

Norcatur News

By the Norcatur News Committee

This will be the 117th year for the observance of Memorial Day in Norcatur and the 34th consecutive year that the "Avenue of Flags" will be displayed. All veterans, in uniform if possible, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts and school children are asked to meet at the bank corner on Sunday at 1 p.m. to form up for the parade to the cemetery. There will be chairs available at the cemetery for veterans, who would like to use them.

The parade will start from the bank corner at 1:30 p.m. At the cemetery Roger Beachel will give the Memorial Day address at 2 p.m. In the case of bad weather the service will be held in the Norcatur High School gymnasium.

The Avenue of Flags will be put up at 7 a.m. on Sunday, and volunteers are to meet there at that time.

The Educational Building will be open on Sunday afternoon after the Memorial Services for anyone who wants to visit or get in out of the weather. There will be cake, coffee and tea available.

Virgil and Joyce Price celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on May 19.

The family of Arnold Jackson will honor him on his 90th birthday on Sunday, at the Norcatur Methodist Church Educational Building, in conjunction with the reception at the church following the Memorial Day celebration. He lives at Norton Manor, Apt. 109, 213 Horace Greeley Ave., Norton, Kan., 67654.

Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Barnett went to Haysville Saturday to help their grandson, Alex Barnett, celebrate his fourth birthday. He is the son of Darren and Julie Barnett.

On May 11, dietitian Daren Bunnell, presented a program on healthy eating to 33 people at the fellowship hall of Norton United Methodist Church. The Healthy Congregations in Action committee of the Almena, Clayton and Norcatur United Methodist churches hosted the program.

The Norcatur Royal Neighbors held a Mother's Day Tea on May 10, at the Norcatur City Hall Cafeteria for 36 guests. Each guest wore a decorated hat. The hats were judged, and prizes were awarded to Beth Sebaugh for the oldest hat (it belonged to her mother); Mary Sedlmayer for the best sportsman hat; and Lula Hix for seasonal hat. Mary Davies received the prize for traveling the farthest (Wales). Other prizes were awarded to Joyce Price, Beth Johnson, Dorothy Lawn, Doris Auken, Millie Lippelman, Shirley Wishon, Estella Harold, and Eleanor Zulmalt. Finger foods were enjoyed.

Chance Harman, son of Ron and Renee Harman, Norcatur, realized his college dream on May 5 and 6 by winning the Great Plains Region College Rodeo. He won first place by 20 points in the saddle bronc riding in Dickerson, Neb. Chance rides for Chadron State College and also participates in calf roping. Next month he will ride in the National College Rodeo in Casper, Wyo., from June 9 to 18. During the sum-

mer he plans to ride with his brother, Scott, in area rodeos.

Mother's Day dinner guests of Wava Reames were Frank and Velda Ward, Leslie and Lynn Ward, Ruby Pflieger and Kaley Ward.

Wava Reames took Marguerite Clark to catch the plane in McCook on May 10. Marguerite flew to Baltimore to visit her nephew, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clark. Wava also picked Marguerite up at McCook when she returned on May 15.

Dwight Wood had surgery in Lincoln, Neb., on May 5, and came home on May 7. He is doing well. Oran and LaVerne Milner, and Veda Wood visited them on May 8. Dwight enjoys practicing and playing with his band, "The Prairie Dogs," in his spare time.

Veda Wood had a wonderful time on her birthday, along with the return of her wandering cat, being close-mouthed about where he had been. The next day she was sick, but is better now.

BRIDAL SHOWER

A bridal shower was held by Linda Schleip and Marian Thornton on May 13 at the Golden Age Center in Oberlin to honor Kortney Stapp on her upcoming wedding to Jerrod Poiré. Guests attending were: Amber Dempewolf, Topeka; Debbie Poiré, Westphalia; Linda Schleip and Spencer, McCook; Sunnie Fredrickson, Selden; Janell Morel and Delores Stapp, Norton; Jerry Temple, Janice O'Hare, Linda Hunt, Lois Wentz, Megan, Rebecca, and Amy, Patty and Kaitlyn Stapp, Norcatur; Trista Ploussard, Colby; Bev Morris, Hoxie; Alice Shirley, Goldie Stapp, Marian Thornton, Pat Dorshorst and Miki, Marlene Moxter, Barb Olson, and Lynn Doeden, Oberlin.

Kortney Stapp, Jerrod Poiré, and Debbie Poiré were guests the weekend of May 13-14 of Dave and Patty Stapp, Kaitlyn and Sam. The women attended Kortney's bridal shower Saturday. The group attended the Oberlin prom to watch Kaitlyn promenade.

LaVerne Milner will celebrate her 90th birthday on Monday afternoon at the Educational Building.

Recent dinner guests of Wayne and Norma McCallister were his mother, Mildred Schwab, Norton, and Bee Nelson and Lula Hix, Norcatur.

Rea and Dee Magers met Jeff and Joy Magers at the Norton Lake to celebrate Mother's Day. Jeff and Joy cooked bacon and eggs, and the fish were so overwhelmed with the wonderful smell they refused to bite. Joy was winner of the day, catching a small striped bass.

