

Norcatour News

By the Norcatour News Committee

Happy Birthday to Larry Sumner, Oct. 13, and Lori Roe, Oct. 17.

Dewaine Stapp and Charlotte Meints attended the musical, "Neil Berg's 100 years of Broadway" at the Stiefel Theater in Salina on Oct. 1. Five stars sang some of the biggest hits they have performed in Broadway shows, accompanied by an all-star New York band.

Congratulations to Stacey Lechlitter, daughter of Denny Lechlitter, who is a geologist (gold hunter in Colorado) at the largest open pit gold mine in North America. She has the opportunity to get her masters degree in Columbia, South America and Australia. Only two people internationally were selected. She will do her studies in Tasmania (Australia) and the field work in Columbia, South America. Congratulations Stacey!

Results of the pool tournament at the Cardinal Bar and Grill Wednesday, Oct. 6, were Don Relaford, first, and Matt Wilson, second.

Beth Sebaugh, Mary Leslie and Bee Nelson accompanied Dorothy Ward to the St. Francis Society annual dinner and bazaar on Oct. 10

in Norton.

Mr. and Mrs. Stan Miller met Mr. and Mrs. Don Allmer, Lancaster, Calif.; Mr. and Mrs. Dean Thornton, Brackettville, Texas. and Shelby Thornton, WaKeeney in Oberlin on Sunday, Oct. 10, for lunch and a visit.

Vene and Phyllis Lechlitter and Steve and Debbie Obrecht plus grandchildren, Maverick and Mercy, left Denver on Oct. 9 and got to the Denny Lechlitter farm in time to do a little work then to the Cardinal Cafe for steaks with Denny and Craig Eckhart, son of Phil Eckhart. Craig is helping Denny with harvest and wheat planting. Sunday they left early to go to Fremont, Neb. for the wedding of a granddaughter of the late Phil Eckhart.

Recent guests at the Summer farm from California were Earl Hoag, a pilot who flew combat with Howard in World War II, and Jo Palmar, widow of pilot Burwell (Monk) Palmer. Earl has been here before but Jo had never been on a modern farm. A trip was made to McCook to watch a cattle auction and a ride with Howard in his ATV to round

up cows to wean the calves. One pasture was enough and they were ready to return to the safety of the house. Many experiences were related, mostly true and toasts were made to the fallen, departed and ill comrades. phone calls were made to others who couldn't make the trip. Our ranks are thinning and steps are slowing but the flame of patriotism still burns bright within.

Dorothy Ward, Wava Reames, Bee Nelson, Veda Wood and Carol Moye dined at the Cardinal Bar and Grill Tuesday. On Wednesday, Wava took Dorothy and Bee along to deliver cookies and soft drinks to her brother, Leslie, and nephew, Keith, in to north fields. It was exciting to see the corn being swallowed up by those huge machines, dumped in large streams into waiting trucks, and hauled off to the elevators or bins while at the same time large tractors and drills were planting the next crop of wheat.

On Thursday, Bee accompanied Wava to get some pictures of the corn piled at the elevator. By Monday the main pile of corn north of the elevator was finished and tarped. The one of the ball field has grown many fold.

Wava Reames and her father, Frank Ward, attended the American Legion supper and membership drive.

Norcatour United Methodist Church will hold its Bazaar and Soup Supper on Saturday, Oct. 23, at Norcatour Educational Building, Soup and pie will be served, starting at 5 p.m. with free will donations accepted. Auction will follow at 7 p.m.

Help pumpkins last longer



Home Time

By Tranda Watts
Multi-county Extension Agent

Waiting until just before Halloween or Thanksgiving to buy a pumpkin can seem old-fashioned.

Given how early pumpkins go on display and how long they stay there, today's varieties appear to have real staying power. The supply implies they might as well be helping with decorations, rather than waiting for weeks on a store shelf.

Plant breeders are, in fact, always working to develop pumpkins with a longer shelf life. You have to remember, though, that store displays aren't static. Replacement stock keeps coming in until the season is almost over. Pumpkins that go bad disappear.

To help eager buyers identify pumpkins with the best odds for lasting, here is a list of characteristics to check. The best pumpkins will be:

- * Whole, which can include pumpkins with a painted face. Carved jack-o-lanterns do well to last a week.
- * Stemmed. This is most important for outdoor pumpkins. Lost stems leave a depression behind that will collect water, snow, and/or ice and then promote spoilage. That's why no one should ever carry a pumpkin by its stem, even while they're shopping.
- * Dry-stemmed. Almost all commercial varieties now have green stems, so mature stem color no longer matters. If a stem is leaking sap, however, that indicates the pumpkin was too young for harvesting.
- * Fully mature. Size, rind color and shape aren't usable criteria anymore, either. But, buyers still can try to pierce the rind with a

thumbnail. That's easy with immature pumpkins and difficult with those that are ripe. The rind has to be hard enough to keep moisture from escaping. Otherwise, the pumpkin will shrivel.

