Home Time

Norcatur News

By the Norcatur News Committee

tion in one of his feet.

Lowell has recuperated well from

hattan to spend the weekend with

her sister, Bonnie and Bob Rapp.

Evan Rapp, son of Ben and Yvonne

Rapp, visited his grandparents in

Manhattan on Feb. 19. He is a high

school senior, and visited the Kan-

sas State University campus Mon-

Nicholas Rapp, son of Bill and

Sandi Rapp, moved from Lawrence

to Manhattan on Jan. 1. Nick works

for a wholesale supplier for plumb-

ing, heating, and sheet metal con-

tractors, and he will be working at

the new office his company opened

will be at noon on Friday at the Edu-

cational Building. The Royal

Neighbors of America will be enter-

taining the seniors with their annual

soup and pie dinner and card party.

party at the Cedar Living Center in

Oberlin for Berenece McKay.

Those attending were Beth John-

son, Maxine Brooks, Shirley

Gallentine, Lee and Lora Arnold,

Sandi Gade, Mary Sedlmayer and

catur will sponsor a card party at the

Methodist Church Educational

Building in Norcatur at noon on

Friday. Reservations were re-

quested by Tuesday, Feb. 28, to

At once the Spirit sent him out into the desert,

and he was in the desert 40 days, being tempted by

Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels

attended him. After John was put in prison Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of

God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom

of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"

The season of Lent is upon us. It is the 40 days

prior to Easter which symbolize the 40 days Jesus

spent in the wilderness being tempted by Satan. If

you count all the days you will find that Ash

Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, actually takes

place 46 days before Easter, since we do not count

Lent. This is like we who are Christians are in the

world but we are not of the world.

These six Sundays are in Lent but not a part of

The purpose of the season of Lent is to focus our

eyes upon our own sins and the temptations we face

so we can fully appreciate the death of Jesus on

Good Friday and rejoice in his resurrection at Eas-

ter. We do this by choosing to go without certain

I have chosen to deny myself that most addictive

comforts or foregoing certain activities.

Beth Johnson at (785) 693-4384.

(Mark 1:12-15 NIV)

the Sundays.

The Royal Neighbors of Nor-

Dorothy Woods.

On Feb. 15, the Norcatur Royal

The next Senior Citizens meeting

in Manhattan on Feb. 27.

Protect yourself from wild fire

Northwest Kansans can and should prepare to protect their homes from wildfire.

Firefighters already have faced a clear demonstration that Kansas is Genevieve Brunk, Hill City, at risk to wildfires, as more than 8,500 acres in Harvey County went up in smoke between Feb. 9 and Feb. 12.

> Rangeland fire danger in Kansas right now ranges between very high and extreme. Dry La Nina-related weather is combining with wind to turn much of the state into a tinderbox

The U.S. Climate Prediction Center is calling for drought to develop or worsen in most of the state through April.

Three simple steps can have a big impact on reducing home risk:

• Don't store firewood or other flammable materials under decks, overhangs or elevated porches. Keep combustibles at least 30 feet from the house.

 Don't allow dead organic material such as leaves, needles or twigs to accumulate anywhere on the house exterior. Clear roofs, gutters, window sills, window wells and window boxes, porches, decks and other places where leaves and other debris can accumulate. Then, keep them clear.

 Cut back dried ornamental grasses, remove any other highly flammable garden debris, and dispose of the dry material safely. Keep lawns mowed and as green as possible.

Rural residents, in particular, should also consider preparing a four-part wildfire plan:

By the Rev. Rick Langness, St. John's Lutheran Church

ber for the fire department is where the event a wildfire is nearby. With you can find it. Place it on your speed dial, if necessary. A quick report of a small fire is the best way to ensure the fire stays small and threatens as little property as possible.

• Determine what flammable materials to bring indoors if wildfire is in the area or likely. When embers are flying on the wind, little things can make all the difference in how well your home gets through a wildfire situation. For example, you may want to remove the cushions from patio furniture or bring the door mats inside.

• Determine what to have on hand when wildfires are around. Consider keeping at least one outside faucet attached to a hose with a nozzle. A ladder propped against the roof on the downwind side of the house can be a good idea. The family vehicle parked facing the exit is another.