Birthdays and anniversaries: Jeannie Pelkey, Esther Miller, Janice O'Hare, M.J. Dempewolf, Virgil and Joyce Price - May 18; Kenneth Price - May 21; Dewayne and Aurelia Jackson - May 23.

Graduating 75 years ago, May of 1931, were Jesse Bishop, Retha Bishop, Oral Brunk, Kenneth Clark, Ellen Collins, Ruth Davis, Esther Jackson, Celia Mavity, Gerald New, Joyce Tolle and Ken-

neth Ward.

There will be a city-wide garage sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 10. Maps will be available. Sign-up sheets are located in the Norcatur Post Office and city office. The last date to sign up is June 2. For details, call Chris Dempewolf, (785) 693-4461.

Katrina Wentz participated in the Decatur Community High School promenade.

Seniors from Norcatur who graduated from Decatur Community High School on Sunday were Denton Bailey, M.J. Dempewolf, Sharee Dempewolf, Destry Jackson, Marci Matchett, Jonathon Smith and Kaitlyn Stapp.

Graduating from Norton Community High School was Lance Roe. Congratulations to you all.

Band members are needed to play for the Memorial Day observance. Please bring your instrument to the pre-school room at the Norcatur City Building at 1 p.m. on Sunday. Contact Deb Marshall at (785) 693-4344 for details. The band will march in the parade from the bank corner to the cemetery.

A Mother's Day and birthday party was held Sunday, May 14, at the home of Gary and Annette Miller in Oberlin. Those in attendance were Merle Shirley, Doris Sloan, Dennis and Judy Shirley and Esther Miller, Oberlin; Chad, Aimee and Eli Applebury, Colby; Bev Morris, Hoxie; and Stan, Carol and Justine Miller, Norcatur. A barbecue to honor the mothers, and cake and homemade ice cream in honor of Esther's 96th birthday were planned for Thursday, May 18.

Bird flu may become problem

Scientists worldwide are studying a new and still emerging avian – or bird – flu.

A recent made-for-television movie, "Fatal Contact: Bird Flu in America," which aired on ABC on May 9 has sparked more interest in the new virus. To help separate fact from fiction, Scott Beyer, a poultry specialist, answered frequently asked questions about the new flu.

Q: Who is at risk from bird flu?

A: The new strain of bird flu is transmitted primarily between birds. There are some cases in Asia and Europe in which the virus has passed from an infected bird to a person who has been in close contact with that bird, but researchers believe that the virus will have to mutate (a process in which genes rearrange themselves) several times, perhaps in a series or cascade of mutations, before it becomes a health risk for the human population.

Q: Does that mean the general population can ignore the prospect of new bird flu?

A: No. When a virus is new, the general population will not yet have had an opportunity to develop a natural immunity to it and scientists also will not have had the time to formulate a vaccine effective in fighting the virus. That means normally healthy people may face increased risks from the virus. People who are immuno-compromised, such as the elderly, those suffering from a chronic illness, or children whose immune systems are not yet fully developed, may face even greater risks.

Q: How can people protect themselves?

A: Be aware. Keep up on the



Home Time

By Tranda Watts
Multi-county Extension Agent

news and when – and if – the virus should mutate in such a way that it becomes a threat to the general human population, use common sense. Practice good hygiene; wash your hands frequently; get plenty of rest; eat a variety of foods; and stay hydrated and away from crowds.

Q: If the flu is spread by poultry, what is the poultry industry doing to protect its flocks?

A: In the United States the poultry industry has dealt with poultry viruses for years, but not this particular strain. The industry has been vigilant in testing since the 1970s. If pathological reports, blood tests, swabbing facilities and even testing farm cats and dogs near a poultry facility indicate the presence of any poultry virus, the flock is destroyed and the farm emptied and sanitized.

Poultry production techniques vary worldwide. In many places, including the Far East where the new bird flu was first identified, poultry often is raised in small, independent flocks and sold at open-air markets which might allow infected birds to contaminate other flocks.

Q: Is eating chicken or eggs safe?

A: In the United States, a vigilant monitoring system keeps infected birds from entering the consumer food supply. Cooking poultry to the

recommended internal temperature of 160 degrees Fahrenheit will kill the virus.

Eggs also are safe. If a hen is infected, the hen will stop laying. If for some reason an egg is infected, cooking it to 160 degrees Fahrenheit will kill the virus.

Q: Can migratory birds carry the infection?

A: That's a worry, and the reason scientists are studying birds in their current habitat and expected migratory flyways with the hope of reducing the spread of the virus. That also is why farmers are advised to discourage migratory bird contact with their flocks, and with their farms in general. For example, a farmer may want to allow corn stalks to stand to discourage migratory geese that need a clear field for landing.

The study of migratory birds, including ducks and geese, continues. Keeping up on the news is advisable, as Kansas is a flyway for migratory birds.

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.

'The Ascension of Jesus'

By Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler,
Fair Lutheran Church, Oberlin

The Church is in the final days of celebrating the Great 50 Days of Easter! Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Thursday, May 25, is the 40th day of Easter, and thus, the Ascension of Our Lord. What is the Ascension? The word ascension means "to go up."

