

Norcatur News

By the Norcatur News Committee

Wava Reames went with Bee Nelson and Mary Lesle to Norton on Jan. 16 and were accompanied by Frank Ward for Chinese food at the Hidden Dragon.
Wava said she has been missing a male cardinal that has been around the past four years.
Happy Birthday to Mary Sedlmayer! Jan. 18.
Happy Birthday to Stan Applegate, and Jason Gallentine Jan. 20.
Rebecca Helm and Jeanne Gilstrap Jan. 21, Barbara McCool Jan. 22.
Happy Anniversary to David and

Retta Hare Jan. 23.
Results of the pool tournament at the Cardinal Bar and Grill on Wednesday, Jan 12 were: first, Matt Wilson; second, James Dalziel, and third, Jamie Miller.
Mr. and Mrs. Stan Miller left on Jan. 12 to visit Mr. and Mrs. Curt DeDonder and Sophia in Topeka.
They watched Sophia perform at gymnastics on Thursday and also ate dinner with Carol's sister, Peggy Mast of Emporia.
On Saturday, the Millers went to El Dorado to visit Mr. and Mrs.

Casey Tuttle and Jade.
They returned home on Jan. 17 stopping at Whispering Pines in Norton to visit Lila Rule.
Rea and Dee Magers had lunch with Toots Magers at Lyle on Saturday, Jan. 15.
Judy Easton had stayed overnight with her mom on Friday, Jan. 14. Toots had a pacemaker put in at Kearney on Jan. 13.
Jeff Magers spent Jan. 17 with his folks, Rea and Dee Magers helping with some tree trimming and other "hard jobs".

Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

I have been writing my articles from home now since we changed the hours at the office, and I am at my home computer watching the sunrise each Monday morning out my east dining room window. Some of them are spectacular!, and have you noticed the evening sunsets? They are gorgeous as well.
It's been a year and a half since I started in this position at the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce; a bit frightening at times, but as time has moved on I have gained a better understanding. I sure don't understand how some things have come about or why certain organizations work through the Chamber as they do. But I am learning to sort it out and take each day as it comes, and I have asked a lot of questions along the way. Do I know all there is to know about managing the

Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce? No, but think I am learning. It is an interesting job, but it can also be a stressful job.
I will be attending a 'roundtable' meeting in Colby today, which will include Chamber and Economic Development Corporation people from the western half of Kansas. This is being started by the Kansas Department of Commerce to assist our two groups in learning ways to help our communities. I think the networking among the group could be very helpful in learning new ideas for our chamber office. These will be taking place at least two times a year, and possibly four times.
I attended a 'ribbon cutting' for Amanda Sowers Photography last week at her studio location on 120 S. East Avenue. Amanda has refur-

nished and decorated a 'no longer used church building' into a beautiful studio with many backdrops and scenes for all picture taking possibilities. Her sign is displayed out front, so come by to see her for any of your photo needs.
I have known of two big garden shows that take place in Denver and Wichita each year, but have never had the opportunity to attend. I am hoping to do that this year. The Denver show takes place Feb. 12, through Feb. 20, and Wichita is March 2 through March 6. Maybe by attending these I can get more ideas to finish out my yard, which I know won't all happen this year yet, but maybe a little more bare places will get filled up with something.
Have a great week !!

Rexford News

By Vicki Allison

Rexford/Selden Girl Scout Cookies went on sale in the area on Saturday and will continue through Feb. 7, so be anticipating a Girl Scout to be knocking at your door for sales
This is the largest program event the Girl Scouts do each year to fund activities. Items bought will be delivered sometime in March.
Extra boxes of cookies will be ordered for those who may not have been contacted for a purchase.
There are four groups of Girl Scouts: Daisies, Brownies, Juniors, and Cadettes for a total of 28 young ladies in the area under the direction of Lyn Cheney, who is the Service Unit Manager/Leader. Other leaders are Katie Koerperich, Sarah Brantley, and Jackie Schaben.
Around 40 youth from Lutheran churches all over western Kansas came to Shepherd's Staff Friday and Saturday, Jan. 14 and 15, for their annual retreat.
The kids enjoyed playing games and learning about the Ten Commandments.
The Shepherd's Staff was also host to a great group of pheasant hunters from Kansas and Missouri last weekend: four dads and three sons. The birds are still out

there, and this group harvested about half a dozen.
Some of the local kids turned out to see the movie, "Spiderman," last Sunday. Everyone enjoyed the show.
The next Family Movie will be shown on Sunday, Febr. 27. The movie title will be decided upon soon.
The Rexford Phone Book has recently been updated by Jolene Hansen. The directories will be available for \$2.50. Contact Jolene or stop by the Red Barn to purchase one.
The Royal Neighbors are still collecting used cell phones. A drop-off box is in the Red Barn.
At the January regular City Council meeting, Dave Williams received the oath of mayor and the oath of council member was received by Matt Vogler. Dave Williams was appointed to finish out the term of mayor for Dennis Allison, and Matt Vogler was appointed to fill the council position previously held by Dave Williams.
Under new business, Mayor Williams recommended the city purchase a GPS tracking device to map the city's sewer system.
The council okayed the purchase

of this item. The next council meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 9.
Until next time, make your week full of pleasant memories.