* Blemish-free with no soft spots. This characteristic does not include the bumps and hard pimples that are natural for some varieties. Instead, it's the results of injuries that have damaged pumpkin tissues and perhaps provided access for bacteria or led to scarring.

We started getting more smooth varieties when pumpkin painting first became popular. A lot of people still like the bumps and warts, though. Some think they're more naturalistic-looking. Others use them to make decorations scarier.

* Cured, which can be difficult to assess if store owners didn't check into that, so can't answer questions. Holiday fans who select their pumpkin in a field, however, should cure it for about 10 days, preferably in temperatures of 80-85 F and a relative humidity of 80-85 percent. Just doing the best you can at creating those conditions will help.

* Dry and cool. Cured pumpkins don't like to be wet. And, although they like being cool, harvested pumpkins respond badly to cold

weather. They start to degrade when temperatures fall below 50 degrees. They turn into mush overnight when they freeze.

That's something to keep in mind when you look over a pumpkin display. Store owners may be having indoor space problems, but they still need to find ways to store their pumpkins well. After all, a century ago, you would have had your own pumpkin harvest. And, you would have put it in the attic, because your basement or root cellar was too damp.

Keeping pumpkins dry and cool is also something to keep in mind when you're using pumpkins outdoors. To keep them in good shape, you'll need to keep them out of expected rainfalls and bring them in whenever the nights are cold.

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.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Those enjoying the potluck supper and bingo Tuesday evening at the Sunflower Senior Center were Stan and Ramona Shaw, Bob and Neoma Tacha, Rachel Carter, Agnes Wahlmeier, Eleanor Morel, Imogene Keenan and Louise Cressler.

A large crowd attended the Ham and Bean and Cornbread dinner Sunday noon in the Senior Center, sponsored by the Jennings American Legion. Lots of yummy baked goods were for sale. The \$2 sack sale in the Legion building was very popular and fun too. All proceeds went to the Legion.

Roger and Pat Hall have purchased the property of the late Marjorie Shearer Tacha in Jennings. They have started to clean it up. Nice to see someone working on this property.

Leonard Fleckenstein and Eric Fleckenstein have purchased the former schoolhouse and the prop-

erty to the north of the schoolhouse from Bus and Coach International.

There are two auctions in town this week. Don and Tricia Cressler's house will be auctioned off Thursday evening. A land auction will be held at the Community Hall Saturday morning for some of the Elwood Brock land.

Saturday morning visitors and lunch guests of Stan and Ramona Shaw included Chris Gillespie and Tom Neff, Marion; Katie Golemboski and Lexy, and Logan Black, Colby. Logan spent the weekend with his grandparents, Stan and Ramona.

Reminder: city water meters will be read Thursday, Oct. 21. Please post your reading on door if your meter is inside.

We are enjoying all these beautiful fall days. Hope you are, too.

Rexford News

By Vicki Allison

The Rexford Community Church will hold a bluegrass and gospel concert featuring the Williams Family at 7 p.m. Tuesday. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Activities for the week at Golden Plains Schools: 4 p.m. Monday, middle school Scholar Bowl at Bird City; Thursday, middle school volleyball and football at Sharon Springs; Friday, high school football at Grainfield.

Golden Plains will not be having school next Monday or on Friday, Oct. 29. Parent-teacher conferences will be from 1 to 8 p.m. next Monday.

The Rexford City Council met Wednesday. Parker Christensen was sworn in as a member.

Happy birthday to Betty Carswell on Friday.

A youth group from Peace Lutheran Church in McCook, Neb., spent Oct. 9 and 10 at the Shepherd's

Staff. They played paintball and joined in with the 80 or so Teens for Christ members who were here on Saturday night.

The Shepherd's Staff family movie, "Flubber," was shown Sunday afternoon at the Legion Hall on Main Street. There were about a dozen local people there and everyone seemed to enjoy the show. The movies are free and concessions are available.

A correction needs to be mentioned regarding the theft of Keith and Marcy Gilbert's property from Main Street. The item stolen has not been recovered and they still looking for a 32-inch black flat-panel television.

Mary Luna would like everyone to know that a family needs clothing throughout the year, someone should call her at 687-8032.

Until next time, make your week memorable.

Tragic Monkey Business

By Pastor John L. Paulson

Read Mark 8:11-21 NIV.