In both the Apostles' and the Nicene Creeds (these are statements of faith by Christians for centuries), the statement is made that Jesus "ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father." Many Christians in many churches around the world on most Sundays make this statement of faith. Today I want to focus on what it means to believe that Jesus ascended to heaven on the 40th day of Easter.

In Luke 24:50-53 we have the account of Jesus' ascension. "While he (Jesus) was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven" (v. 51).

The account of Jesus' ascension is also in the Acts of the Apostles 1:6-11. "When he (Jesus) had said this, as they (the disciples) were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight" (v. 9). The Ascension of Jesus is easily over-

looked because it always falls on Thursday and not on a Sunday.

What does the Ascension mean for us as Christians? What does it mean that Jesus is sitting at the right hand of God in heaven? Jesus, in a spiritual way, is now able to be present in all times and in all places to the church and to the world, just as God is also present to us and for us. This is the final exclamation point of the Easter victory, that Jesus Christ has completed his mission on earth and awaits the finality of time.

In "Sundays and Seasons" Pamela Fickenscher writes, "We all learned in Sunday school that God is not merely 'up in heaven,' but in fact is everywhere, and in the hearts of believers. When the Russian cosmonaut declared that he had been into space and God was not there, few believers were concerned." We are not concerned because we know that Jesus is everywhere present in a spiritual way, not a physical way. We feel Jesus in our hearts and do not need physical proof of his whereabouts; for we state our belief that Jesus ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father.

O God, give us faith to trust that, as Jesus promised, he abides with us on earth to the end of time. Amen



Schedule of Oberlin and area church services:

OBERLIN SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
785-475-3103
The Rev. George Kochuvelikkakam, MASS: 5:30 p.m., Saturday

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

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, SELDEN
The Rev. George Kochuvelikkakam MASS: 7:30 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.

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 METHODIST 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: Fred Dycus
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 practice, 7:30 p.m.

CLAYTON UNITED METHODIST
Pastor: Kathy Aiello
Almena
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship 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. WEDNESDAY: 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 Aiello
Almena
SUNDAY: Worship Service, 10 a.m.; Church School, 10:30 a.m.

LYLE UNITED METHODIST
Carol Woodmanee, 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.; Worship, 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
Rev. 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. THURSDAY: Women's Bible Study second Thursday at 9:30 a.m.

Good Samaritan News

Each May, we celebrate National Nursing Home Week. This time is set aside to allow those who live and work in nursing homes, along with family members and volunteers, to be recognized for their contributions to our community.

We at Good Sam strive to allow Jesus Christ to be first and foremost in our center. In 1922, the Rev. August "Dad" Hoeger founded the Good Samaritan Society. He believed the ministry began in the heart of God and that it would manifest God's everlasting love through Christ. Every day this love becomes real through the daily efforts of the caregivers, who joyfully serve our residents.

We spent the week celebrating in silly ways involving both staff and residents. Borrowing an idea from the schools, we had our own sort of Spirit Week. Monday was Crazy Hair Day with a photo shoot to capture all the wild 'dos.

Tuesday was Backwards Day. All day staff didn't know if they were coming or going, and then found themselves "Running Behind" in a courtyard game, which ended in a tie.

We welcomed the public on Wednesday at our Coffee Hour Open House, serving coffee and donuts while enjoying conversation with friends and listening to old-time music on our 1940s Crosby Replica Phonograph.

On Thursday, Pajama Day, we ended with a p.j. relay. Teammates wore frog slippers while performing morning tasks. Jump out of bed, pour and drink the coffee, shave a

balloon, and get dressed for work, ringing a bell between each task...tied again!

Friday was Crazy Hat Day. During Social Hour we played "Stack 'em Up." Lucy Schissler and Eva Bryan agreed to wear the hats. Each team grabbed hats from a circle and stacked 'em on the ladies' heads. Each team was able to balance 13 hats...yep, again we had a tie!

Just a reminder: Our Memorial Day "Walkway of Flags" is just around the corner.

If you have been meaning to purchase a flag in memory of or in honor of a loved one now is the time to do it! Mail or drop off a check and the name of the person you'd like to remember so we have time to make the cards.

All proceeds will benefit the activities department in purchasing activity items for Alzheimer and dementia residents. Flags will be displayed from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Memorial Day.

By sharing an hour or an afternoon, a smile, a prayer or warm words of encouragement, you can brighten the lives of our residents and staff members, helping us to fulfill our mission of "Sharing God's love in word and deed," believing that "In Christ's Love, Everyone is Someone."

Recent guests: Kathryn Post - Doris Fringer; Dorothy Bryan - Carol Barrett; Louise Pollnow - Luetta Pollnow. Also visiting were Mert McEvoy, LaVern and Carolyn Burtis, Ken Shobe, Nadean Stoney, Bill and Carol Duncan, Bethany Smith, and Merla Rhodes of Hays.

Herndon Insurance Agency

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785-322-5331
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

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