

A former, local farmer and friend, Harold (Mort) Curran fell and broke his pelvis. Mail will reach him at Abilene Community Hospital, 511 NE. 10th St., Room 217, Abilene, Kan., 67410, or call (785) 263-2100.

Jerry and Cheri Hill traveled to Denver on Sept. 19, to participate in the 2008 Alzheimer's Memory Walk on Saturday. They took in some of the Highway 36 Treasure Hunt on the way west, stopping in McDonald and St. Francis. There were over 8,000 registered walkers and they raised a little over \$600 in donations. There were 19 on their team and all made it to the finish line. They ended up pretty much strung out along the 3.2 mile pathway, but managed to group up a couple times. Thanks again to those who donated to and participated in this event.

Veda Wood and Bee Nelson attended the Norton Telegram Coffee for their reporters at the White Fields Coffee House in Norton on Sept. 24, hosted by Carolyn Plotts. Bee Nelson took Oran and LaVerne Milner to Norton on Sept. 25, for his doctor appointment.

Prairie Land Food Paks will be available to pick up 8 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 25, at the Methodist Church Education Building. Orders must be in before Monday, Oct. 13, to The Bank of Norcatour. Call Terri James, 693-4261 or Bee Nelson, 693-4569, for details.

Wayne and Norma McCallister and Mildred Schwab drove to Winfield on Sept. 17, for a first Snell family reunion on Sept. 19. Mike McCallister, Hays, attended also. There were 13 of the 14 first cousins at the reunion and a total of 25 relatives. They are planning next year's reunion, but not at bluegrass time. Wayne and Norma attended the bluegrass at the "water" park! The campers were not allowed to camp, as the campsites were still very wet.

They enjoyed plenty of very good bluegrass music at cousin Wayne's place in the country, with many campers and jammers entertaining everyone.

Wyatt, Quentin, Rebecca, Carissa, Megan, Amy and Bryndon Wentz did a great job at the Norton County Fair, coming home with ribbons galore on their 4-H entries. Several Grand Champion and Reserve Champion awards were given to these kids and we are proud of them.

Happy Birthday to Monty Hunt, Sept. 30 and Kay Strevey, Oct. 1. Happy Anniversary to Doug and

Chris Dempewolf, Oct. 4 and Eldon and Marilou Long, Oct. 6.

Bob and Bonnie Rapp, along with their daughter, Robin and husband, Pastor Eric Norris, flew to Houston on Sept. 15, to attend the wedding of Robin's daughter, Laci, to Stephen Vitanza. The wedding was held outside of the cobblestone area of The Gallery. Sister of the bride, Cher Greving, was maid of honor and Avery Grunert, niece of the bride, was flower girl. Other family members attending were Laci's father, Don Grunert; Cher's husband Colby and family; the bride's brother, Kyle (Avery's dad) and Heather and their children; and Ben and Yvonne Rapp, Nichole and Evan. Guests joined the bride and bridegroom for a dinner reception inside The Gallery after the ceremony. Conditions in Houston due to hurricane Ike were devastating.

Gary and Anita Drawbridge of Mooreland, Okla., traveled to Lewisville, Texas, on Sept. 20, to visit Gerald and Judy Jackson. The Jacksons had Sunday and Monday off, so they did a lot of visiting and sightseeing.

Debbie (Leichliter) and Steve Obrecht had a nice long weekend with their oldest son, Kyle, his wife Kathleen, and grandchildren, Maverick, 4, and Mercy, 2. They attended the Chili Festival in Pueblo on Friday evening, then Saturday morning drove to the Sand Dunes. They spent the night in Alamosa, saw the Sun Edison Solar Electrical Plant, then went to the Alligator Farms. Enroute home, they stopped at the Bishop Castle.

The Rev. Ray Gilstrap, Beloit, former pastor of the Norcatour United Methodist Church, was in the vicinity on Sept. 26 and made many visits in our community. The annual Norcatour Methodist Church Bazaar will be held at the Education Building from 5 to 7 p.m., on Saturday, Oct. 18 with soup and pies.

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the eating and auctioning of the many items donated from the community. Everyone is asked to bring two pies and the leftovers will be auctioned off. Bring items that will sell and proceeds go toward the Norcatour United Methodist Church. Come and enjoy meeting our new minister, Pastor Larry Danforth.