Added possibilities are supplies of needed medicines and toiletries. a change of clothes, some cash, and a credit card, either already packed in the car or boxed to pick up at a moment's notice.

• Make sure family members \bullet Make sure the emergency num- know where to go and what to do in

outdoor fires, often the best plan is to account for all family members first. Then make sure all doors and windows are closed, and check that you've completed your preparations. After that, you can think about whether to wet down your roof and yard.

By Tranda Watts

Multi-county Extension Agent

In any case, follow emergency personnel's instructions on whether to remain with your home or to leave while firefighters extinguish the blaze. You cannot outrun a fire when it gets close.

Tranda Watts is Kansas State University extension specialist in food, nutrition, health and safety for Decatur, Gove, Norton, Sheridan, and Trego counties. Call her at 785-443-3663 or e-mail twatts@oznet.ksu.edu. For more information, contact the county extension office, 475-8121.

> Internet **Tonight!** 475-2206

Weekend guests of Dave and Patty Stapp, Kaitlyn and Sam on Feb. 10-12 were Kortney Stapp and Jerrod Poire of Emporia. Saturday was spent visiting Dave and Linda Schleip and Spence in McCook and wedding shopping. Marian Thornton of Oberlin went to McCook with the group. Everyone got together with Dewaine Stapp and Leone Purton, Tom Garrett, Francis Moore and the Rick Doedens for supper at Momma Millie's on Saturday, Feb. 11.

The annual meeting of the Norcatur Citizens Alliance was held Feb. 16 at The Bank in Norcatur. Members present were Kristi Gallentine, Bob Strevey, Rodney O'Hare, Darren Wentz, Troy Wentz and Denny Leichliter. Denny presented the treasurer's report. The Alliance received \$14,205 in 2005, and disbursed \$14,815. The Alliance has received \$90,512 since it began. The Norcatur Citizens Alliance may be contacted in care of Dennis Leichliter, HC 1 Box 113, Clayton, Kan., 67629.

Esther Miller entertained the Monday Bridge Club on Feb. 13. Guests were Dorothy Cochran and Annette Miller of Oberlin. Winners were Dorothy Cochran, Merle Shirley and Marty Munson, all of Oberlin.

Beverly Morris spent Thursday night, Feb. 16, with her grandmother, Esther Miller, before going to Norton Friday morning to do osteoporosis tests.

Velda Ward expected to transfer from the Decatur County Hospital to the Cedar Living Center in Oberlin. Frank Ward was in the Kearney hospital after being flown there from the Oberlin hospital. He had a very serious episode of pneumonia, but is doing very well and hopes to be home soon.

Shawna and Johnny Crum, Shawnda and James of Denver Lowell returned to Norcatur again

Velda Ward at their respective hosilv. pitals. The Crums stayed in Norcatur Sunday night and went home a hip replacement, but has been fighting gout and a soft tissue infecon Feb. 20.

Lora Linn Leichliter was to be dismissed from the hospital at Burlington, Colo., the middle of last made a trip Friday, Feb. 10, to Manweek and return to the Bee Hive Assisted Living Center in Stratton. Her daughter, Lila and Bryan Freshment of Tacoma, Wash., flew in Feb. 18, for a week-long visit.

Memorial services for Nancy L. Ester, 89, were held on Feb. 21 at Wesley Towers in Hutchinson on day. Feb. 21 for Nancy L. Esther, 98, of Hutchinson, who died Feb. 14. Her husband, the Rev. Delbert W. Esther, died on June 22, 1938, in Creighton, Mo. She was director of Christian Education for the United Methodist Churches in Kansas and Missouri before retiring in 1977.

Winners of the Cardinal Bar and Grill pool tournament on Feb. 13 were: first, Seth Cantrell of Lenora; second, Valerie Faris of Oberlin; and third, Josh Kier of Clayton. The next tournaments will be Monday, March 13 and 27.

Birthdays and anniversaries: Neighbors sponsored a birthday Denise Bailey, Monty and Linda Hunt - Feb. 22; Gail and Denise Bailey - Feb. 23; Juanita Eckhart -Feb. 24; Mike Helm - Feb. 25; David Hare, Robert Schoenradt -Feb. 26.

