



## Home Time

By **Tranda Watts**  
Multi-county Extension Agent

The Norcatcur Royal Neighbors will have a Mother's Day Tea at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, May 9, at the Norcatcur City Hall. The Rev. Charlotte Strecker-Baseler of Faith Lutheran Church in Oberlin will be the guest speaker as part of Northwest Kansas Domestic and Sexual Violence Service. The local chapter will provide appetizers. Those attending should bring a hygiene product and wear an apron. Call reservations to Lora Arnold, (785) 693-4445.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Kevin Granata, professor of engineering at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va., who was among those killed by the gunman in a shooting spree. He was the husband of the former Linda Ankenman and he also leaves three children. Linda is the daughter of the late Don and Nancy Ankenman, who visited Norcatcur annually for the Ankenman reunion.

Alexis Ochs, granddaughter of Robert and Treva Crabill of Jetmore, will graduate from Fort Hays State University in May with her paternal grandmother, Nola Ochs, who is 95. She is the oldest student to graduate at any college or university in the United States. Jay Leno and the Tonight Show want her to appear on their show but she wants to wait until she actually graduates before she and David and Julie Ochs and Alexis take that trip. Congratulations to both of them.

Mr. and Mrs. Stan Miller left April 12, for Hays where they spent the night with Joel Miller. On Friday morning they all traveled to El Dorado to spend the weekend with Justine Miller.

Stan bowled in the state bowling tournament in Wichita. They visited with Mr. and Mrs. Rocky De Lano, Wichita; Casey Morris, Lawrence; and Mr. and Mrs. Chad Applebury, Colby, who were there visiting. The Millers also visited Mr. and Mrs. Scott Siple, Nathan and Rachel of Wichita.

Easter guests of Gerald and Judy Jackson were Brian and Patty Jackson, and Thad; Beverly and Andy Huerta, grandsons, Tyler and Danny; granddaughter Micaela; and grandsons Shawn Fisher and his dad, Ken Fisher. All attended the Lyle Easter sunrise service and breakfast.

Birthdays and anniversaries: Greg Sumner - April 24; Yvonne Sumner - April 25; Gerald Jackson, Les and Lynn Ward - April 26; Goldie Brewer - April 27; Rodney and Janice O'Hare - April 30.

Mary Lesle, Dorothy Ward and Bee Nelson attended the Norton County Arts Council dinner and dance on April 21, at the Norton American Legion and enjoyed the big band sound of the Steve Miller K.C. Band.

Royalty crowned at the Norton Community High School prom were Princess Sandy Almaraz, Prince Kent Mann, King Nathan Broeckelman and Queen Lacey Roe. Congratulations from the *Norcatcur News* volunteers to our summer volunteer, Lacey Roe, daughter of Jeff and Lori Roe.

Memorial services were held on April 17 at Tabor-Rice Funeral Home in Brighton, Colo., for Betty Mavity, 64, of Lockbuie, Colo., who died April 10. Survivors include her husband, Fay, Lochbuie; a son, Robert Mavity, Hunter, Wash., two grandsons; a sister, Rita Ackerman, Phoenix, Ariz., and her mother-in-law, Edith Mavity, Cunningham. Inurnment was held Aug. 18 at the Norcatcur Cemetery.

Terri James is happy to be home after her stays at hospitals in Kearney, Neb., and Denver.

Brief guests of Dorothy Ward on April 18, were Fay Mavity and his son and grandchildren and sister-in-law, who were here to attend the funeral of his wife Betty Mavity. A nephew Jay and Marilyn Mavity, and his son Mark also visited.

Also attending the graveside services were Harold Clark, Jim and John of Greensburg, and Roberta Williams of Hays.

Dorothy Ward enjoyed lunch with Lora Linn Leichter and Velda Ward on April 20 at Cedar Living Center in Oberlin.

Guests of Rea and Dee Magers for lunch on April 23 were her brother, Lou and Norma Hahn, Craig, Colo. They were en route to Hays to visit her mother. On Tuesday, Charlie and Judy Easton of Quinter visited at the Magers home.

Winners at the Senior Citizens cards on April 20 were Clent Hatfield, June Jolly and Eleanor Jensen. The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. this Friday at the Educational Building.

On April 19, Rea and Dee Magers made a medical trip to Kearney, Neb. While there, they visited Jay and Maryllin Locy, former neighbors in Norcatcur. Marilyn was feeling much better. En route home, they visited the Tom Longs of Woodruff, who recently purchased property there and are remodeling. He and Dee are cousins.

Reminder: The second annual

Norcatcur Citywide Garage Sale will be from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 12. Fifteen families have already signed up. For details, call (785) 693-4598, or 693-4203.

Thomas Baker is recuperating at home from shoulder surgery, which had on April 20.

Dinner guest of Wava Reames and Marguerite Clark on April 20, was Frank Ward. He was in town to start his mowing.

A packed house enjoyed the music of the Country Plus at the Cardinal Bar and Grill on Saturday, April 21, as well as the good meal.

