

THE OBERLIN HERALD —  
**People in  
 Our Community**  
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Sam and Kathy Willcoxon of Highlands Ranch, Colo., spent Thanksgiving weekend at their home in Oberlin. Additional Thursday dinner guests were their daughters and families, Kim and Bob Morgan, Matthew and Michael, and Kerri and Michael Conner and Jace, all of Castle Rock, Colo., and his nephew, John Brown, Oberlin.

Thanksgiving Day dinner guests of Sam and Diana Steinmetz were Shane and Amanda Johnson, Judson and Jackson, Dodge City; Ted and Lila Johnson, Paxton, Neb.; Andy Chambers, Kay Matheny and Luetta Pollnow.

Michael and Susan Wright of Lawrence and Allison Wright of Kansas City were Thanksgiving guests of Susan's parents, Loyd and Mary Waldo. On Friday, they went to Oakley to spend time with John and Pat Wright.

On Sunday, Nov. 8, Kyleana Blau and Kole Breth received their First Holy Communion at Faith Lutheran Church. A reception was held in their honor following worship. Their parents are David and Stephanie Blau, and Tim and Brenda Breth.

Julie, Mark and Brandon Hubbard, Wheat Ridge, Colo.; and Jessica Hubbard, Denver, were Thanksgiving weekend guests of Gail and Kay Marcuson.

Elaine Bryan spent from Thursday to Saturday with her daughter, Sue and Kevin Renk, in Plainville. Additional guests were Allison and Casey Jones, Aiden and Ashton, Plainville; Selby Renk, Topeka; and Matthew Renk, Kansas City.

Guests of Ethel Railsback on Thursday for Thanksgiving dinner were Mike and Mary Dicke, Bailey, Colo.; Ben Dicke, Centennial, Colo.; Mary Railsback, Fort Collins, Colo.; and Shirley Hayward and Jeff Hayward, Alex and Logan, Oberlin.

Winning highs in pinocle last Monday at Golden Age Center were Elden Haas and Dewaine Stapp. Lows went to Doris Fringer and Norma Anderson.

The Oberlin Chapter of the Royal Neighbors provided turkeys for Thanksgiving dinner for Cedar Living Center and Decatur County Good Samaritan Center as a Community Service project.

Guests last week of Larry and Karen Thompson were Dan and Kim LaFramboise and Emma, San Diego; Barry and Patti Richards, Curtis Richards, Bryan Richards, Jonathon and Amanda Richards, Randy and Kristin McHugh, Jordan, Conner and Tyler, and Lois Bryant.

Leslie and Ryan Nelson, Topeka, were Thanksgiving weekend guests of Brad, Elaine, Sarah and Jared Marcuson. Additional Thanksgiving dinner guests were Gail and Kay Marcuson, Julie, Mark and Brandon Hubbard, and Jessica Hubbard.

Scott and Deb Goltl, Molly, Matthew and Nathan of Wichita, spent Thanksgiving with his parents, Lairy and Beth Goltl, visiting from Wednesday to Friday.

Karen and Mike Walz and family of Bureson, Texas, and Leslie Hanson and Eddie of Arlington, Texas, were recent houseguests at the home of Everett and Dorene Shuler. They came to attend graveside services on Nov. 18 for the women's father, Charles J. Smith, at the Rexford Cemetery.

Guests in the home of Bill and Carol Duncan last week for Thanksgiving were Marla Crosswhite, cousin of Bill, of Orange, Calif.; Kathleen and Greg Norris of Salina, Greg, Tamara and Matthew Duncan of Lubbock, Texas, Brandon and Lori Norris of Edmond, Okla. Audra Duncan, Oberlin, was also present for all activities. Ms. Crosswhite was taken to the North Platte airport on Friday afternoon to return home. The Norris families returned to Salina on Saturday for a special surprise celebration for Kathleen's 50th birthday, hosted by her daughter, Kristen Norris, also of Edmond. The Greg Duncans left on Sunday.

