



Home Time

*By Tranda Watts
Multi-county Extension Agent*

Norcatu Rural Fire Department will hold its annual Pizza Fund-raiser on Sunday, Jan. 28. Pizza must be ordered by Friday, Jan. 19, and can be delivered hot or pre-made to freeze. Orders are being taken by Carl Lyon, Rex Knapp, Darren Wentz, Doug Dempewolf, Galen Wentz, Jeff Roe, Scott Hartzog, Don Cressler, Troy Wentz, Mark Bailey, Gail Bailey and Tad Hartsough. Proceeds will be used to update fire fighting and safety equipment. There is a limit of 10 per order and cost is by donation.

Judy Menges of Colby writes that they are recovering from the big '19' snowstorm over New Year's. Some store roofs have tried to collapse from the weight of the snow.

Those who enjoyed Christmas at the Bob Shick home in Ocala, Fla., included a daughter Vickie Furhman, Huntington, Ind.; Steve and Carla Hawk, Almema; daughter-in-law Diann Shick and son Cory, Ocala, Fla.; Danille Miller, Crystal River, Fla.; Megan Hawks, Orlando, Fla., and friend Mat; and a close friend, Thelma Van Schoiek, Ocala/

The Norcatu winners of the Decatur County Chamber of Commerce Christmas lighting contest were at the Norcatu Christmas Drawing. The winners were: first place, \$75, to Jim and Carolyn Plotts; second place, \$50, to Randy Allen and Sherri Regal; third place, \$35, to Gerry and Cheryl Hill.

Christmas dinner guests of Dave and Patty Stapp, Kaitlyn and Sam were: Bob Dempewolf, Rose Rifle, Marian and R.D. Thornton, Oberlin; Dave and Linda Schliep and Spencer, McCook; and Jerrod and Kortney Poire, Emporia.

Merle Cozad celebrated her 90th birthday, on Saturday. Mail will reach her at 2819 Westminster St., Hutchinson, Kan., 67502.

Christmas weekend guests at the Stan Miller farm were Casey Morris, Lawrence; Bev Morris, Hoxie; Aimee Applebury, Eli and Karyssa, Colby; Casey Tuttle and Justine Miller, El Dorado; and Joel Miller, Emporia. They went to Oberlin for the Miller Christmas at the Gary Miller home on Christmas Eve. Derrick Bolliger of Oxford, Neb., joined them on the farm for Christmas dinner. Stan and Carol also visited Carol's folks, the John Rules, in Clayton on Christmas Day. On Wednesday evening, Dec. 27, Max Crosby, a friend from Kansas City, was going through the area and joined the Stan Millers for supper.

Bee Nelson was a luncheon guest of Dorothy Ward on Sunday, Jan. 7. Christmas guests of Dorothy Ward for an early celebration were Mark and Debby Ward and Brandon, and K.J.. Christmas Day din-

ner guests of Dorothy were Marguerite Clark and Bee Nelson.

Marguerite Clark, Oran and LaVerne Milner and Dorothy Ward accompanied Bee Nelson to Norton on Saturday, Jan. 6.

Rea, Dee and Jeff Magers spent Christmas with Toots Magers, Charlie and Judy Easton, and Richard and Janie Engelhardt at the Magers farm. Dee's family had their family reunion in Colorado on Christmas Day, which they have been doing for 50 years or more. This year, they had "Christmas in July," which allowed more family members to be there. They plan to make this a new tradition.

Vene and Phyllis Lechlitter, accompanied by Debbie Obrecht, arrived at the Dennis Lechlitter home on Dec. 14. On Friday, they and Denny and Ruth Gill drove to Rolla, Mo., to attend the graduation of Stacey Lechlitter from the University of Missouri-Rolla. They were joined there by Lt. Jake Lechlitter and wife, Kathryn, of Great Falls, Mont. After graduation Stacey is moving to Woodland Park, Colo., where she has accepted a job with Cripple Creek-Victor Gold Mine.

