

Norcatour News

By the Norcatour News Committee

The Norcatour Rural Fire Department will hold its 10th annual pizza fundraiser with delivery on Sunday, Jan. 30. Pizzas must be ordered by this Friday. To place an order contact any member of the Norcatour Fire Department: Carl Lyon, Rex Knapp, Darren Wentz, Doug Dempewolf, Galen Wentz, Jeffroe, Scott Hartzog, Don Cressler, Troy Wentz, Mark Bailey, Gail Bailey, Sam Sapp, Lucas Bailey, Lydia Knapp and Joe Corder. There is a limit of 10 per order by donation only. Proceeds will go to the Norcatour Fire Department. Proceeds last year were used to purchase a fill station for refilling the self-contained breathing apparatus.

Betty Reid, Norton, visited Minh and Wanda Nguyen in Lone Tree, Colo., from Dec. 18 through Dec. 28. They enjoyed a shrimp dinner at the Elephant Grill.

On Dec. 25 they had dinner at Chanh and Lein Nguyen. Other guests were Mimi, Philip and Lauren Su, visiting here from Vienna, Va. Mimi's husband, Maj. Chen Su is in Iraq until May 2011, so they all plan to be back here in June for another visit).

Chance Harman and friend, Lindsey had flown into North Platte, Neb. Dec. 21. They also spent time with Ron Harman. Bob and Anita Montgomery took Chance and Lindsey to Bird City, on Dec. 28 to

meet a friend going to Texas.

Bob and Anita Montgomery and Lee and Bobbie Frakes, Trenton, Neb., went to Morland, on Dec 31 for Christmas with Mike, Billie Joy and Cody Frakes and all of Billie's family.

Senior Citizens met Jan. 7 with 18 players present. Winners were: Eleanor Jensen, Toots Magers and Al Sedlmayer. The next meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. Friday, at the Educational Building in Norcatour.

Attention: To anyone wanting to join me in starting a "Biggest Loser Norcatour" group, meet me at 10 a.m. Wednesday in the Multi-purpose room at the school building. Let's make 2011 the year we get fit and healthy. If you want to visit with me first, call Carolyn at 693-4544.

Happy Birthday to Dean Railsback Jan. 17, and Mary Sedlmayer Jan. 18.

Results of the pool tournament at the Cardinal Bar and Grill on Jan. 5 were: Stan Miller, first; James Dalziel, second, and Von Johnson, third.

Mr. and Mrs. Darren Barnett, Alex and Megan, Haysville, spent Christmas vacation with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Barnett. Joining the family on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day were Tyler and Marylyn Perry of Kearney, Neb.

Darrel and Alice Barnett hosted a Christmas gathering on Dec. 26

with Darrel grilling hamburgers. Guests were Bob and Kay Strevey and all their girls, husbands and seven grandchildren; David and Retta Hare with Joe and Trudy Hare and his family and Keith and Janice Baker and children and grandbaby; and Darren and Julie Barnett, Alex and Megan.

After church on Sunday, Jan. 2, Darrel and Alice Barnett and Kay Strevey drove to Manhattan to visit Gary Ritter who is in the hospital there. Gary had abdominal surgery and was somewhat improved.

Guests for Christmas Day of Bob and Anita Montgomery, Oberlin, were: Bobbie and Lee Frakes, Trenton, Neb.; Blake, Amanda, Keegan and Karson Shuler, Bartley, Neb.; Blaine Shuler Indianola, Neb.; Ron, Gina and Alyssa Montgomery, Jennings; Shane and Crystal Montgomery, Norton. Renee Harman, Oberlin; Scott Harman, Norton; Chance Harman and friend Lindsey, Marfa, Texas, and Rusty Montgomery, Norcatour.

Cody O'Hare, son of Chris O'Hare and Carla Nickell, was chosen as the November student of the Month at Norton Community High School. He is the grandson of Rodney and Janice O'Hare of Norcatour and Don and Jeanie Pharis of Norton.

