

Sympathy is extended to the family of Jay Gallentine, who died Thursday at the Norton County Hospital.

Upcoming activities include church bazaars at Lyle at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 13; at Almena on Saturday, Oct. 15; and at Norcaturo on Saturday, Oct. 22. The Charge Conference will be at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 26, at the Educational Building in Norcaturo.

Bible study has begun again in Norcaturo and is held each week at 7 p.m. on Monday. The annual Pheasant Hunters Supper will be held Saturday, Nov. 12.

Birthdays: Melissa Miller - Oct. 12; Larry Sumner - Oct. 13; Lori Roe - Oct. 17.

A benefit soup supper was held for the Norcaturo Pre-school, Cardinal Kids Connection, on Sunday in the All-purpose Room in the Norcaturo City Building. Children attending Cardinal Kids Connection are Isaiah Hughes, Ainsley Kier, Joslyn Smith, Amy Wentz and Bryndon Wentz.

Lynn and Ed Wedow, Scottsdale, Ariz.; Linda Young, Conifer, Colo.; and Larry Hix, Pasadena, Md., were here with their mother, Lula Hix, following the death of their father, Wilbur Hix. Other relatives present for the funeral, held on Oct. 5, included the couple's grandchildren and great-grandchildren: Wes and Lisa New, Westminster, Colo.; Terry and Debbie New, Lakewood, Colo.; Allen and Lori Floyd, Fort Collins, Colo.; Chanin, Tim and Ava Beckman, Denver; David, Kim, Logan and Abby Wedow, Clinton, Utah; Gordon and Nita Wedow, Littleton, Colo.; and Sue Weinstein, Pasadena, Md.

Loyd and Mary Waldo, Oberlin, met Rea and Dee Magers at the Cardinal Cafe for lunch on Oct. 7, then visited at the Magers home.

STAMPS OFFERED

The Norcaturo Post Office has joined a nationwide effort to "stamp

out" breast cancer, through sales of the Breast Cancer Research semi-postal or fundraising stamp. "Circle of Hope" cards bearing the purchaser's name will be displayed at the post office. The 45-cent, self-adhesive stamps are valid for postage at the first class mail first-ounce letter rate of 37 cents, with the 8-cent differential, minus cost, going to the National Institutes of Health and the Medical Research Program at the Department of Defense. The differential is a tax-deductible contribution.

The Monday Bridge Club met Oct. 11 with Esther Miller. Winners were Annette Miller, Ila Ray and Judy Shirley, all of Oberlin. Mary Horney and Annette Miller substituted for Marty Munson and Alice Shirley.

Senior Citizens was attended by 17 on Oct. 7. Winners were Marguerite Clark; Clent Hatfield and Oran Milner, tied; and Elden Long. The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Friday at the Educational Building.

Recent donations at the Norcaturo Museum were received from Bob and Bonnie Rapp, and Beth Johnson and Beth Sebaugh. R.D. Thornton also donated pictures of the Lutheran church being set up and painted in Oberlin, senior pictures of the Class of 1955 at Norcaturo Rural High School, and a football letter from 1953. More than 100 items have been donated to the museum, and over 200 have visited the museum.

Currently the museum needs stories about growing up in Norcaturo, what the town used to be like, high school life and interesting classmates or happenings, your family, etc. Address correspondence to: Box 89, Norcaturo, Kan., 67653.

EXERCISE PROGRAM

A new exercise and nutrition education program has begun at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays at the Educational building. At 10 a.m. they have "vitaband" and "sittercize" classes

for beginning exercisers, and at 6:30 p.m. will be a more active, aerobic exercise class. Nutritional information also will be available and classes are open to everyone.

Winners of the karaoke competition on Oct. 8, were: first place and \$100 cash prize, LeAnn Shearer; second place and \$25 gift certificate, Vic Wagoner; and third place and \$15 gift certificate, Lindsay Wilson.

A Halloween dance will be held at the Norcaturo high school gym on Saturday, Oct. 29, with prizes for best costumes. Must be 21 to attend.

Bee Nelson, Marguerite Clark and Dorothy Ward attended the Stanton Nelson concert sponsored by the Norton Arts Council, on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 9. Stanton, a 14-year-old freshman student at Northern Valley High School, is the son of Terry and Sara Nelson and grandson of the Norman Nelsons and David Stuewes. He played both the piano and violin, and is a very professional, remarkable and talented young man. He also plays other instruments and composes some of his own music. At music competitions he has consistently achieved Advanced Performance and 1+ ratings.

Word was received that Bruce Ferguson's mother died on Oct. 3. She had been ill with leukemia. Mail will reach the family at Box 157, Ransom, Kan., 67572.

Chamber News

By Glenva Nichols

Greetings:

After decades of being located at 132 S. Penn, the chamber office has moved to 104 S. Penn. Yes, Kathryn, we are now located in the old Farmers National Bank building, in the northwest corner office. We are still moving things around and trying to find everything.

We have the new telephone books in. If you need one or some extras, stop by; they will be in or under a pile.

This week the chamber will be doing ribbon cuttings starting at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 20. The first place will be Kid's First Learning Center, 505 E. Ash; then Shear Creations West, 128 S. Penn; Flowers by Lee, 157 S. Penn; Diederich's Salon of Design, 102 W. Commer-

cial; and ending at Furniture Alley, 121 S. Rodehaver, where the October Coffee Hour will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The chamber and Oberlin Live-stock Auction are sponsoring a bred heifer and bred cow sale on Oct. 29 at the sale barn. The sale will start at 1 p.m. with about 500 head of cattle consigned. This is a new venture for us. Attend the sale and let the family come downtown to shop and look around. The merchants are receiving their new fall merchandise, and you might find a bargain

or that special gift.