Wava Reames met Johnny and Shawna Crum, Shawnda and James at Great Bend on Dec. 23. It was Shawna's birthday, so they celebrated her birthday and Christmas. Shawnda and James then spent a week with Wava. That was cut short, though, by the next storm. Christmas Day was spent at the Frank and Velda Ward home in Norcatu. Additional dinner guests were Wava Reames and grandchildren, Shawnda and James, Leslie and Lynn Ward, Keith Ward, Kaley Ward, Ruby Pfeigler and Kevin McMurray.

Christmas Day guests of Cathy Claussen were Mr. and Mrs. Chris Claussen, Olathe; Cale Claussen, Baldwin City; Mr. and Mrs. Don Claussen, Delphyn Biggs, Oberlin; Fred Molzahn and Beth Johnson, Norcatu.

A wedding reception was held on for Beverly J. Morris and Rocky D. Delano, who were recently married, at the Main Street Inn in Hoxie.

Sandy and Larry McNames hosted Christmas dinner for the Wood and Cooper families, including Ryan and Neal McNames; John and Andria Cooper, Devon and Skyler; John's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C.W. Hamilton and Trey; Carol and John Moye; A.J. and Tielia High and Aubrey; and Denny and Veda Wood.

Mr. and Mrs. Oran Milner drove to Watkins, Colo., on Dec. 23 and were met by Bruce and Mike Bishop. They joined Bruce and family at Sheila Shelton's for Christmas dinner and a gift ex-

change. On Wednesday Bruce and daughter, Kim, took them back to Watkins and they returned home on Highway 36. Kim Bishop flew home Dec. 23 from Costa Rica for some vacation time.

Word has been received that Cheryl K. Stiles, McComb, Miss., died on Nov. 16, 2006. She is survived by her husband, Darwyn Stiles, four children, and several grandchildren. She was born Oct. 30, 1938, in Beloit. She lived a few years in Norcatu and attended school here during her junior high years. She is the daughter of the late Howard and Pauline Ward and the granddaughter of the late Walter and Florence Ward of Norcatu.

Doug Dempewolf has resigned his position as mayor of Norcatu, after 13 years of service. He served on the council for three years, and as mayor for 10. Mike Helm, president of the council, will become the new mayor.

Hard at work clearing streets after the last snowstorm were Jerry Hill, Mike Helm, Doug Dempewolf, Larry Sumner, Stan Miller, Carl Lyon and Dewayne Jackson, along with anyone we may have missed.

With a wintry mix of snow and ice in the forecast, stocking the pantry with ready-to-eat foods - and a manual can opener - can feed your family in the event of a power outage or inability to travel.

Often, there is not telling how long it might be until power is restored or roads cleared, so it's wise to eat perishable foods such as sandwich meat, cheese, salad greens and leftovers first so they won't be wasted or spoil.

The internal temperature of a refrigerator or freezer will rise each time the door is opened, so minimize the number of times that happens.

Keep a well-stocked pantry with ready-to-eat, shelf-stable foods that can satisfy hunger and help maintain energy levels. It's hancy when a storm prevents a trip to the store or interrupts traditional cooking methods.

Examples of such foods include peanut butter, crackers, canned fruits and juices, vegetables (three-bean salad, for example), cooked canned lean meats or poultry and fish, cereal (to eat dry, or with reconstituted powdered or canned milk) and processed cheese.

Cooked food in pouches such as fish, and dried fruit, cereal bars, and snack packs also provide nutrition. Consider having bottled water on hand as well.

Buy single-serve foods such as small cans of fruit that have pull tabs for easy opening. This reduces the chance of leftovers.

Infants are fed baby formula, be sure to have extra on hand. This also applies to food for anyone who require a special diet, such as nutritional supplement beverages.

Check on supplies of medications, pet food and personal items. At least a three-day supply of food and other essentials is recommended.