Eleven women of the Norcatcur Chatty Hatters Chapter of the Red Hat Society attended a tea with the Norton Crimson Cuties at the Senior Center on April 21. Those attending were Judy Jackson, Devonna New, Sheryl Patterson, Cathy Anthony, Veda Wood, Dorothy Ward, LaVerne Milner, Marguerite Clark, Bee Nelson, and Norma McCallister. They all enjoyed tea and cookies, as well as visiting, and each went home with a "Red Hat" gift.

Lynn (Thornton) Streit will be speaking at The Gateway in Oberlin on May 17 at 7:30 p.m. She will talk about when she was burned and her recovery, and what the Shriners did for her. Plan to attend this event.

Springtime is here with warm weather, bright green lawns and beautiful flowers. For some, however, spring may also mean sneezing, congestion and watery eyes.

More than 20 percent of adults and children (40-50 million people) in the U.S. suffer from allergies. People become sensitized to allergens because of an overactive immune system and some of those are starting to act up right as pollen fills the air. There also may be allergens in the home such as dust mites, animal dander or mold.

Allergies can be inherited, but children may not be allergic to the same things as their parents.

An allergy occurs when a person's immune system responds incorrectly to a substance such as pollen, reacting as if it was harmful. People can be allergic to substances ranging from foods to airborne allergens such as pollen, dust mites, molds and animal dander.

Pollen can cause inflammation and swelling in the lining of the nose and the protective tissues of the eyes. This is sometimes called "hay fever."

Dust mites are tiny organisms that live on human dander particles, found in dust and the fibers in pillows, mattresses, carpet and upholstery. The allergic reaction is to the

proteins and feces of the mites.

Molds commonly grow in warm, damp areas outdoors such as grass, leaf piles, hay or mulch, but they are also in basements and bathrooms. Like pollen, mold spores can cause sneezing, congestion, itchy or watery eyes, runny nose, and coughing.

Animals secrete proteins in their saliva and through oil glands in their skin, which are shed in dander. Allergic symptoms include sneezing, congestion and itchy or watery eyes. These can take years to develop and symptoms can take months to clear up after ending contact with the animal.

When symptoms last longer than a week and tend to recur, allergy sufferers should see their doctor.

Testing usually involves placing the suspected allergen on or under the skin. The skin will swell and turn red in 20-30 minutes if the per-

son is allergic to the substance.

Although allergies cannot be prevented, they can be controlled through medications or by limiting exposure.

Once a person finds out they're allergic to certain things, they can try to avoid them. Changes in the home, such as removing carpets or vacuuming frequently, buying leather furniture, closing the windows and using the air-conditioner, having a friend adopt a pet and using hypoallergenic pillowcases and mattress covers.

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.

## 'It's Been a Troubled Week'

By **Pastor Carrie Buhler**,  
Jennings and Dresden United Methodist churches

This week has held anguish for many communities and families. We have all been inundated with the images from the Virginia Tech massacre.

The next day there was a bombing at a Colorado high school, a shooting at the Johnson Space Center, another shooting at another school. The darkness of these events seems overwhelming.

I've turned off the TV so that I don't drown in sorrow. This beautiful world that the Lord gave to us suddenly seems a violent and terrifying place.

What kind of a world are we living in? What kind of a world are we giving to our children and our grandchildren? Where did we lose our way?

We have 300 million people in the U.S. and 80 percent of them say their Christian. Another 15 percent are of other faiths. That is 95 percent of us identify ourselves with a faith. That's incredible!

Now typically, members of a faith feel a deep sense of belonging within a community, whether it is a church, synagogue or mosque. We feel a sense of being loved, cared for, respected and a part of something bigger than ourselves. The world makes sense to us in how we relate it to the moral code from our respective faiths.

As a nation of faith, why do we have so many lost souls who feel angry, lost, alone and hopeless?

I watched the memorial services for the students and teachers at Virginia Tech. I cried with them. I prayed for them. We all have. There is a lot of anger being expressed, and that is understandable.

However, we cannot allow that to tarnish our souls. I know that prayers from around the world have been lifted up for the 32 innocent lives lost at Virginia Tech.

Many people are condemning the shooter. I was outraged at his lashing out, and I wanted to give him a one-way ticket straight down. But I was wrong.

There were 33 victims that day. As much as many wish him to eternal darkness, in his mind he was already there. He couldn't see the light. He had no hope. I cannot imagine a life that dark and hopeless.

I began praying for him as well. Perhaps we can use this event as a wake-up call. We have the power to bring the light of God into the darkest corners of people's lives. Our faith, grounded in God's promises to us, can shine through each one of us. We can each become a beacon of God's light in the darkness of this world.

It is tempting to let depression, anger, fear and isolation wash over us like tidal waves. It would be so easy, wouldn't it? But we must stand firm to our faith! If we do not bring the light of God into this world, how will those lost in the darkness ever find their way back to God? How will they know of grace, or love, or forgiveness if we don't freely give them what we ourselves have freely received from God?

