

Norcatur News

By the Norcatur News Committee

Senior citizens met Friday, Dec. 4, at the Educational Building. There were 11 players present. Winners were Joyce Price, Virgil Price and Pastor Larry Danforth. Next meeting will be Friday, Dec. 18, at 1:30 p.m. at the Educational Building.

Results of the pool tournament at the Cardinal Bar and Grill on Dec. 2 were Bill Ellis, first place; Joe Carter, second; rusty Montgomery, third.

Minh and Wanda Nguyen of Lone Tree, Colo., and Betty Reid of Norton, were visitors of Arlene Hix the day after Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving guests of Bob and Anita Montgomery, Oberlin, were Bobbie and Lee Frakes, Trenton, Neb.; Blake, Amanda, Keegan and Karson, Bartley, Neb.; Blaine Shuler, Kearney, Neb.; Ron, Gina and Alyssa Montgomery, Jennings; B. McClesney, Norton; Shane and Crystal Montgomery, Norton; Renee Harman, Norcatur; Scott Harman and Tiffany G., Valentine, Neb.; and Rusty Montgomery, Norcatur.

The Lawn family had a get-together on Nov. 22 at Norton. Those present were Priscilla Duncan, Aurora, Colo.; Patty Beachel, Fred

Darnell, Carey, Diana Beachel, Morgan, Louryn, and Madison, Gothenburg, Neb.; Becky Beachel, Lily and Joseph, North Platte, Neb.; Jim, Lea, and Jennifer Lawn and friend Nick, Chris, Angie, Keegan, Camden and Delanie Lawn, Kearney, Neb.; Loretta and Ed Fowler, Samantha, Katie and Devon Bowen and friend Andy, Melisa and Kristen Fowler, Dorothy Lawn of Norton. Brenda met a man, Harry Whitney, in Salome, whose grandmother wrote a column in the newspaper like Dorothy Kelly's and was a friend of hers. Talk about a small world! He was formally of Junction City.

Bee Nelson had an appointment with the eye doctor in McCook last Tuesday. Wava Reames accompanied her. Christmas shopping was on their minds. This was a much better day for that event than "Black Friday." While Bee was at her appointment, Wava headed across the street to visit Gary Anthony but he was having his dialysis treatment. The girls shopped at Wal-Mart, had Mexican food for lunch, raided the bakery, then returned to see if Gary was finished with his treatment. They found Gary — looking really good, and feisty again, which

is a very good sign! He hopes to get home soon. One last stop.... you guessed it.... Joltin' Joe's, and then home to dig out the wrapping paper!

Thanksgiving weekend guests of Mark and Terry Cross in Olathe were Monty and Linda Hunt of Norcatur; Seth, Mel and Ian Kinn of Crystal City, Mo.; and Bob, Mary, Kyle, Tyler and Kayla of Wamego. Additional guests for Thanksgiving Day and throughout the weekend were Rob, Heather Parker, Alexa and Owen Mogolov of Olathe and Ryan, Sara and Dylan Cross of Lenexa. They were all guests of Ryan and Sara on Saturday night for dinner. Ryan and Sara have just recently moved back to Lenexa after being in St. Louis for four years and enjoyed sharing their new home with everyone.

Dewaine Stapp and Charlotte Meints met Charlotte's daughter, Marcia Stecklein and her friend at Tucson's Steak House in Salina for supper and then went to the Darius Rucker concert at the Stiefel Theatre for the Performing Arts Thursday evening, Dec. 3, the concert was outstanding, and they had second row, center seats!

R.D. Thornton was admitted into the Oberlin hospital on Tuesday of last week and released on Thursday. He hasn't had a very good week. Please keep him in your prayers. Visitors of R.D.'s were Chris Dempewolf, Doug Dempewolf, Lisa Leichliter, Sharee Dempewolf and Hayden Mann, Laci Leichliter and Ralph and Lynn Streit.

Norine Crabill, Norton, visited at the Virgil Price home Sunday, Nov. 29.