Spooks, goblins, and witches large and small will be seen along Main Street on Oct. 31. The Spook Parade will start at the Good Samaritan Center at 4 p.m. and come south down main. You can do "trunk or treat" downtown and see the fun being had by all.

We have returned home and everything is going great. Thanks to all for your thoughts and prayers as it really helped.

Stop by. The coffee pot came up the street with us and is plugged in.

Herndon News

By Carrol Ginther

Senior citizens held their business meeting on Oct. 5 at the Senior Center. "Happy Birthday" was sung to Kayo Sattler and Edie Pettera. Dorothy Engleman read poems.

Janice Sattler and Buford Clark presented information to the group about Meals on Wheels. The next potluck dinner will be today with Dorothy Engleman and Ann Mar-

tin on kitchen duty. The next business meeting will be Nov. 2 with Ann Martin as hostess. Bingo was played and Kayo Sattler had black-out. Dorothy Engleman won the door prize.

Julie Solko of Larned spent last weekend with her mother, Monica Solko. Ron Solko of Oberlin was a Saturday dinner guest. Tom Solko visited on Sunday.

Kathy and Larry Schneider of Kenesaw, Neb., were last Friday dinner guests of Julie and Bob Hafner. They were joined on Saturday by Bill and Mary Lewis of Atwood for the International Fall Festival at the Congregational Church in McCook.

'Counting Your Blessings'

By Pastor Carrie Buhler of Jennings and Dresden United Methodist churches

We've all heard the saying, "Count your blessings," but what does it really mean to us? How many of us do count our blessings?

I suspect most of us take our blessings more for granted than we should. It's really easy to do. We get caught up in the hustle and bustle of our lives and forget how blessed we are until something tragic happens. That's unfortunate, because then it may be too late to enjoy the blessing we've lost.

I grew up in parochial schools, Episcopal for grade school, Lutheran for middle school, and finally Catholic for high school. Every once in a while I got to go to synagogue with a rabbi that we knew. It's been a blessing to grow up exposed to so many different faiths. It's made me open and accepting of other faiths.

One of the things I really like about the Catholic faith is the rosary. I actually carry one that I made. I don't say the rosary with it. Instead when I'm feeling pushed around by life, feeling like I can't see light at the end of the tunnel, I sit down, pull out my rosary, and count a blessing for each bead.

In the beginning, of course, I begin with my big blessings; my husband, our children, our farm. About halfway through I run out of big blessings, and begin thinking about the small blessings I've taken for granted — such as being able to hear the birds sing, seeing that little rosebud in my garden just waiting to burst open, the peace and quiet of the crickets at night.

Saying my own version of the rosary with a blessing for each bead really brings home just how blessed I am. Some of the things I count for bless-

ings are actually "unanswered prayers." These are things I've asked God for that He knew didn't fit into His plan, so I didn't receive them. I might have regretted getting them later on. As the old Garth Brooks song says, "Just because He doesn't answer, doesn't mean He don't care. Some of God's greatest gifts are unanswered prayers."

We all have been blessed with so many things, both big and small. Many of us have begun to think about all of our blessings after seeing news stories of victims of natural disasters, fires or sickness. We have a roof over our heads, food on the table, family, friends and special things that mean a lot to us.

Our clothes may not make the fashion magazines, but they fit us and our lifestyles. We have our churches and clergy to support us and lift us up when we need it.

While I use a rosary to count my blessings, it really isn't important what you use to count yours. The important thing is to count them. Maybe write them down and keep the list where you can see it each day. Add to it as you think about a new blessing. If it's been a while since you've thought about all your blessings, take the time to sit down, get quiet, and spend some time thinking about your blessings.

Then thank God our Father for them. It will make you feel great to tell Him thank you. Then pass on that feeling. Call or write a friend and let them know they are a blessing to you. Visit someone who could use a kind visit. Give your spouse a kiss, give your kids bear hugs. Instead of assuming they know how we feel about them, tell them! Do this each day and you will be amazed at how good life truly is.



Schedule of Oberlin and area church services:

Table listing church services for various congregations including Oberlin Sacred Heart Catholic, United Church of Oberlin, Oberlin Church of Christ, Lund Covenant Church, St. Mary's Catholic, Herndon, Immaculate Conception, Herndon Immanuel, and others.

Advertisement for Fall Blood Draws: 1 Day only - October 28, 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Call for more information or to make an appointment. 785-475-8118. Decatur County Health Department, 902 W. Columbia - Oberlin.

Advertisement for Rake In The Savings featuring 1999 Chevy Suburban LS (Only \$11,900), 2000 Dodge Ram 2500 Pickup (\$12,900), 1995 Ford F150 Eddie Bauer Edition (\$3,450), 1994 Dodge Dakota (Only \$4,950), and 2004 Chevy Colorado LS (Like New \$13,950). C.W. Beamgard Co. Inc. Sales & Service since 1919. 210 State, Atwood 785-626-3286.

Advertisement for VIOXX: Urgent news for people who took VIOXX. Many VIOXX users have been at increased risk for serious cardiovascular injuries. Goldberg & Osborne, 1-800-THE-EAGLE (1-800-843-3245). www.1800theeagle.com. Open 7 days a week.

Advertisement for Internet tonight: Call 475-2206.

These sponsors urge you to attend church regularly:

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

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

Advertisement for Paul's FUNERAL HOMES: A Trusted Name Since 1925. Phone: 785-475-3127 - Oberlin, 785-386-4311 - Selden. Derek Riner, Rick and Dori Pauls.