Jesus confronts the disciples with some root causes for their lack of understanding. Are your hearts hardened? Do you have eyes but fail to see? Do you have ears but fail to hear? Don't you remember?

Look around you Oberlin. Look around you Decatur County. Look around you Northwest Kansas. Do you still not see? Do you still not understand? Are your hearts hardened? I see a lighted cross south of Oberlin. It constantly reminds me that there is a cross outside Jerusalem where our Savior bore our sins. Do you still walk this earth in unbelief, asking God for a sign from heaven before you will believe? Look around you. How many churches do you drive by each day and never give a thought to stopping to hear God's Word?

If you are not hanging onto God, what are you hanging onto? Perhaps you are clinging to a pill bottle, alcohol, a bigger newer, shinier, more-powerful bike or peer approval? Perhaps your security is in your possessions, your wealth, being master of your own life? Perhaps you seek security in relationships, no matter how unholy it is in God's eyes or the cost to your health or self-esteem. I do not speak with the voice of condemnation, but the voice of experience and regret. I've been there and now I know that Jesus

is a better way, in fact the only way, to live life.

I was once told of a type of monkey with a peculiar trait. If you drilled a hole in a coconut small enough for the monkey to reach his hand into, and placed food inside the coconut, the monkey would grab the food but with a clenched fist he could not withdraw his hand. Refusing to let go of the food, he was easily captured. The monkey's inability to let go leads to his enslavement and death.

What are you holding onto that is leading to your destruction? In general we all have sinned and without placing our faith in Jesus Christ, sin alone brings eternal destruction. Many also have specific battles like, drugs, alcohol, physical/mental/sexual abuse, physical relationships outside Biblical marriage, health problems, financial woes, and damaged relationships. Whatever your battle or battles may be, total surrender to Jesus Christ brings freedom, healing and eternal life.

Look around you. Do you have a Bible? Open it up and read it. The Book of John is a great starting place. How close is the church nearest you? Start there and start this Sunday. And if you have a hard heart and demand a miraculous sign; the church can't wait to tell you about the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.



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, LEVILLIE**
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 8 a.m., Sunday.
- SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, SELDEN**
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 5:30 p.m., Saturday
- JENNINGS-DRESDEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
Pastor: Barbara Patterson
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. Linda Willey
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. Linda Willey
SUNDAY: Church School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m. (Nursery provided.) WEDNESDAY: Praise team practice, 8 p.m.
- CLAYTON UNITED METHODIST**
Pastor: Ed Woods
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: Fellowship and coffee time; 10:00 a.m. The "no sermon" worship hour with the Lord's Supper and Adventures With God, 10 a.m. open Bible Study; TUESDAY: Ladies Bible Study, 9 a.m.
- ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC, HERNDON**
Fr. Nick Parker
Phone 785-322-5560
MASS: SUNDAY and THURSDAY 8:30 a.m.
- HERNDON COVENANT CHURCH**
Pastor: Keith Reuther
Phone 785-322-5316
SUNDAY: 9:45 a.m. Morning worship, 11 a.m. Youth group, 4 p.m.
- NORCATUR UNITED METHODIST**
Pastor: Ed Woods
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
The Rev. Charlotte Strecker-Baseler
Church Office Phone: 785-475-2053
SUNDAY: Worship, 10:00 a.m.; Fellowship and Educational Hour, 11:15 a.m. Holy Communion first and third Sundays. THURSDAY: Women's Bible Study second Thursday at 9:30 a.m.

Lyle News

By Veda Wood

We have had some rain; not enough for some who really like rain, but for those trying to get all their corn cut, it probably is enough for now. The elevator is taking in a lot of corn and milo and making a great pile north of the railroad tracks. They covered it with a huge tarp just ahead of the rain.

At church we were concerned to hear that Dee Magers was in the hospital. Toots, her sister-in-law, said she is home. Dewayne Jackson is filling the pulpit in Jim Plotts' absence.

Kathy Van Meter brought more tomatoes to Lyle on Sunday, and Gary and Cathy Anthony hauled them (and me) to my place. She

has been about swamped as she is helping with harvest in place of Lloyd's daughter who has had surgery, and Kathy has canned all the tomatoes they want. I appreciate the tomatoes and she appreciates them being used.

Tielia and Aubrey High went to Katherine, to visit family and take pictures of new grandson, Rowan Augustine Bader.

Remember the Halloween party at Lyle on Saturday, Oct. 30. Potluck at 6 p.m. with music and entertainment to follow. Everybody Welcome! Donations welcome for upkeep, utilities, etc. of Community Building.

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advertising needs.
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