Wava Reames visited her dad, Frank Ward, Betty Reid and Merle Cozad at Whispering Pines in Norton.

Norcatour got about eight inches of snow. Carl Lyon and others around town braved the cold to open driveways and roads. We really appreciate them, especially since they don't have cabs on their tractors!!

Health risks are preventable



Home Time

By Tranda Watts
Multi-county Extension Agent

Radon is a naturally occurring element produced from radioactive decay in the soil; it's an odorless, colorless and tasteless gas, and cited as the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers, and the second leading cause of lung cancer in the general population.

Radon surveys have shown that 6 percent of homes in the U.S. have average concentrations above the recommended maximum level. However, the Kansas survey demonstrated that one in four homes were high.

Anyone can be vulnerable. The cancer-causing gas, which can seep from the soil beneath the foundation through cracks or joints (in the foundation) into a home, is typically easy to detect and mitigate at a moderate cost.

Detection is relatively simple. Begin with a home radon detector, which, in its simplest form, can be purchased from many K-State Research and Extension offices in the state (for about \$5), at home and hardware stores and on the Internet, usually for \$25 or less.

Testing is important, because it's the only way to tell how much of the gas is present. In Kansas, since 1987, 41 percent (20,592) of the 50,182 test results available had levels above the recommended ceiling of 4.0 pCi/L (Pico Curies per liter of air, is the unit of measurement).

Conduct tests in the home in the lowest lived-in level (such as a bedroom, living room or family room) about 20 to 24 inches above the floor for two to five days. The goal is to measure the potential for elevated concentrations that come from the soil beneath the home's

foundation.

Testing in a kitchen or bathroom, in which more humid air and ventilation is typically occurring, is not recommended. Following test directions is a must.

If the initial test result is 4 pCi/L or higher, a follow-up test is recommended. Consider fixing your home if the average of the first and second test is 4 pCi/L or higher. If the initial result is low, further testing would be advised if living patterns change, if you begin occupying a lower level, or a significant change occurs in the foundation, heating/cooling systems or insulation/air sealing features. Hiring a professional contractor to fix your home is recommended. Lists of Kansas radon measurement and mitigation contractors who voluntarily participate in one of two national radon proficiency programs are available at <http://www.kansasradonprogram.org/contractors>. Beginning July 1, 2011, all professional radon measurement and mitigation technicians and laboratories providing services in Kansas will need to obtain state certification through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

In Kansas, since July 1, 2009, residential real estate contracts must contain a specific paragraph

recommending radon testing in real estate transactions and disclosure of test results.

There are, however, currently no laws requiring such tests or mitigation of high levels of radon, if found. Radon-awareness is recommended for everyone. A \$5 to \$25 test may be all that it takes to spare you or a loved one from lung cancer.

More information about radon is available via the Kansas Radon Program at K-State Research and Extension offices throughout the state, online at <http://www.kansas-radonprogram.org> and by calling: 1-800-693-5343. You may also e-mail twatts@ksu.edu for further information.

Radon programs at Kansas State University are supported by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the Environmental Protection Agency, and serve as a state and national resource on radon awareness, testing, and mitigation.

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

The snow storm that has been predicted for several days finally came; first as a nice blanket of snow with no wind, and the next day with wind and drifting, and cold.

Last Friday six quilters, Toots Magers, Eleanor Jensen, June Jolly, Kathy Van Meter, Joyce Sumner and Veda Wood met at the Cardinal Bar and Grill for lunch. The occasion was to celebrate Joyce's birthday. After enjoying our lunch, we went to the Educational Building for Senior Citizens where 18 people met for pitch and snacks.

June Jolly's KT Club met at

Myrna Haag's on Thursday. On Friday after cards at Norcatour, June won first at pinochle in the evening at McCook.

On Saturday, Judy and Charlie Easton put a heat tape in the well pit at Lyle to keep the water works from freezing, then had lunch and a visit with Toots Magers.