Tips for making holiday candy

Making holiday candy is a tradition in many homes

In the U.S., the most widely used home-style holiday candy recipes fall into two types: crystalline (fudge is an example) and non-crystalline, such as peanut brittle or toffee. For either category, making candy typically involves combining sugar with water and cooking the mixture until the water evaporates. Attention to detail is a must, so consider the following candy-making tips:

- Invest in a candy thermometer, which can be purchased for \$10 or less at discount department stores, supermarkets and grocery stores.
- A double boiler will allow greater control in heating chocolate to recommended temperatures.
- Choose a tested recipe with step-by-step directions.
- Buy specified ingredients, and do not make substitutions. In making fudge, for example, a recipe that calls for butter, which is made with cream, should contain butter. Substituting margarine or a lower-fat spread (that will have varying water contents) will upset the complementary food chemistry and product.
- Read a recipe before beginning, and follow recipe directions exactly.

If making fudge and the mixture begins cooking up on the side of the pan, place the lid on the pan for a minute or so to produce a small amount of steam that will wash the sides of the pan so that the fudge slides back into the main mixture. Be careful to not leave the lid on too long. Over-steaming will increase the water content and may upset the food chemistry and overall quality of the product. Brushing the sides of the pan lightly with warm water also can discourage fudge from adhering to the sides of the pan during the cooking process.



Home Time

By Tranda Watts
Multi-county Extension Agent

Fudge recipes generally call for cooking to the "soft-ball stage" which is 236-240 degrees F on a candy thermometer. After reaching the recommended temperature, try the following:

- 1) Removing the pan from the burner, and 2) allowing the fudge to cool to 110 degrees F, and 3) then stirring the fudge vigorously to keep it from developing a grainy texture.

Meanwhile, if stirring in nuts, spread the nuts on a baking sheet and warming them slightly (in a 200 degrees F oven) before stirring them in. After beating and adding nuts or other additions such as marshmallows, fudge should be spread in a prepared pan and allowed to firm at room temperature. Fudge can be cut and stored in a covered container at room temperature.

Peanut brittle recipes usually include sugar, water, flavorings such as vanilla, peanuts, and baking soda, which will cause the mixture to foam (briefly), but lower the acidity and make the candy easier to break — and chew.

Peanut brittle should be cooked according to recipe directions, usually until a candy thermometer registers 300-310 degrees F. This is the hard-crack stage. Warming the nuts will help to keep the cooked candy syrup from cooling and solidifying too quickly. The thickness of peanut brittle will depend on the size of the pan in which the cooked sugar

mixture is spread out. Spread the hot mixture with the back of a fork.

When making candy, buy a high-quality chocolate. While some recipes may suggest sprinkling chocolate chips over a semi-cooled candy mixture and then spreading the chocolate chips as topping, results may vary, because not all chocolate chips are pure chocolate.

Here are a few tips for homemade chocolate-covered peanut butter balls. Some older recipes call for adding paraffin wax to help the chocolate coating set up and shine. However, adding wax is not recommended. Adding two tablespoons plus two teaspoons of vegetable shortening per 12 ounces of semi-sweet chocolate will produce the same results.

Tempering chocolate, which means heating it to 84-88 degrees F (which is warm enough for dipping, but still hot enough to set up with a shine) also will work.

More information about food preparation is available at your local K-State Research and Extension Office or you may e-mail twatts@ksu.edu.

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.

Lyle News

By Veda Wood

Kathy Van Meter's family met at the home of Carrie and Alan Briney of Pratt, Kan., for their Thanksgiving dinner. All of the family were there except California relatives. Along with the festivities, they toured Briney's new house. She learned that her youngest brother, Clarence Hilburn, has a blood clot on his brain. He is mobile, can talk, etc. but is in a dangerous situation and needs lots of doctors skill and prayer. She is not sure yet what his treatment will be.

On Monday, Dec. 7, Kathy Van Meter attended the open house Christmas party hosted by the First State Bank of Holbrook, Neb. They had lunch and all kinds of goodies and giveaways.