Thanksgiving Day dinner guests of Bob and Deanna Castle were James and Heather Shirley, Megan,

Breanna, Ellen and Aaron, Olathe; Devan and Sarah Castle, Rebekah, Maiah and Dane, Hoxie; Thaniel and Jennifer Monaco, Madison and Lawson, Manhattan; Eduardo and Janice Ferrada, Denver; Curtis and Chris Walston, Travis and Valisha Raile, Kariah, Alana, Trenton and Tripp, Doris Fringer, Shelby Brown, Dayton and Dawson and J.D. Forbes, all of Oberlin. Shirley Ward was an afternoon caller.

Cecil Hess accompanied Steve and Jean Ann Confer, Jenna and Jessica of St. Francis to Overland Park, where they were Thanksgiving guests of Steve and Chris Hess, Norah and Lola. Additional guests were Dan and Julie Hess and Carter, Salina.

Sunday breakfast guests of Gail and Kay Marcuson to help them celebrate their 64th wedding anniversary were Brad, Elaine, and Sarah Marcuson, and Leslie and Ryan Nelson.

Memorial services were held on Nov. 21 at the Colby United Methodist Church for Lon E. Sowers, 86, a Gem area farmer, who died on Nov. 16 from injuries received in an accident on Nov. 12, two miles north of Gem. Trooper Andy Schippers reported that Mr. Sowers was driving north in a four-wheel cart pulled by his team of Scottish Highlanders, when a 1992 International truck with a hopper trailer, driven by Terry Wendell, 62, of Colby pulled into the left lane to pass as Mr. Sowers began to turn left in front of him. Mr. Sowers and his team were well-known in the area and had participated in the Great American Cattle Drive which came through Decatur County in June 1995.

Thanksgiving dinner guests of Connie Grafel were Sheila Marney, Rossville; Jayson Wylie, Taos, N.M.; Norma Grafel, Herndon; Dan and Melinda Grafel, Kade and Isabel, and Greg and Amanda Grafel, Kel and Reece. Several family members assisted Norma Grafel with her move to Wheat Ridge Terrace in Oberlin on Friday.

Thanksgiving holiday guests of Richard and Clara Russ and Julie Cunningham were Starla Russ, Garden City; and Gary Cunningham, Columbia, Mo.

Thursday dinner guests of Jerry and Marcia Lohofener were Shayla Williby, Shirley Ward, Barbara Dehlinger, and Seth and Mardi Lohofener, Sierra, Sage and Grady, Oberlin; John and Wendy White, Lawrence; and Amy Lamb, Winona.

Thanksgiving week guests of J Eldon Smith were his son and wife, Jerry and Tonya Smith, Plano, Texas.

Herschel and Jody Betts spent the week in Leawood with their son and wife, Gene and Jan Betts, Anne of Los Angeles, Calif.; Michael of Norwalk, Conn.; and Mary Kate of Austin, Texas. Other family members attending the Thanksgiving Day dinner were Jan's sister and husband, Marcia and Steve Kirke, Des Moines, Iowa, and their daughter and family, Natalie and Kyle Hartman, Nicholas and Maggie, Roeland Park.

Kade, Kel and Isabel Grafel accompanied Connie Grafel to McCook for lunch on Saturday and spent the rest of the day. Afternoon callers were Chris and Julie Gardiner, Megan and Matt, Hutchinson; and Joe and Lori Brewer, Beau and Brett, Limon, Colo. Evening visitors were Kerry and Spring Loudereback, Anita Mumm, Spencer and Krickit Ketterl, Ryan and Taylor, Dan Grafel, and Greg and Amanda Grafel. Sunday afternoon Kel, Kade and Isabel Grafel accompanied their grandmother to see the movie, "A Christmas Carol" in Oberlin.

Benjamin Malotte, grandson of Howard and Sharon Kessinger of Marysville, was the quarterback of the Marysville High School football team which played Wichita Collegiate in the Kansas State High School Class 3A football playoff game held at Hutchinson Saturday afternoon. Wichita Collegiate won 37-30 to finish the season 14-0 while Marysville finished 12-2. The Kessingers are former publishers of *The Oberlin Herald* and Benjamin is the son of their daughter and husband, Hannah and Marty Malotte.

# Newborn receives baptism

Gus Allen Bryan, who was born Oct. 21, 2009, in Colby, received the sacrament of Holy Baptism at Faith Lutheran Church on Sunday. He is the son of Brandon and Laura (Hinrichs) Bryan and brother of Sage.