Aubrey High and I had an enjoyable walk to the Nex-Tech supper/signup at the Norcatour City Building on Thursday. To me, all the "Tech" stuff is like a foreign language, but maybe I can learn a little.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Recent visitors at the home of Galen and Meme Carper were: Cecil Bailey and Katie of Leoti; Dan and Charlene Mangus, Kanorado; Teresa Hopson of Bethune, Colorado; Rebecca Hopson, Fort Collins, Colorado; Matthew Hopson, Goodland; Joslin McGuinness and son Carter, Evergreen, Colorado; Carol Toppliff and grandsons, Joel and Jonah from Tonganoxie. Joel and Jonah were staying with their grandmother while their mother was at the hospital with their new baby sister, Lily. Parents are Jason and Ali Toppliff. Lily is great-granddaughter of Meme and Galen Carper.

Lawrence Jennings was brought back to the Oberlin Hospital from Kearney on Saturday. Martin LaRue was moved from

the Hospital to Cedar Living Center while he receives more therapy before being released to return home.

Wayne and Louise Cressler are happy to announce the arrival of their great-grandson, Gunnar Scott, born Friday January 14th at Des Moines, Iowa. Parents are Brian and Melissa Jones, Boone, Iowa. Grandparents are Mike and Sharon Gaston, Ames, Iowa. Brother Cody and sister Ella welcomed Gunnar home.

City water meters will be read January 21st. Outside meters that can be gotten to will be read. If your meter is inside, please read and post on your door. We are having some beautiful days. Snow has been melting rapidly.

Three small steps in our journey

Barbara Patterson, United Methodist Church, Jennings and Dresden

One day the great Michelangelo attracted a crowd of spectators as he worked. One child in particular was fascinated by the sight of chips flying and the sound of mallet on chisel. The master was shaping a large block of white marble. Unable to contain her curiosity, the little girl inquired, "What are you making?" He replied, "There is an angel in there and I must set it free."

Every Christian at their confirmation or conversion is handed a large cold white marble block called religion. We must then take the mallet in hand and set to work. Religion is not our goal but we must first start there. Now there are many names for religion. At times we do call it religion but we often use other words and images to describe it. Sometimes we call it our faith. Jesus spoke in terms of the Kingdom of God. We say we are the Church, Christians, or Disciples. There are many names, but in the end they all describe the same thing. We are a people of Faith, faith in Christ to be sure, but faith nonetheless.

What is Faith? The writer of Hebrews says: "Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen" (*Hebrews 11:1*).

Trusting in something that you cannot see is a most difficult thing to do.

Our leader is not here, not so that I can show him to you or offer irrefutable evidence of his existence. That means faith is all we have. We are born through faith, live by faith, and die in faith. After my death, then and only then will I know in full, as the Apostle Paul says, when I see Jesus face to face. Until then I had better understand this religion thing. Now that

sounds pretty daunting doesn't it? Here's the good news. It's not all that difficult.

Religion is a marble slab and we have to find, like Michelangelo, the angel inside. Let us find the faith that lives inside. Faith: it is the angel of our religion. Faith can set us free if we know how to live it. How do you practice your faith and not just religion? Jesus outlined faith in *Luke 17*. He explained there are three small steps that make up our journey of faith.

The first Small Step is Learning to Forgive.

Peter asks the question: "How many times should we forgive, seven times?" To Peter's surprise, Jesus replied, "Seventy times seventy."

Here is the second small step: Believing just a little. Jesus does not ask you and me to believe a mountains worth of faith, just a seed's worth.

The third step that is a small one is serving is a duty. Let me be blunt: God owes us nothing. And if it is true that God owes us nothing, then we understand why self-righteousness is such a loathsome attitude for religious people. Self righteousness assumes we are due God's blessings and grace because of our good behavior. "So you also, when you have done all that is commanded you, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty'" (*Luke 17:10*).