Mark and Terry Cross and daughter, Heather Mogolov, and Parker, all of Olathe, came on Feb. 9, to visit Janice and Rodney O'Hare and Linda and Monty Hunt, and also visit the women's father, Lowell Sebaugh, at Cedar Living Center in Oberlin.

Lowell came to Norcatur with them for the day on Friday, Feb. 10. After a home-cooked meal he made the rounds at the Cardinal Bar and Grill, post office and elevator, visiting friends. All had supper at the Cardinal Bar and Grill Friday night. came on Feb. 17, to visit Frank and Saturday to visit with all of the fam-

Good Samaritan News

Printed on our calendars this month is a Greek proverb which reads, "The heart that loves is always young." If you were to visit, live or work here you would shout a hearty "Amen." Just the sound of Eva Bryan's contagious giggle would be enough to convince you. There is so much love in this place. These short articles can never do justice to the fun we actually have, so take what is written and multiply it by at least three.

Monday was Presidents' Day. During Social Hour, Joey Hirsch came to celebrate the February brought presidential artifacts and birthdays honoring Elsie Macy, trivia to the table. Eva Bryan, Edla Jeanette Conway, and Bonnie Olson, Jeanette Conway, Alvina Unger, Fern Anderson, Walt Mosier, Ruth Laidig and Virginia Ike enjoyed the challenge and the company.

very good lunch and such a neat idea.

Social Hour was spent reading "Letters from Lincoln." This book was published in 1878. We learned a lot about ol' Honest Abe, including why he grew a beard. Edla Olson, Ruth Laidig, Fern Anderson, Fern Mapes, Walt Mosier, Everett Fisher, Dena Gillespie, Virginia Ike and Elsie Macy enjoyed cookies provided by the Decatur County Farm Bureau.

On Thursday, Pi Alpha ladies Weskamp. They brought delicious homemade pies and serenaded us with beautiful music. Club members attending were Pat Wright, Eris Young, Eileene Grose, Estella Waldo, Eunice Martin, Fern Wenger, Virginia Spratling, Joyce Ploussard, Dee Ray, Elaine Bryan, and Cecil Hess, all of Oberlin. Friday was a much-awaited Social Hour. All over the facility were invitations inviting everyone to a surprise. Resident June Saum had arranged and planned a surprise Staff Appreciation party and a Just-For-Fun party for the residents. She helped Jeanette Diederich make three huge pans of cinnamon rolls to be served. The anticipation (and bribe offers to find out early) were so much fun!! Saturday night was our monthly sive-looking marble statues. One Pizza and Poker Party. Harold Demmer, Pooch Portschy, John Ready, Doris Miller, Jeanette Conway and Lucy Schissler gathered to play for peanuts and other tasty treats provided by the Forget-Me-Not Ministry of Dennis Brown. Again, a big thank you to all of our faithful volunteers! We love you and couldn't do without you! Recent guests: Dena Gillespie -Earl and Pat Hartzog, Daryl and ing it seem like going out for dinner Marge Hartzog, June Vavroch, Jennings.

'ALittle Lent Can Be Good For You'

binge on Fat Tuesday and then repent on Ash Wednesday; but I think I can walk away from it without too much sorrow and pain. Yet I am not too sure what might happen if someone comes into my office and offers beads to let them play a game on my computer. The temptation might just be a little bit too much. The idea of Mardi Gras before Lent is inviting. After all, if I am going to have to suffer through 40 days of self-denial, shouldn't I be allowed to freely indulge myself on that

marathon on Tuesday to go along with the tradition to

one day before? The problem we face with Mardi Gras is that we turn one day into two, and then three, and so on. We spend our lives indulging ourselves to the point that we completely overlook Good Friday and then turn Easter into another day to celebrate with more sugar and sweetness. And we never stop to consider the consequences of our sin and the reality of the sufferings and death of Jesus Christ in our place.

Every Christian is obligated to observe the season of Lent; not as a work done to make oneself righteous before God, but as an opportunity to observe the work of God done to make us righteous with the very righteousness of his Son, Jesus Christ, given to us through his sufferings and death upon the cross.

