

Bob and Alice Brown have moved to Russell. This brings them close to Hays, where their son has dialysis three times a week. This is a 26-mile commute instead of 140 miles, which makes the week much more relaxing. They enjoy reading the paper each week, which helps them keep in touch.

Bee Nelson took Marguerite Clark to Hays on April 30 for a doctor's appointment. LaVerne Milner accompanied them.

Terri James, Marguerite Clark and Bee Nelson attended the first annual Round Robin Workshop of the Prairie Land Food in Phillipsburg on April 29.

Birthdays and anniversaries: Veda Wood - May 2; Linda Hunt - May 3; Lora Linn Leichter -

May 5; Dave Stapp, Dwight and Mary Wentz - May 6.

Congratulations to Mollie Parsons and Chris Kisner, who were married on April 11. They live in the house formerly owned by Velma Rogers.

A weekly Monday evening Bible study will be held at 7 p.m. at the Norcatour United Methodist Educational Building for anyone interested from the Norcatour, Clayton and Lyle communities. Those attending do not have to be a member of the church. We hope to see you there.

Lynn Thornton Streit will be speaking at the Gateway in Oberlin on Thursday, 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. Admission is free.

Guests of Dorothy Ward the last

weekend of April were Mark and Debby Ward of Hugo, Colo.

The Norcatour Commercial Club and the Cardinal Bar and Grill are offering scholarships again this year. There are three \$300 scholarships available to anyone who wants to further their education. This includes students already in college or attending vocational training. Applications may be picked up at The Bank or the Cardinal Bar and Grill and will be accepted until June 15.

Cristy Baker and Heather were visitors at Dorothy Ward on April 30.

Kenneth and Pansy Price took a bus trip to see the salt mines and greenhouse at Hutchinson on April 25, then enjoyed pie at Yoder. They visited Noreen and Veryl Crabill the following Sunday afternoon.

Promenade on Saturday

Chamber News

By the Chamber Board

a.m. to noon on Saturday, staffed by the Chamber.

The Decatur County History books will be on sale. They help finance projects for organizations in Decatur County that apply to the county.

Saturday morning, May 26, at 10:30 a.m. will be the Bird House Auction at Stanley Hardware with proceeds going to help the Last Indian Raid Museum.

Remember Memorial Day services in the cities of Decatur County during holiday weekend.

Please place the Museum Car Show on your calendar for the first weekend in June. T

The Chamber will sponsor a kid's miniature car race on Saturday morning at the south side of the Farmers Bank and Trust building. Watch for further details.

The Chamber is still taking applications for Chamber secretary. Meanwhile, board members are trying to staff the office in the morning, with Tammy Sporn working in the afternoons. Please bear with us in this transition.

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Norma Unger, Colleen Rittmann, and Rachelle Gorrell returned home Monday, April 30, after spending the weekend at the Longaberger Collectors Club Gathering in Dresden, Ohio.

Since Colleen and Rachelle are members of the Collectors Club, they were able to make their own Longaberger basket while there. Jay and Suzanne Cooper, Wichita, hosted a party at the Norman Wendelin home Monday evening for Wayne and Lois Larson in honor of their 56th wedding anniversary. Additional guests were

Norman and Joanne Wendelin and Rory, Craig and Karen Larson, and Hansueli Schelling, Switzerland. Hansueli's parents are longtime friends of the family, and he will be spending the summer with Karen and Craig.

Greta Wendelin returned to Seward, Neb., on Tuesday after spending three months in Slovakia teaching English as a second language to high school students at Evanjelicke Gymnazium in Tisovec.

Ladd Wendelin, Lincoln, Neb., and Norman and Joanne Wendelin attended Concordia University Commencement ceremonies in Seward, Neb., Saturday morning, where Greta graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree, also receiving honors as the Outstanding Graduate in Communications. She has been accepted for graduate study in communication studies at the University of Kansas with a full scholarship and a teaching assistantship.

Greg and Janice Cundiff, Martin and Evelyn May, Marvin May, and Ernest and Nancy May, Tonganoxie, attended Concordia University Commencement ceremonies in Seward, Neb., Saturday morning, where Quintin Cundiff graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree with honors. To continue his studies to become a Lutheran Church Missouri Synod minister, he will enter the St. Louis seminary this fall.

Cameron Nedland, Rory Wendelin, and Jessica Bremer were among those from Decatur Community High School who competed at State Speech in Wichita on Saturday. Also attending were Dan Nedland and John and Dianne Bremer. Following State Speech, the Bremers traveled on to York, Neb., where they spent the night and enjoyed supper with the Cundiff/Thomas wedding party and families.

Quintin Cundiff and Lindsay Thomas were married Sunday afternoon, May 6, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Goehner, Neb. Among those attending were his parents, Greg and Janice Cundiff; his grandparents, Martin

and Evelyn May; Marvin May, Ernest and Nancy May, Wendy Scott, John and Dianne Bremer and Jessica, and best man, Bryan Richards. Jessica was an acolyte in the wedding and Wendy was the photographer.