Alta May Van Gundy, who was in the Norton Hospital a few days last week, is better and is back in the Andbe Home. Ever time I visit her, I see friends Frances Mosier, Irene LeCount, Twila Henry, Katherine Sevrens and Bob Shick and others. Bob says he is trying to gain strength after his last hospital stay.

June Jolly's KT club had a Christmas party at the Pizza Parlor on Thursday. On Friday she came to the Norcatur Senior Citizens card game and went from there to Cambridge, Neb., to an anniversary party of Louie and LaVeda McFarland. June says she misses her fifteen-year-old cat who had cancer and had to be put down.

The church service was cancelled at Lyle on Sunday, but not early enough to stop Joyce Sumner, as she left home before the storm started. I was ready to go, even had my food in the car for our dinner when it

started snowing so hard, I changed my mind. The wind was so fierce it's hard to tell how much snow we have, and it is supposed to give us a big storm tomorrow.

My sister, Twila (Mrs. Leland) Vernon called the other day. She has had a hemorrhage in her eye. Which prevents her from reading, driving, etc. She said the doctors say it may take several weeks to six months to clear up. Her husband, Lee, is still comparatively in good health, and looks up phone numbers for her, and things like that. Twila and Lee have always been so active. He ran Dairy Queens before he retired, and besides helping him, she opened her home to parents and family, especially when our father was so ill with cancer, escorted family and friends all over Denver, kept foreign students, and volunteered at goodwill stores and a theater. When I was there, she was fixing goodies for the students who were the actors, and they loved her. I know this eye problem will slow her down, but it won't stop her.

Aubrey High visited me on Wednesday and Thursday. I had an old artificial tree destined for the dump, when she decided to decorate it. I was very ornate, with ornaments hanging in clusters, and red crepe paper and every ornament she could find on it. The next day she decided to decorate something else and proceeded to undecorate it and stripped the poor thing. Oh well, I have another one. She had a tea party with a stuffed toy in each chair, made cards, which she gave to everyone she saw. Outside of that, she kept fairly busy.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

We have a very cold Monday morning. Plenty of snow on the ground also.

Arriving at the Hall Saturday morning, we discovered one of the furnaces wasn't working. It was a little cool but with some electric heaters, we got by. Lions started serving soup and pie at 11 a.m. Santa arrived at 1:30 p.m. at the Community Hall in Jennings. Children met him outside in the snow. They visited with Santa and received a sack of candy.

The community drawing was then held. The City of Jennings and the Lions had several turkeys and hams which went to the first names drawn. Other nice gifts were donated by people of the community for the drawing. Without the support of all in the community, we could not have a successful day. The City Council would like to thank all of you.

The community would like to extend sympathy to the family of Mrs. Allen (Elaine) Tacha. Her funeral was held Friday at the United Methodist Church with burial in the Jennings Cemetery.

Also sympathy to the Harold Hartzog family of Hoxie. Mrs. Harold (Yvette) Hartzog's funeral was held Saturday at Hoxie and burial was in the Hoxie cemetery. Harold is a nephew of Daryl Hartzog and Darlene LaRue.

Sunflower Seniors have rescheduled their Christmas dinner. It will be held Thursday Dec. 17, at noon,

weather permitting. Bring a friend if you wish. Main dishes are being prepared by the committee. If you wish you may bring salad or dessert. We are collecting items for the Food Pantry in Oberlin. Everyone is welcome to come.

Rachel Carter came home from the hospital on Friday. She had been in the Oberlin hospital over a week with pneumonia.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Covenant Women will meet at 7 p.m. tonight (Wednesday) at the Herndon Covenant Church for their Christmas meeting and prayer/sister gift exchange.

The Sunday School Christmas program will begin at 7 p.m. Sunday at the Herndon Covenant Church. Treats and hot beverages will follow. The final practice will be during the Sunday School hour at 11 a.m.

Gary and Mary Ann Erickson returned home Sunday night from Mission, Texas, where they spent the past month.