There is a song I learned as a child that I have thought of this week:

*In a time of trouble, in a time forlorn,  
there is a hiding place where hope is born.  
In a time of danger, when our faith is proved,  
there is a hiding place where we are loved.  
There is a hiding place, a strong protective space,  
where God provides the grace to persevere.  
For nothing can remove us from the Father's love,  
though all may change, yet nothing changes here.  
In a time of sorrow, in a time of grief,  
there is a hiding place to give relief.  
In a time of weakness, in a time of fear,  
there is a hiding place where God is near.*

Our hiding place from the turmoil of life is our faith. Let us pass on that gift to each soul we meet. For if we can light the candle of God's love in someone's darkness, maybe, just maybe, we can help prevent more tragedies like Virginia Tech. Amen.



## Decatur Health Systems

By **Othelia Vacura**

Respondents to our patient survey cards have said they would like copies of their test results when they consult with a specialist through our specialty clinics.

Unfortunately, neither Decatur Health Systems nor the doctors at the Oberlin Clinic can do that. All test results must be obtained through the office of the specialist.

Decatur Health Systems will sponsor the annual Community Walk from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. next Wednesday in Sappa Park. Come enjoy the sights and visit with friends as you exercise. Participants will receive a gift, and the ambulance crew will be grilling hot dogs. The diabetic support group will

meet at 7 p.m. Thursday in Gateway Room No. 3. Tammi Ritter, education nurse, will present a program on diabetic foot care. Bring your questions and ideas to share. We welcome all suggestions on topics of interest to diabetics for future meetings. Diabetic-friendly refreshments will be served.

We're assembling a team to walk in the Relay for Life on Friday, June 15. We have 15 employees ready to defend our position as the leading money raiser in 2006. The proceeds of a cinnamon roll bake sale on Saturday, June 2, at the Rod Run will be combined with luminaries money to help us toward our goal of taking home the plaque again.

## Selden News

By **Jacque Boultinghouse**

Birthdays and anniversaries: April 12 - Wayne Brantley, Mr. and Mrs. Kelvin Sulzman, Mike and Tammy Miller; April 15 - Carl Mumm, Steve Shaw, Greg and Stephanie Ritter; April 16 - Gail Mumm, Angie Albers; April 17 - Vicky Ray, Danielle Sauvage, Dan Benoit, Shelly Nordyke, Mindy Kennedy, Jaci Schaben, Mike and Linda Spresser; April 20 - Sandy Koeperich, Rob Schiltz; April 21 - Mike Peter; April 22 - Linda Spresser, Layn Bruggeman; April 23 - McKayla Bainter; April 25 - Robert and Laura Ritter, Leroy Wessel;

April 26 - Roger Emigh, Traci Bruggeman, Jerry and Paula Schiltz; April 28 - Betty Hickert, Erin Rogers; April 29 - Russ Aumiller, Bernita Aumiller, Mindy Goeken Schumaker, Ken Mumm; April 30 - Dennis Spresser, John Geisinger, Don Pratt; May 1 - Kent and Teena Ashley, Ron Shaw, Deanna Schmidtberger; May 2 - Corey Shaw, Rudy Lechtenberger, Sharon Pickering; May 3 - Nicole Moore, Harold and Eileen Murphy, April Hunziker; May 4 - Tim and Monica Svoboda, Shane Boultinghouse; May 5 - Joe Lobato, Sheri Albers Baker; May 6 - Miriam

Shaw; May 7 - Debbie Shuler, Gwen Schultz, Stefan Bouts; May 8 - Darcie Spresser, Doc Baskerville; May 9 - Travis Rogers.

On April 12 at Senior Citizens, Jeanie Spresser won high, Lois Neff took second, Leone Porsch got low and Shirley Emigh had the most kings. Other members present included Helen Karls, Carol Shaw, Ann Hazlitt, Betty James, Anna Albers, Alfred Albers and Edna Schiltz.

On April 19 at Senior Citizens, Edna Schiltz won high, Betty James took second, Leone Porsch got low and Paulie Neff had the most queens. Others present were Alfred Albers, Anna Albers, Jeanie Spresser, Helen Karls, Carol Shaw, Shirley Emigh, Paulie Neff and Mary Golden.

On April 26 Mary Jane Golden won high, Leone Porsch took second, Carol Shaw got low and Anna Albers had the most jacks. Others present were Alfred Albers, Helen Karls, Ann Hazlitt, Lola Cook, Edna Schiltz, Julie Pope, Paulie Neff, Jeanie Spresser, Shirley Emigh and Betty James.

Anyone interested in attending women's Bible study should contact Shawn Spresser.

**OBERLIN SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
785-475-3103  
Fr. Henry Saw Lone,  
MASS: 5:30 p.m., Saturday

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

**SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, SELDEN**  
Fr. Henry Saw Lone  
MASS: 10 a.m., Sunday

**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: Judi 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.

**NORCATCUR UNITED METHODIST**  
Pastor: Ray Gilstrap  
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 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

SATURDAY: Worship, 7 p.m.; 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  
SUNDAY: Worship, 3 p.m.; Fellowship 2:30-2:55 and immediately following message.

## Schedule of Oberlin and area church services:

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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