Beware of potential risks of carbon monoxide poisoning (linked in some cases to portable generators)

and the risk of fire, which can occur when using a charcoal grill inside the garage or home.

The American Red Cross web site, www.redcross.org, has excellent information on how to prepare for a disaster. It also has information on water storage and other disaster supplies to have on hand.

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.



'Renew efforts to seek God'

By the Rev. Ray Gilstrap of Clayton and Norcatu United Methodist churches

Grace and peace to you in the name of Christ. My prayer for you today is that this New Year may be one of new beginnings as you seek God and strive to imitate Jesus Christ.

Many of us have a habit of making New Year's resolutions, and I'd like to suggest a few things you might consider. Perhaps one of these might be to begin or renew efforts to seek God by making a greater effort to imitate Christ.

St. Thomas Aquinas gave some good advice for those who seek God: "Great is the blindness and exceeding the folly of many souls that are ever seeking God, continuously sighing after God, and frequently desiring God: whilst, all the time, they are themselves the tabernacles of the Living God ... since their soul is the seat of God, in which he continuously reposes."

As you seek to imitate Christ, take time to observe and recognize God's work in creation and in your own life. "Be still and know that he is God" (Psalm 46:10).

Another way to imitate Christ in your search for God will include the study of God's Word and those things great men or women have written about him. Walt Whitman found God in many places:

"I hear and behold God in every object, yet understand God not in the least, nor do I understand who there can be more wonderful than myself. Why should I wish to see God better than this day? I see something of God each hour of the twenty-four, and each moment then, in the faces of men and women I see God, and in my own face in the glass, I find letters from God dropped in the street, and every one is signed by God's name, and I leave them where they are, for I know that wheresoe'er I go others will punctually come forever and ever."

Whitman found God in all of creation, where do you find God?

Certainly your search for God through the imi-

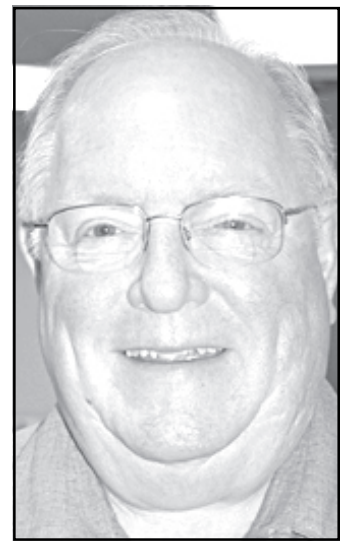
tation of Christ will include continual prayer. Soren Kierkegaard said: "A hasty kind of reasoning may hold that praying is an unprofitable act, because a man's prayer does not really change the unchangeable; but even if this in the process of time were desired, might not changeable man come easily to regret that he had changed God? The true kind of reasoning is therefore the only desirable kind as well; prayer does not change God, but changes him who prays."

If you don't know how to pray, begin with this simple thought, "Lord, be merciful to me, a sinner." (Luke 18:13) Then find Matthew 6:5-15, where Jesus Christ himself teaches us how to pray. Ask God to help you learn and seek the help of others who have already had experience.

In your search for God through the imitation of Christ, never forget to long for the hope of immortality that overcomes the fears of this life and comes from the love of Christ. Helen Keller, wrote, "I believe in the immortality of the soul because I have within me immortal longings. I believe that the state we enter after death is wrought by our own motives, thoughts and deeds. I believe that in the life to come I shall have the senses I have not had here, and that my home there will be beautiful with color, music, the speech of flowers and faces I love."

We may not all have the same concept of the heavenly kingdom as Helen Keller, but we must all believe the words of Christ, that he has gone to prepare a place for us and when it is ready, he will return for us, that where he is we may be also. (John 14:1-3)

As you make your New Year's resolutions for 2007, may you seek God through the imitation of Jesus Christ that your joy may be complete (John 15:11), may your search reveal Jesus in everyone you meet (John 14:15-21), may you learn to pray continually (I Thessalonians 5:15-24), and may your search for God through the imitation of Jesus Christ give you the assurance of eternal hope in Christ Jesus our Lord (1 John 5:11-12).



Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

We had a snowy weekend. Sitting inside looking out the window, we watched the snow coming down. It was a beautiful scene. The sun came up this morning but it is to continue to be very cold.

There was no church Sunday at Jennings. United Methodist Women's meeting will be held at 2 p.m. today (Wednesday), weather permitting. This meeting was postponed on Jan. 3.

Housing Authority meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Edna Keenan Smith of Lawrence, formerly of Jennings, who died Jan. 10. Her funeral will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at the United Methodist Church in Jennings.

The Norton Correctional men will be in Jennings to work next week, weather permitting. Water meters will be read Saturday. If your meter is inside, please post it on your front door for the boys to pick up.

Claudine Bennett is in St. Mary's Hospital in Tucson, Ariz. She had gone to Switzerland the first part of December to visit relatives. After Christmas, she flew from Switzerland to Arizona where she spends the winter months with her sister, Dottie. I talked with Dottie and she thought Claudine was improving. She was given four units of blood. Benny, her youngest son, had arrived in Tucson to visit.

The Heritage Associates of Jennings held its meeting a week late on Jan. 11, due to the icy conditions. President Neoma Tacha called the meeting to order with directors Dean Gawith, Larry Mizer, Bob Tacha, and Lawrence and Lila Jennings present. The minutes of the previous meeting and special meeting were read and treasurer's report given.

The school trophies are now in the cases in the school memorabilia room along with banners, year books, and other items. There is also

a case of trophies from Dresden High School. The stands for the class pictures have arrived and are being assembled.

As recipient of funds from the Seeds of Hope Telethon to be held in Oberlin on Saturday, Feb. 3, the museum will take baked goods for their concession stand and have three people, Larry Mizer, Neoma Tacha and Lila Jennings, help with the telethon.

Bus Coach International's open house was indeed a full house on Jan. 6. The Czech Museum furnished kolaches that day and Neoma Tacha and Lila Jennings served them to the several hundred who attended. We wish BCI much success with their business here at Jennings. Their building has been remodeled and is very nice.

Our next regular meeting will be at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 1. The public is invited to attend.

LIBERTY RANCH
ANNUAL PRODUCTION SALE
Sat., Jan. 20 1:00PM
AT THE RANCH PLAINVILLE, KS
SELLING
Limousin Red Angus Half Bloods
80 Coming Two-Year-Old Bulls
20 Fall Yearling Bulls
250 Spring Calving Commercial Cows, 4-7 yrs. old
5 Coming Yearling colts
5 Coming Two-year-old geldings
2 Three-year-old geldings, Red Roans

Barn/Sale Day (785) 885-4881
Roger Comeau, Owner (785) 434-4686
Mike Smith, Manager
(785) 885-4882 (785) 737-6053

Internet tonight
475-2206

Schedule of Oberlin and area church services:

OBERLIN SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
785-475-3103
Fr. Henry Saw Lone, MASS: 10:30 a.m., Sunday

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC, LEVILLE
Fr. Henry Saw Lone
MASS: 8 a.m., Sunday.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, SELDEN
Fr. Henry Saw Lone
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.

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
Pastor: Judy Stricker
109 North Griffith-American Baptist, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian USA
SUNDAY: Adult Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Coffee: 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Worship Service, 11 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: Ray Gilstrap
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.

NORCATU UNITED METHODIST
Pastor: Ray Gilstrap
Almena
SUNDAY: Worship Service, 10 a.m.; Church School, 10:30 a.m.

LYLE UNITED METHODIST
Carol Woodmanee, Almema
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 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.

SELDEN COMMUNITY CENTER
110 North Kansas Street
Selden, Kansas
Brother John L. Paulson
3rd Sunday of Each Month at 3 p.m.
Fellowship 2:30-2:55 and immediately following message.

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.

Paul's FUNERAL HOMES
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Phone:
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