There are some very hard working, busy and dedicated women beautifying the main street of Norcatour. Judy Jackson started planting flowers scattered around for years in barrels and this summer eight new big flower pots were paid for

by local donations. Carol New has been planting trees and taking care of them for the last two years. She planted bushes at the original City Hall, cleaning off the tennis court, getting rid of weeds along the fence and pulling weeds to restore old beauty of the old City Building on Main Street. These women don't get enough thanks for the huge effort. Thanks for all the trees and bushes planted and work on the planters, plus the upkeep on the huge project!

Gary Anthony took his wife, Cathy, on the eve of their eighth anniversary, to eat at the Southwind Steakhouse and Saloon at Selden on Tuesday, Sept. 23.

Deepest sympathies are extended to the Chappa-Anthony family. Brady Anthony Chappa was stillborn on Sept. 27. He is survived by his parents, Miguel and Crystal Chappa of Corpus Christi, Texas; his sister, Trinity; brother, Ian; grandmother, Lynn McFarland, Killeen, Texas; and great-grandfather, Keith Anthony, Norcatour.

Gary and Cathy Anthony took Keith to Kearney, Neb., Monday, Sept. 22, to visit his oncologist. Keith went back Friday for more tests.

Kenneth and Pansy Price, Norton, were Sunday afternoon visitors of Virgil and Joyce Price.

Terri James and Dorothy Ward accompanied Bee Nelson to the Lyle Community fundraiser potluck supper on Sept. 27. Virgil and Joyce Price attended also. There was plenty of good food, visiting and great entertainment.

Weekend provides fun for all

Chamber News

What a weekend!!!! Saturday was a very busy day for Decatur County. Thanks to the parade committee for organizing a great parade. The entries were outstanding.

That bicycle for two took the cake. Thanks gals, for a good chuckle.

The Museum activities couldn't have been better. The food was great and entertainment too.

We have great tourism possibilities in our county, and this function proved it. There were tons of visitors who enjoyed the day, too. We are blessed to have such a great Museum and people to run it. Job well done!

If you made it up to the Thresher Show, you had the opportunity to see first hand what a great event it is. The vintage tractors, machinery, and vehicles are rich with history.

The "Up With Smoke" barbecue cook-off at the Sappa Park Saturday

night was delicious. It was a perfect setting for a cookout. If you haven't been out there for a picnic this fall, you still have time. The trees are turning and the air is getting crisper. Take a walk on the trails, cook a meal, or stay all night; it is all free. You can't get better than that. One request, leave it as clean as you found it.

The Chamber office is getting ready to compile events and activities to be posted on the table tents for November, December, and January. If you have something you would like posted, we will be happy to consider it. We do have a limited amount of space and will include accordingly.

The Chamber wants to extend

a special thanks to all volunteers that make Decatur the "Best Kept Secret in Kansas". We truly live in a special place.

If you have any comments or suggestions, you are always welcome to drop us a letter at 104 S. Penn, Oberlin, Kan., 67749, or call us at (785) 475-3441. Economic Development Corporation and Chamber are making a DVD to promote Decatur County. If you, the public, have any ideas how we can use this DVD for more exposure, let us know. Our intent is to get more visitors and tourists into Decatur County. Thanks again for all you do for Decatur County.

See you on the brick streets where friends meet.

Rexford News

By Vicki Allison

The Thomas County road crew oiled and sanded School Street from Williams to Main on Friday. Seeing the sanded streets was a reminder that the season's weather will be changing and over the weekend that change was evident as a hot Saturday turned into Sunday's dreary weather.

The Red Barn Staff has been busy working on a new phone book for the Rexford area. There hasn't been

one published for over two years, and the book certainly is handy. Cost is \$2.50 and to purchase a copy, contact Jolene Hansen at the Red Barn

October birthday celebrations include: Maryann Juenemann on Oct. 9; Ron Dible, Oct. 11; Betty Carswell, Oct. 22; Rhelda Dible, Oct. 26; Betty Nickols, Oct. 28; and Wes Bencken, Oct. 29.

In the October City utility bill, a

memo from Paragon Geophysical Services, Inc. informed the community that sometime in the near future you might see workers laying out cables along the city rights-of-way for recording the results of seismic oil and gas testing. These cables are only for recording the results of testing that will be done in the area from Rexford to Gem. Bingo at the Red Barn for age 50 and over will begin at 7 p.m. on Saturday.