Gaylord and Shirley Shields attended commencement ceremonies for their granddaughter, Corinne Shields, at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln on Saturday. They spent the weekend in Omaha with Mike and Nancy Shields and also helped Nancy celebrate her birthday, returning home Sunday afternoon.

Caitlin Shields, Elizabeth Nedland, and Zach and Hannah May were among the students of Cheryl Metcalf who participated in piano progressions held Saturday at Decatur Community High School.

The students of Cheryl Metcalf presented a spring piano recital Sunday afternoon at the Oberlin Gateway Center. Among those performing were Hannah May, Ryan May, Zach May, Elizabeth Nedland, Caitlin Shields, and Dakota Tate. Zach May and Samantha Anderson also played their piano duet.

The correspondent needs to correct a mistake in last week's article. Evelyn (Reith) May and Martin May

graduated 65 years ago from DCHS, in the class of 1942. Lois (May) Behrmann graduated in the class of 1944.

The ribbon cuttings from April have been pictured in *The Oberlin Herald* and we thank them for this. Another round for new businesses will be forthcoming. If you are aware of one that need to be given a welcome, please let the Chamber know.

May is again a busy month for the Chamber. Last weekend, the Northwest Kansas Travel Bureau had a tent at the Kansas Sampler Festival in Garden City with the Decatur County Chamber represented. A sad item to be noted was the collapse of Elephant Rock, but there are other great items for tourism in Decatur County.

On Saturday will be the promenade down Main Street in Oberlin, and also this weekend the Black Powder Shoot will be out at Sappa Park.

The Oberlin Business Alliance will hold a burger fry Friday, May 25, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the drive-up beside the Business Entrepreneurial Enhancement building for the Alumni weekend. That afternoon, we will sponsor a hospitality room at the same location from 1 to 4 p.m. It will be open again from 9



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Dave Bergling
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'There is a time for everything'

By Pastor Carrie Buhler of Jennings and Dresden United Methodist churches

In Ecclesiastes 3 we hear, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven...." I've been thinking about that verse this week. Our youngest child went off to her first day of preschool. I've been hit rather hard with "empty nest" syndrome. I cried all the way home.

My husband tells me that it's a good thing, now I can spend more time with him! Men sometimes just don't get it. Don't get me wrong, I love being with Bob. But this is a transition to a new stage of my life, and I'm not so sure that I'm ready for it.

We all undergo transitions throughout our lives. It's a part of human existence. This is the system that God has set up for us in His infinite wisdom. We are born and our parents care for our every need. We grow, mature and gain knowledge and leave home to strike out on our own. When we reach adulthood we begin our own family.

We raise our children and care for their every need. We are needed for their very survival. As they grow and explore the world, our children become more independent. We are still needed, to guide and protect them, to teach them of the world. When our children move out of the house, they still need us, but more for life experience and our wisdom.

The tide begins to turn, and as we grow older we need our children more than they need us. We need to feel needed. As we grow older we need them to watch over us and protect us, as we once watched over them. In some ways, we become like children as we get older, especially in the final years of our lives.

Meanwhile, our children have been going through their own stages of life. Now that they have children and families of their own, their parents become a second set of dependents. It amazes me how intricately these seasons of life are intertwined.

I have observed that children are so ready to dive head first into the next stage of their lives, that they have no fears of the unknown. All they feel is excitement over the unknown.

We are not so eager as adults, are we? The unknown is met with trepidation and anxiety. The stages of life can become more difficult to shift into. We know from experience that each stage is filled with joy and pain. Each new stage has its own bitter-sweetness, and the stage we are leaving is comfortable and familiar. The young will learn this on their own.

Through it all, God watches over us with love and with patience, with joy and with humor. We all know that parents need these qualities, especially a sense of humor, to get through parenthood. God is our heavenly Father and He experiences our joys and pains, our triumphs and our defeats, our births and our deaths, as only a parent can.

God's infinite wisdom is evident in this "circle of life." There is an ancient balance of life and death, growth and degeneration, hope for the future and hope in eternity.

We often joke that there is no instruction manual for parents, and we could sure use one for our children! But God HAS given us the greatest instruction manual. Not just for being a parent, or for dealing with our children. It is our instruction manual for life.

Whether we use the Torah, the Koran or the Holy Bible, God speaks to us and gives us the tools to deal with every stage of life, every transition of our journey. We just need to read His instructions for a full and fulfilling life.

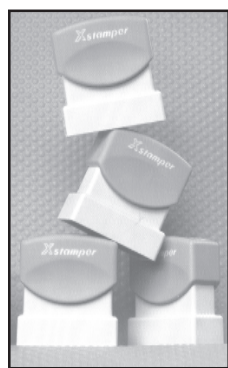
"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven ... He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has set eternity in the hearts of His children."

Thanks be to God. Amen.



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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.

NORCATOUR 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.
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Pastor: Rev. Rick Langness
Secretary: Norma Unger
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Rev. Charlotte Strecker-Baseler
Church Office Phone: 785-475-2053
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