To forego this season of repentance is nothing short

of forgetting the forgiveness that is already ours; for

how can we remember our forgiveness when we have



At 7 p.m., the Cub Scouts arrived to hold their Pinewood Derby. Under the leadership of Tom Wasson, seven very energetic boys raced their pinewood cars to the delight of their parents and 16 residents. Evan Shobe, William and Teagen Enfield, Micah Burke, Braden Wasson and Jude and Justice Harris squealed and cheered at the finish line when their cars won!

Tuesday, we painted-a-president. Jeanette Conway, Virginia Ike, Marilyn St. Clair, Hazel Flaska and Marie McChesney all helped to marbleize two busts of Lincoln, turning them into beautiful expenwas placed in each neighborhood in a prominent place.

At noon, we had our second lunch buffet. This will be an ongoing weekly occurrence. It is another step toward our Christian Communities of Care (culture change) movement. It allows residents a choice in what they eat and how much they would like to eat. The staff members eat with them, mak-- something special. Resident David McGee said, "That was a

pastime of playing Spider Solitaire on my computer. The focus is to turn away from my selfish actions and direct my time and energy to the kingdom of heaven.

forgotten our sin? "The kingdom of God is near. Re-Now I've contemplated the idea of a solitaire pent and believe the good news!" Schedule of Oberlin and area church services:

OBERLIN SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH 785-475-3103 The Rev. George Kochuvelikkakam, MASS: 10:30 a.m., Sunday

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC, LEOVILLE The Rev. George Kochuvelikkakam MASS: 8 a.m., Sunday.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, SELDEN The Rev. George Kochuvelikkakam

MASS: 5:30 p.m., Saturday

OBERLIN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH Jim Martin 120 South East, Oberlin SATURDAY: Sabbath School, 9:15 a.m.; Saturday Worship, 11 a.m.

JENNINGS-DRESDEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH JENNINGS Carrie Buhler, pastor SUNDAY: Church School, 10 a.m. Morning Worship, 11 a.m. DRESDEN SUNDAY: Morning Worship, 9:30 a.m. SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Wor-

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 Pastor: Dennis Brown SUNDAY: Morning Worship, 9 a.m.

UNITED CHURCH OF OBERLIN 109 North Griffith-American Baptist, **Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian USA** SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Choir practice every Wed. at 6:30 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., AWANA Club 4-6 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 prac-

CLAYTON UNITED METHODIST Pastor: Kathy Aeillo Almena

tice, 7:30 p.m.

ship Service, 11 a.m.

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 South Beaver Street - Oberlin Bill Duncan - Phone 785-475-3259 SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Hour, 10:45 a.m. WEDNES-DAY: Ladies Home Bible Study, 9 a.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, 9:30 a.m.;

Morning Worship, 11 a.m; Bible study, 7 p.m.

NORCATUR UNITED METHODIST Pastor: Kathy Aeillo Almena

SUNDAY: Worship Service, 10 a.m.; Church School, 10:30 a.m.

LYLE UNITED METHODIST Carol Woodmaneee, Almena Lyle Lay Speaker 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: Doug Mason 10 miles south, 4 miles west of Oberlin SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Wor-

ship, 11 a.m. ; WEDNESDAY: Bible Study and prayer, 7:30 p.m.

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. Foundations Bible Class, Thursday, 7-9 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.

Lyle News

By Deanna Sumner

Toots Magers last Saturday to do good deeds for her were Richard and Jane Engelhardt, Mike, Pam, Brittney and Tyler, and Kevin Engelhardt and friend, Catherine. On Sunday, Judy and Charlie Easton came and had lunch with Toots.

The Lyle ladies sewed on Monday.

Toots Magers and Kathy Van-Meter attended Bill and Pat Schwab's 50th wedding anniversary reception at the Andbe Home

Family who came to the home of in Norton on Friday. On Saturday, the women went to work SHARES in Norcatur.

On Sunday Toots Magers, June Jolly and Kathy VanMeter went to the Prairie Chapel for a pancake supper and later went to Norton for party pitch.

News was received that Earnest Huff was flown to the hospital in Kearney, Neb., on Thursday with influenza A and is still there. Prayers are with Earnest and Donna Huff for a speedy recovery.

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.