How do we set the angel of Faith free? We chisel away at this thing called FAITH. Often it may take a life time of living out our faith. Your duty. My duty as a Christian: Forgiving those who repent, believing just a little, and serving as a duty. Amen. Some of these thoughts are from the writing of Bret Blair & Staff from "Dynamic Preaching."



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, LEONVILLE
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 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
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
SUNDAY: Worship Service, 10 a.m.; Church School, 10:30 a.m.

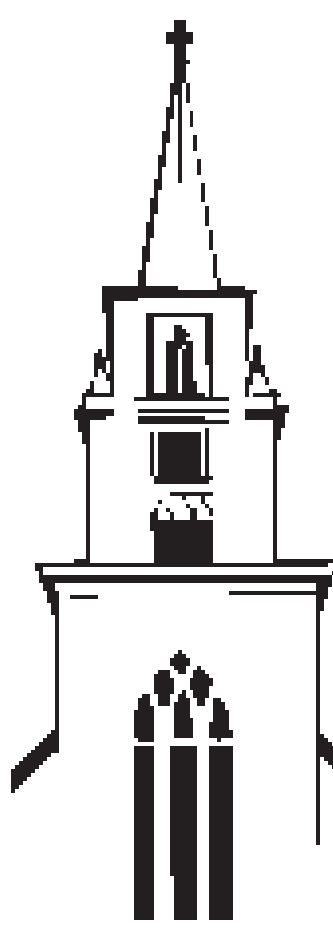
LYLE UNITED METHODIST
Guest Speakers every Sunday
SUNDAY: Morning Worship 9 a.m.

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.



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Selden News

By Jacque Boultinghouse

On Jan. 6 during Senior Citizens at the Community Center, Paulie Neff won high, Ralph Weis took second and Shirley Baker got low. Other members present included: Betty James, Jeanie Spresser, Carlene Bruggeman, Bob Wessel, Lola Cook, Royce Cook, Matt Finnesy, Pat Wessel, Carl Mumm, Gail Mumm and Ann Hazlitt.

On Jan. 13, Bernita Aumiller won high, Paulie Neff took second, Jeanie Spresser got Low and Pat Wessel had the most nines. Other members present included: Betty James, Lola Cook, Royce Cook, Shirley Baker, Edna Schiltz, Matt Finnesy, Ralph Weis, Bob Wessel, Carl Mumm, Ann Hazlitt and Gail Mumm.

Birthdays and anniversaries - Jan. 14 - Bernie Ritter, Angel Lobato, Dorothy Stacey. Jan. 15 - Dave Wachendorfer, Kelsey Hill. Jan. 18 - Renee Wilson, Joe Kennedy. Jan. 19 - Ricky Bullock, Bodie Sauvage, Myrtle Shaw, Anogene Rogers. Jan. 20 - Jessica Shaw. Jan. 22 - Shirley Emigh. Jan. 23 - Frank

Neff, Mathew Geisinger, George and Lola Wessel, Justin Bainter. Jan. 26 - Michelle Goscha, Abby Boultinghouse

School Calendar - Jan. 21 - High School Basketball at Brewster. Jan. 24 - 1:30 p.m. Junior High Scholars Bowl at Brewster. 4:30 p.m. - High School Scholars Bowl at Brewster. Jan. 25 - High School Basketball at Quinter. Jan. 26 - 12:30 p.m. - School dismissed for inservice. Junior High League Scholars Bowl at Healy. Jan. 27 - Junior High Basketball in Rexford with Grinnell/Wheatland.

New Books shelved at the Selden Public Library include: The Scent of Jasmine, by Jude Deveraux; Promise Canyon, by Robyn Carr; Secrets to the Grave, by Tami Hoag; In Too Deep, by Jayne Ann Krentz; A Suitor for Jenny, by Margaret Brownley; Family Affair, by Debbie Macomber; The Lake of Dreams, by Kim Edwards.

Non-Fiction: Taste of Home Almost Homemade.

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