His baptismal sponsors were Jered and Tammy Hinrichs, and Chenaniah and Kassia (Bryan) Langness. Gus is the grandson of Rod and Kem Bryan, Oberlin, and Rex and Pat Hinrichs, Bruning, Neb.

Additional relatives attending included Robbie and Jeni Henningson, Nolan and Ganon, Ron Bryan, Emily Langness, Gatlin and Elisabeth Hinrichs, Andrew Hinrichs, Megan Voss, Laurene Van Otterloo and also Alice Shirley.

# Rotarians hear about fund raiser

Ralph Unger spoke about the importance and significance of "Relay for Life" at the Nov. 24 meeting of the Oberlin Rotary Club at The Gateway.

He said Relay gathers the community together to recognize cancer survivors as well as those who have died. He said early detection and diagnosis are the keys to successful treatment.

Volunteers and survivors help with Relay for Life, he said, and the money raised goes for cancer research with only 3 percent spent on administration. Survival rates are 66 percent when cancer is detected early and treatment is received, he said.

Guests were Kaden Macfee and Chance Marble, junior Rotarians from Decatur Community High School.

# Group plans 'Christmas Cowboy Way'

The group Riders in the Sky will present their holiday show, "Christmas, the Cowboy Way," at 7:30 p.m. Monday in the Oakley High School Auditorium, sponsored by the Western Plains Arts Association.

For 32 years, the Riders have been keepers of the flame for cowboy music passed on by the Sons of the Pioneers, Gene Autry and Roy Rogers. And while remaining true to the integrity of Western music, they have become modern-day icons by branding the genre with their own wacky humor.

As a classic cowboy quartet, the Riders have chalked up over 5,400 concert appearances in all 50 states and 10 countries, appearing everywhere from the Nashville National Guard Armory to Carnegie Hall to the Hollywood Bowl.

Admission is by Western Plains Arts Association season ticket or at the door, \$20 for adults and \$10 for students.

# Holiday rush calls for planning and patience

In the holiday rush, parents can miss opportunities to build memories with their children and family. Adults know that it can be easier to say "I'll do that," rather than encourage children to get involved in preparing foods and planning gatherings during the holidays.

Working together in the kitchen can serve as the foundation for new traditions.

Inviting children to be involved can help them learn more about food, nutrition, and health. Doing so also can help a child build basic cooking skills and a better understanding of what it takes to get a meal on the table.

Being able to say "I made the gingerbread" or "I set the table, folded the napkins or made the place cards" allows a child to share ownership in a holiday gathering. While assigning tasks helps to share the responsibility in preparing the meal and readying the table, holiday teamwork can extend beyond the holiday. So parents are encouraged to choose age-appropriate tasks.

# Chorus to appear on Sunday

The McCook Area Community Chorus will give a Christmas concert at 4 p.m. Sunday at the McCook United Methodist Church. Among members of the chorus



JANET RORICK showed an afghan which was donated to Furniture Alley, at 121 S. Rodehaver Ave. She volunteers at the used-merchandise store, which is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. All proceeds go for community needs.

—Herald staff photo by Leslie Nolette

# Furniture store expands area

By MARY LOU OLSON  
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Furniture Alley, on South Rodehaver Avenue north of Culligan Water, has expanded into the front part of the building, giving a better view of items offered for customers.

The business accepts used furniture, small appliances and televisions that work and other items, donated for resale. The business is owned by Marilou Long and her daughter, Linda Wade, and Mrs. Wade is manager. Mrs. Long and her partner, Ann Mines, also operate Bargain Box Plus on North Beaver Avenue.

"All proceeds go back to the community for various projects," said Janet Rorick, who volunteers at the store from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. "Anyone who has furniture or larger items to donate may leave them on the dock at the back of the building, while smaller donations may be left on the front porch."

Mrs. Rorick and her son Jon moved to Oberlin five years ago from Albuquerque, N.M., and purchased the home of the late Nelda Krum on South Marks Avenue. He is a freshman at Decatur Community High School. Mrs. Rorick's husband Jim, a retired

teacher, is a resident at the Kansas Soldiers Home in Dodge City. She added that since both her father and husband served in the military, she has lived "everywhere."

