances Bange, Hulda Wark, Sondra Barnett, Darla Dible, and Fran Leach. Bob Leach stuck his head in for a minute, but wouldn't stay!

Tony and Lisa Bice and twin sons came home last week from Denver. Dalton and Dylan now weigh over 6 pounds each and are doing very well even though they were born prematurely.

Former Rexford resident Kristin Ross was married Dec. 17 to Dr. Larry Bloom at St. Lucia, an island just above Venezuela. They are now at home in Fort Collins, Colo., where he is a professor of psychology at Colorado State University. Kristin is the daughter of Maxine Ross and the granddaughter of Liz Rall.

Delores Dible and Deb Stepper went to the Christmas dinner for Hazel Richardson and the residents of Logan Manor.

There will be an all-day Senior Driving Training class from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on Jan. 8, sponsored by the

American Association of Retired Persons.

Cost is \$10 per person. Those attending are asked to bring a sack lunch. Some insurance companies will give a reduced premium cost to seniors that have taken the class.

Shaelum Barnett called his twin brother, Shelby, on his cell phone from Kuwait and reported that he is doing fine.

Rick Roth was here visiting his mother, Vesta Roth.

Louise and Jerry Latimer, Wichita, stopped for the night at the home of Nancy and Jay Dahl. They were en route to Washington to spend Christmas with her three children and their families.

Bill Arasmith had double bypass heart surgery in Hays. He is improving, but is still in the hospital.

Cleda Moeder celebrated Christmas early with her family over the weekend. Those present were Robert and Marsha Moeder, Hutchinson; Chris Moeder, Lawrence; Tim and Shelly Moeder, Taylor and Peyton, Colby; and Buck Harper.

This month's pinocle tournament took place on Saturday night at the American Legion building. First place winners were Dick and Ken Sanford, with second place going to Rex and Betty Carswell and third place to Pat Williams and Jr. Albers. There were 18 players.

A number of women attended the cookie exchange and open house held by Vicki Allison on Saturday. Sondra Barnett and Hulda Wark went to Oberlin to watch grandson Taylor wrestle.

They spent some time with Sondra's son, Todd Barnett, as well.

The middle school won all their basketball games last week.

The high school played Brewster on Friday. The junior varsity won their game.

MAKIN' IT HAPPEN: Hats off to ALL around town who have decorated outside their houses and yards and downtown for the Christmas season. It makes for a pretty drive in the evening to see the festive lights. Thanks.

mencement exercises in Topeka. Judy Castle of Aurora, Colo., is her maternal grandmother.

Those who helped Andy Hanson celebrate his birthday last Saturday evening were Brian and Jacque Hanson and Eddie, Atwood; and Elizabeth Horney and Christina Thompson, Colby.

Kevin Holle has returned home from Denver and is recuperating satisfactorily after undergoing hip surgery last week.

Jerry and Cheryl Hill of Firestone, Colo., visited from Thursday to Sunday with Steve and Arian Arnold.

Mary Lou Olson spent from Wednesday to Sunday in Boulder, Colo., to help care for her grandson, Sam Olson, who underwent an emergency appendectomy at Boulder Flatirons Community Hospital last Tuesday night.

She also visited Rex Olson, Seth and Abbie, Anne Olson and Beth Kinneavy, and they all attended services at Flatirons Community Church, where Abbie performed in a Christmas program.

'The Morning Star'

By Bill Duncan, Oberlin Church of Christ

Have you seen the morning star recently, shining above the early eastern horizon? It is a bright gift from God that He set in the night sky, in the right place at the right times. It silently announces that the sun will be rising soon on our part of the world. And it always does.

Did you know that one name for Jesus Christ is "the Morning Star", also called "Dayspring", or "Star of Dawn"?

Luke 1:78: "...by which the Dayspring will come to us from heaven, and shines on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace". The Greek word for Daystar is "anatola", and can be translated any one of the above mentioned.

Jesus Christ, born of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, was the Daystar to herald His sinless life and the revealing of God's truth. Only the gospel of Jesus gives true light in spiritual darkness, and leads people to peace: with themselves, with God, with neighbors and enemies.

Anyone, whether American, Moslem, or Jew, who does not acknowledge Jesus as the Son of God and our only Savior, lives in spiritual darkness (ig-

norance and rebellion), and also lives in the shadow of eternal death.