Detta Anderson, Vicky Ray and Mary Lou Olson were Friday luncheon guests of Joy Votapka in her new home in Oberlin.

Come Root of Jesse, Key of David

By Pastor Sharon Nelson
Evangelical Covenant Church, Oberlin

This week, we have arrived at the part of *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* that celebrates Jesus, the good king in the line of David.

O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem, From ev'ry foe deliver them that trust your mighty pow'r to save; Bring them in vict'ry through the grave.

Read *Isaiah 10:33 - 11:11*. You may remember a promise which God made to David in *2 Samuel 7:16*. He promised that David's kingdom would be established forever; it would not be taken from him as it had from Saul. But David's family was falling apart, and the kings who came after him were mostly unjust and corrupt. Now Isaiah preaches that God is in the timber business, with an axe at the foot of the whole tree. The kingdom of David is at risk.

As referred to in the first verse of this song, the Israelites were taken into exile by the Babylonians. How could a descendent of David rule in Jerusalem when Jerusalem was destroyed and the land was now a territory of the Babylonian empire? What had happened to God's promise?

All that was left of their Davidic hope was a tree stump. But Isaiah goes on to say that out of Jesse's stump (or stem), a branch (or rod) will begin to grow. Jesse is David's father. Even though the whole glori-

ous tree has been cut down, God's promise regarding the line of David is still barely alive. Isaiah declares that this new king will rule with justice and peace.

The gospels of Matthew and Luke were sure to point out the link between David and Jesus. The genealogies show that his adoptive father, Joseph, was a descendant of Jesse and David.

O come, O Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery.

Isaiah 22 compares two high-ranking royal officials, Shebna and Eliakim. Shebna is found to be lacking, so the key to the house of David is to be given to Eliakim (verse 22). A key is a symbol of the power that goes with an office. Shebna loses that power and Eliakim gains it for a time (he loses it in verse 25). In *Revelation 3:7*, Jesus is the one who holds the key of David. The exalted Christ has the full power and authority.

Jesus is the good king from the line of David, and his reign is eternal. By His mighty power, He won the victory over death and evil. He leads us to our heavenly home.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!



Schedule of Oberlin and area church services:

OBERLIN SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
785-475-3103
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 10:30 a.m., Sunday

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC, LEVILLE
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 8 a.m., Sunday.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, SELDEN
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 5:30 p.m., Saturday

OBERLIN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
Jerry Nowack
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: Gene Gee
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:30 a.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 Fr. Stephen Folorunso
Phone 785-322-5560
MASS: SUNDAY and THURSDAY 8:30 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.

NORCATUR 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 9 a.m.

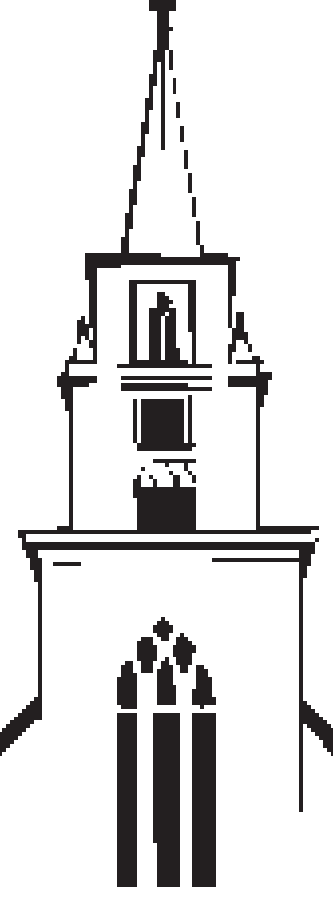
EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH OF OBERLIN
Pastors: Chris and Sharon Nelson
810 West Cedar, Oberlin
Office Phone 785-475-2769
SUNDAY: Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship Time, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m. WEDNESDAY: Bible Study, 7 p.m.

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, 9:15 a.m.; Divine Worship Service, 8 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.



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