"Since our move to Oberlin, our daughter and her family, Jennifer and Anthony Zillinger, Adam, A.J. and Genevieve, formerly of Paonia, Colo., moved to a farm east of Oberlin and he works for Kelley Drilling and is also a mechanic. My sister, Karen Yarian, purchased a house in Herndon, and another sister, Vera Banford, recently bought the Don Gould farmstead west of Oberlin. Both formerly lived in Grand Junction, Colo.

Assisting Mrs. Rorick on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons is Jill Swank. She and her husband Jim moved here from Fort Morgan, Colo., and bought a home on East Hall Street six months ago.

Mrs. Swank said that their son Jeff lives in McCook and they had thought of moving there after her husband retired from a government job, but after a visit to Oberlin, she said they fell in love with the town and decided to buy a home here.

After Christmas, Mrs. Rorick said, the store will be closed on Monday, but open from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday.

# Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

What a beautiful weekend we had for all the Thanksgiving activities and family travels that were going on.

The Light Parade drew a very nice crowd; the most on Main Street that I had seen in a long time. There were a couple entries that the parade chairman didn't know about until line-up time, but that was great. It kept Gary and Judy on their toes.

Gary sent me the winners list this morning. First place goes to Hansen Mueller, second to The Bank and third to Decatur County Employees.

I hope Santa survived all his visitors after the parade. I spoke to him prior to the parade and he was happy to make a pre-Christmas visit to Oberlin.

The Holiday Craft Show was a nice success again this year. I want to thank Beth Harmon for helping me with this big event. She

knew some tricks that I might have missed. There were some vendors that have retired, but we had several new ones that helped give the show a good variety. We quit counting visitors at 2 p.m., but up until then we had approximately 550 shoppers.

The first quarter of the New Year is fast approaching and I will need your event information by no later than noon on Wednesday, Dec. 16, for the quarterly Table Tents that the Convention and Visitors Bureau and Chamber put together. I have a large desk calendar on the first table as you come in the BEE Building for you to write your event on the appropriate date. You can call me also, but the building is open for longer hours than I am in my office.

Holiday Santa Dollars are in the office. For those that give gift certificates and cash, this is a helpful way to keep shopping in Oberlin. This can't always work for out-of-town

family and friends, but this does help our town to keep going and for the merchants to offer the variety of family needs. If you need a very large amount, a phone call ahead would be appreciated.

The office will be closed Thursday, Dec. 3. I am hoping to find a fill-in person, but I wanted to let you know in case you needed something that couldn't be done by someone else.

Coffee Hour will be at R & M Service Center on Friday, Dec. 4. Look on the First National Bank marquee for the time. I will be looking for others to have a coffee hour for the next three weeks in December. If you are interested, please call to set up a date for your business. If we have more than one each week, that would be great also.

Have a great week!!



# Home Time

By Tranda Watts  
 Multi-county Extension Agent

A three-year-old may, for example, be able to fold napkins. A five-year-old may be able to set the table, and a six- or seven-year-old may be able to decorate and print names on place cards or arrange relishes on a tray. Older children will be more able to help with food preparation, and, in the process, can learn cooking skills, and about kitchen tools and appliances.

Mixing quick breads such as muffins or gingerbread, or kneading and shaping dinner rolls are other child-friendly tasks.

Parents who work side-by-side with their children in planning and preparing holiday foods may be

surprised by their child's candor, as he or she helps to mix the bread or cookie dough. Focusing on a task can take the pressure off, and make it easy for a child to tell a parent what's really on their mind.

Encouraging a child to be creative also may yield some new taste treats. Allow children to choose how to use holiday leftovers.

A child might combine leftover mashed potatoes, turkey and cranberry sauce as a sandwich filling,

prefer to stuff a pita pocket with chopped turkey and a spoonful of one or more salads, or prefer to reheat turkey, stuffing and cranberry sauce in a spinach wrap.

Don't forget that teaching a child that he or she needs to do his or her share in the clean-up can help to lighten the load now and in the future as well.

Contact your local K-State Research and Extension Office with questions about holiday food preparations and food safety.

Tranda Watts is a 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@ksu.edu. For more information, contact the county extension office, 475-8121.

# Retirement Party

for Linda Schroer after 23 years of dedicated service to Decatur County.

Where: 1st floor courthouse  
 When: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Tuesday, December 8

Public is invited.