At this Christmas season, if you haven't already, please let Jesus, our Daystar, come into your heart and soul, with His illumination, as the risen Son of God.

WAITING FOR THE SUNRISE

When darkness overcomes you, and fills you with despair, The loneliness of waiting is often hard to bear. How dreary are the hours for those who wait alone Watching for the sunrise to vanquish the unknown. The darkness overwhelms us with feelings hard to fight Until we seek the Savior and follow in His light. His light is everlasting as the moon and stars above, And neither night nor shadows separates us from God's love.

—by Clay Harrison



Schedule of Oberlin and area church services:

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| <p>OBERLIN SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
785-475-3103
The Rev. George Kochuvelikkakam,
MASS: 10:30 a.m., Sunday</p> | <p>HERNDON IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
The Rev. Nolan and Barbara Pierce
SUNDAY: Morning Worship, 10 a.m.</p> | <p>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.</p> | <p>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. SATURDAY: Bible Study, 7:30 p.m.</p> |
| <p>IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC, LEVILLIE
The Rev. George Kochuvelikkakam
MASS: 8 a.m., Sunday.</p> | <p>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.</p> | <p>OBERLIN CHURCH OF CHRIST
South Beaver Street - Oberlin
Bill Duncan — Phone 785-475-3259
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Hour, 10:45 a.m. Junior Worship, grade 3 & down. WEDNESDAY: Ladies Home Bible Study, 9 a.m.</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>OBERLIN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
Jim Martin
120 South East, Oberlin
SATURDAY: Sabbath School, 9:15 a.m.; Saturday Worship, 11 a.m.</p> | <p>OBERLIN COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP (Southern Baptist)
Pastor: Bobby Cornelius
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m., AWANA Club 4-6 p.m. WEDNESDAY: Service, 7 p.m.</p> | <p>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC, HERNDON
The Rev. Damian Richards
Phone 785-322-5560
MASS: SUNDAY, 8 a.m.</p> | <p>ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 North Wilson
Pastor: Rev. Rick Langness
Secretary: Norma Unger
785-475-2333
SUNDAY: Sunday School and Bible class, 9:15 a.m.; Divine Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.; Holy Communion: 1st and 3rd Sundays; KICK, 3:45-5:30 p.m. each Wednesday.</p> |
| <p>JENNINGS-DRESDEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH JENNINGS
Glenn Krebs, pastor
SUNDAY: Church School, 10 a.m. Morning Worship, 11 a.m.</p> | <p>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.</p> | <p>HERNDON COVENANT CHURCH
Keith Reuther, Pastor
Phone 785-322-5316
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Bible study, 7 p.m.</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>PRAIRIE CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST
The Rev. Doug Hasty
SUNDAY: Church Services, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 8:30 a.m.</p> | <p>CLAYTON UNITED METHODIST
Pastor: Kathy Aeillo
Almena
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.</p> | <p>NORCATUR UNITED METHODIST
Pastor: Kathy Aeillo
Almena
SUNDAY: Worship Service, 10 a.m.; Church School, 10:30 a.m.</p> | <p>LYLE UNITED METHODIST
Carol Woodmaneee, Almena
Lyle Lay Speaker
SUNDAY: Morning Worship 8 a.m.</p> |

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

The Herndon Covenant Church congregation will hold a caroling party at 4:30 p.m. today, beginning at the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center in Oberlin. After caroling several places in Oberlin, they will go to Atwood for caroling.

Christmas Eve services will begin at 11 p.m. at the Herndon Covenant Church. A family fun and game night is scheduled at 7 p.m. on New Year's Eve at the church. Those attending are asked to bring a snack and a game to play.

Ashleigh Renae Green graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice with an emphasis in Corrections and a minor in Psychology, and an Associate of Arts in Legal Studies, on Friday from Washburn University.

She is the daughter of David and Dana Green of Colorado Springs, but formerly of this community. She is a member of the Atwood High School Class of 2000. Her grandparents, Merlin and Dixie Green, also Regan Green and Tracey Johnson, attended the com-

These sponsors urge you to attend church regularly:

Herndon Insurance Agency
Ron Beims, Agent
785-322-5331
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Fair Chiropractic Clinic
"For Better Health Naturally"
504 N. Penn
Oberlin, Kansas
Phone 785-475-2219

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