Lyle News

By Veda Wood

Jane Engelhardt took her mother, Margaret "Toots" Magers and sister, Judy Easton to Kearney, Neb. on Wednesday where Toots got a pacemaker on Thursday.
She stayed overnight and came home Friday. Rea and Dee Magers brought dinner and visited on Saturday. Sunday after church drop-ins were James and Charlotte Plotts, Gary Anthony and Veda Wood. She says she is feeling well.
June Jolly spent part of last week with a cold, but still managed to win at pinocle for the second week. She played bingo but didn't win.
Norma McCallister took Rhetta Hare, Jean Daniel and Veda Wood

to Lenora to the Red Hat "Kansas Day, 150 year Blitz".
The theme was Kansas, 150 years old. Norma suggested I might read the poem by Uncle Elmer Van Gundy that was in last week's paper. It fit right in, and I hadn't thought about Kansas Day when I included it in the Lyle news.
A lot of interesting facts were related, and the delicious lunch helped to make it a very nice afternoon.
The only bad thing was that Norma was having a problem with her eye.
We hope and pray it is doing better soon.

Grocery items are smaller



Home Time

By Tranda Watts
Multi-county Extension Agent

Observant shoppers have probably noticed that many grocery items have become smaller recently. While packages are smaller, the cost is either the same or higher.
Why the change? Manufacturers say rising transportation costs and increasing ingredient and manufacturing costs have caused the change. While the smaller size is obvious in some products, in others it is not. An example is adding an indentation to the bottom of plastic bottles. Another example is using thinner plastic wraps to hold multiple items together.
So what can a shopper do? Here are some tips:
Compare brands. Some manufacturers are not changing package sizes.
Compare unit prices posted on store shelves. Promotions can

change price per ounce or price per sheet.
Switch to store brands. Many are comparable or even better in quality than national brands. They are also 25 - 30 % cheaper.
Buy in bulk when it makes sense. Look for sales on bulk items to save money.
Contact the company and tell them your concerns.
If you have questions about food, food packaging, or food preparation,

please feel free to contact your local K-State Research and Extension Office of you may contact Tranda Watts at twwatts@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 twwatts@ksu.edu. For more information, contact the county extension office, 475-8121.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

The American Association of Retired Persons offers free tax aid to all filers with special attention to those age 60 and older, including e-filing federal and state returns. Appointments begin Thursday, Feb. 3, at The Bank in Jennings or the Sheridan County Library in Hoxie on Mondays, beginning on Feb. 7. For appointments and information, call Frances Bader at (785) 678-2659.
Thomas and Hyjeon Lee Mathews and sister Bada welcome baby Sora Lee born Jan. 11, 2011 in Tampa, Fla. Grandparents are Robert Mathews,

West Palm Beach, Fla., and Sharon Mathews, Red Boiling Springs, Tenn.; Chang Ho Lee and Hyan Yo Jo, Daejeon, South Korea. Great-grandparents are Frances Bader, Jennings, and the late Erwin Bader, and George Mathews, Parkland, Fla., and the late Kitty Mathews, Parkland, Fla.
Doyle Brown is home and doing well after having surgery Friday at the Hays Medical Center for a pacemaker.
Roberta Petracek is in the Hays Medical Center. She had surgery for a heart valve replacement.

Lawrence Jennings was transported back to the hospital in Kearney, Neb., last week. He may get to come back to the Decatur County hospital this week.
Neoma Tacha observed her 86th birthday on Saturday, Jan. 22, with family members visiting throughout the day.
Carla Latimer and Bob Jones participated in a bridge tournament in Hutchinson over the weekend.
We have been enjoying some beautiful days with most of our snow melting.

Selden News

By Jacque Boulinghouse

There was no Senior Citizens last week due to the weather.
Birthdays and anniversaries - Jan. 28 - Roger Aumiller, Gary Robinson. Jan. 29 - Helen Karls, State of Kansas will be 150 years old. Jan. 30 - Rocky Cooper. Jan. 31 - Jim Erwin, Wayne Manis, Brian Brown, Micah Wenger. Feb. 1 - Jerry Rall,

Marsha Rogers, Aaron Emigh. Feb. 2 - Joy Putnam. Feb. 3 - Rachael Ritter, Brian and Linda Schroer.
School Calendar - Friday - High School Basketball at Dighton. Feb. 3 - Junior High Basketball in Rexford with McDonald. High School Scholars Bowl.
New items shelved at the Selden

Public Library: The Sons of Katie Elder-DVD, Rooster Cogburn-DVD, The Ant Bully-DVD, Benji's Favorite Dog Tales-DVD, The Outsiders-DVD, Barbie of Swan Lake-DVD, The Great Outdoors-DVD, Mrs. Doubtfire-DVD, Chasing the Sun, by Kaki Warner (Large Print).

Can These Bones Live?

Barbara Patterson, United Methodist Church, Jennings/Dresden

Ezekiel 37 : 1-14

This famous vision of the Valley of Dry Bones is given to the prophet Ezekiel in Babylonia shortly after the fall of Jerusalem to Babylonia in 587 B.C. As in 1:3 and 8:1, the prophet is seized "by the hand of the Lord," that is, he is sent into an ecstatic state in which he is given to see new reality.
Israel considers itself to be dead in exile (cf. 33:10; Isaiah 53:8-9). She has lost her land, her temple, her Davidic king, her covenant, and her relationship with her God. The forces of death have overwhelmed her, and now her exiles are without the possibility of life, like long-dry bones, scattered aimlessly about a parched and desolate valley. No human help can restore her. She is beyond all hope.

Ezekiel therefore hears the question asked him by God, "Son of man, can these bones live?" (v. 3). It is a question that can confront us, too, can it not?
When life crumbles in on us and loving relationships are gone; when pain accompanies our every hour and makes a normal life impossible; when anxieties haunt our nights and days and undermine your security; when evil stalks our city streets and we can trust no stranger; when our world seems bathed in nothing but bloody violence and all goodness seems to be impossible; we too wonder if there can ever be the possibility of life ever being normal again. And we feel our hope dried up and our future as nothing but ominous.



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**
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
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

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