Playing the Hand You're Dealt

By Rev. Doug Hasty, Oberlin and Prairie Chapel United Methodist Churches

"God keeps his promises, and will not allow you to be tested beyond your power to remain firm; at the time you are put to the test, he will give you the strength to endure it, and so provide you with a way out." *1 Corinthians 10:13 TEV.*

How would you describe your life? Which of these might best describe your life right now? My life is a roller coaster, a puzzle, a symphony, a journey, a circus, a minefield, or a dance. What about a carousel: sometimes you're up and sometimes you're down all the time spinning round and round. Someone said, "life is a deck of cards and you have to play the hand you are dealt!"

Rick Warren in his book, "The Purpose Driven Life" suggest that the Bible gives us three metaphors that teach us God's view of life: Life is a test, life is a trust, and life is a temporary assignment. Let me share some thoughts about "life is a test!" Words like trials, temptations, refining, and testing occur more than 200 times in Holy Scripture. God tested Abraham by asking him to offer his son as a sacrifice. God tested Jacob by having him work seven additional years for his true love. Adam and Eve failed the test in the Garden of Eden, and David was successful in some tests of his faith, but failed the test when he had idle time and had an affair with Bath Sheba. There are many others who passed their test such as Joseph,

Ruth, Esther, and Daniel.

God puts us to the test to build our character. I would dare say that your character is tested every day. The tests in life build up and reveal our true character. God constantly watches your response to people, problems, success, conflict, illness, disappointment, high gas prices and the weather!

We don't know all the tests God will give us, but we can predict some of them based on the Bible. You will be tested by major changes, delayed promises, impossible problems, unanswered prayers, undeserved criticism, and even senseless tragedies.

Some tests seem overwhelming, while others you don't even notice. All of them have eternal implications because we will take our character into eternity. Our character matters more to God than what we accumulate and our possessions. The good news is that God wants us to pass the tests of life, so he never allows the tests you face to be greater than the grace God gives you to handle them. Notice the Bible verse at the top of the page. Every time you pass a test, God notices and makes plans to reward you in eternity. Look at *James 1:12*, "Blessed are those who endure when they are tested. When they pass the test, they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him." Grace and Peace.



Schedule of Oberlin and area church services:

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

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC, LEVILLE
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
Mike Larson
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 Sun. at 9:45 a.m. Holy Communion, 1st & 3rd Sundays. United Church Women, 2nd Wed at 2 p.m. Parish Council, 2nd Sun. following Worship

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: Larry Danforth
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.

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. Galen Long
Phone 785-322-5560
MASS: SUNDAY, 8 a.m.

HERNDON COVENANT CHURCH
Keith Reuther, Pastor
Phone 785-322-5316
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Youth Group, 4 p.m.

NORCATOUR UNITED METHODIST
Pastor: Larry Danforth
Almena
SUNDAY: Worship Service, 10 a.m.; Church School, 10:30 a.m.

LYLE UNITED METHODIST
Guest Speakers every Sunday
SUNDAY: Morning Worship 8 a.m.

EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH OF OBERLIN
Pastor Tom Smith
Interim Pastor
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.

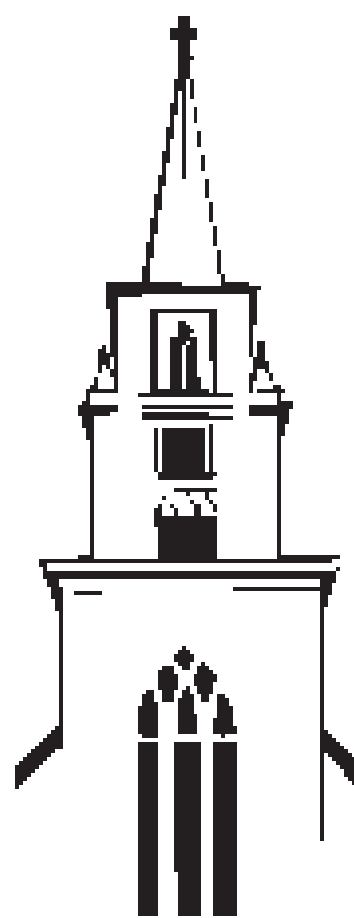
LUND COVENANT CHURCH
Pastor: Doug Mason
10 miles south, 4 miles west of Oberlin
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.; WEDNESDAY: Bible Study and prayer, 7:30 p.m.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 North Wilson
Interim Pastor: Kevin Schnakenberg
SUNDAY: Sunday School and Bible class, 9:45 a.m.; Divine Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Holy Communion: 1st and 3rd Sundays..

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.

THE WORKING MAN'S CHURCH
C&H Power Line Building on Hwy 83 (North of the Airport) Oberlin, Kan.
Pastor John Paulson
SUNDAY: Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Come as you are.



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