

People in Our Community

Mary Lou Olson, society editor
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Calvin Ufford attended the college graduation of his grandson, James Rutherford, on Dec. 10. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree with honors in mechanical engineering from Kansas State University and was named one of four outstanding seniors in the mechanical engineering graduating class. He will start work with ConocoPhillips as a production and drilling engineer in Houston early February. He is the son of Rob Roy and Janie (Ufford) Rutherford III of Berryton.

Larry Smith was in Fredonia last Wednesday to attend the Community Christmas Pageant. Directors of the pageant were Theresa and Matt Fisher. She is vocal teacher and he is band director at the Fredonia schools. She is a graduate of Decatur Community High School and daughter of Larry and Karen Smith.

—Christmas Votive Candles, just \$1 thru 12-24. Oberlin Mercantile Co.

R. L. Gaskill was the honored guest at a birthday dinner served by Kay Gaskill in their home on Dec. 10. Guests were Steve and Arian Arnold, Dan Nedland and Rhonda May, Steve and Cynthia Haynes and Larry and Bette Haverfield of Russell Springs. The Haverfields were weekend guests.

Weekend guests of Mildred Holmdahl were Jeani Hengst, and Josh, Tracy, Jackson and Colt Hinkle, Mechanicsburg, Pa.; Janet and Sherri Vermillion, and Brian, Veronica, Dannika and Eric Vermillion, and Jason, Michelle, Lakyn and Braylon Daniels, El Dorado; Sherri Ayers, and Shani, Kayden, Miles and Maci Maybrier, Gardner; Lori Ayers, Jordan and Caiden Lawn, Kearney, Neb.; and Tracy,

Meagan and Breanna Ayers, Salina. They all came to help her celebrate her 90th birthday.

—Shop the After Christmas Sale at The Dresser & save up to 50% off. Closed Monday.

Joy Votapka, Dan and Lisa Votapka, Rowena Cathcart and Joyce Rippe attended the memorial service in Hutchinson, on Friday for Merrill Durr.

Rick, Sally and Grady Marcuson, Overland Park, and Nico and Mollie Schiffer, Paderborn, Germany, were houseguests of Gail and Kay Marcuson for an early Christmas on Friday and Saturday.

—All Christmas Decor 20% off thru 12-24. Oberlin Mercantile Co.

Winning pinochle highs in pinochle at the Golden Age Center last week were Dorothy Moore, Kelva Dryden, Doris Fringer and Henry Edgett. Lows went to Henry Edgett, Veanna Carman, Neil Marshall, Ivis Hanson and Kelva Dryden. No pitch or bridge were played.

—All Jewelry 20% off during Late Night Shopping Thursday, 8-11 p.m. Oberlin Mercantile Co.

Guests of Ralph and Phyllis LaSalle for an early family Christmas dinner on Sunday were Kim and Kenny Carter, Norton; Roger and Jennifer LaSalle, Tyler and Blake, Garden City; and Lisa and Jamie Fortin, Lindsay, Lance, Lauren and Logan, Oberlin.

Joy Votapka and Nancy Ellis of Topeka attended the graduation of Sara Votapka of Ogallala, Neb., from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln on Saturday. Sara is the daughter of Charlie and Dorina Votapka of Ogallala.

Woman honored on 90th

Mildred Holmdahl, Oberlin, was honored by her family with an open house Saturday afternoon at the Golden Age Center. Hosts were her daughters, Janeil Jensen, Oberlin; Jeani Hengst, Mechanicsburg, Pa.; and Janet Vermillion, El Dorado.

A luncheon for cousins was held at noon at the Oberlin Covenant Church with Eloise Smith as hostess.

Others present were Phyllis Klich, Denver; Dewayne Holmdahl, Lompoc, Calif.; Walden and Ruth Peterson, and Mark and Joyce Peterson, Lindsborg; Merlin Anderson, Oberlin; Janet and Sherri Vermillion, Brian and Veronica Vermillion, Danika and Eric, and Jason and Michelle Daniels, Lakyn

and Braylon, all of El Dorado; Mrs. Hengst, Mechanicsburg, Pa., and Mrs. Jensen, Oberlin.

Other out-of-town guests who signed the book at the open house were Tracy, Meagan and Breanna Ayers, Salina; Lori Ayers, Jordan and Caiden Lawn, Kearney, Neb.; Josh, Tracy, Jackson and Colt Hinkle, Mechanicsburg, Pa.; Sherri Ayers, and Shani, Kayden, Miles and Maci Maybrier, Gardner; Mike and Shannon Rupp and children, Topeka; Betty Jean Hafer and Roger and Melinda Carlson, Atwood; Andy Hanson, Keith and Mary Lou Olson, and Pastor Keith and Sandy Reuther, Herndon; Elizabeth (Hanson) Horney, Wichita; and Ernie and Janice Mehl, North Platte, Neb.

Member tells about Rotary

Dan Nedland presented a program about projects that the Oberlin Rotary Club does when the group met at The Gateway on Dec. 13. He was introduced by his wife, Rhonda May, program chair for the day.

He said Decatur Community High student Amanda Marshall had visited the club to learn about its projects here, as well as national and international Rotary projects. He said he would be speaking to the members of the Kay and Kayette organizations at school in January.

He previewed his program for the members, covering projects of the club, including the after-prom party, operating the Ferris wheel at

the Decatur County Fair, contributing to the Decatur County Food Pantry, distributing dictionaries to third graders at Oberlin Elementary School and contributing to relief efforts for national and international disasters. International projects included Polio Plus, Group Study Exchanges and the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards.

A fund raiser is planned between alumni and fans of Kansas State University and the University of Kansas for a benefit showing of the first KU-K-State basketball game of the year on Wednesday, Jan. 4, at the Sunflower Cinema.

snacks, beverages and live music. A total of \$100 from the proceeds will be donated to Teens for Christ. Admission is \$3 for singles and \$10 for families. No alcohol or tobacco will be allowed on the museum grounds.

For details, call Kristin McHugh at (785) 470-7176.

New Arrival

Staley William Ahlberg

Andy and Sherri Ahlberg of Fort Collins, Colo., are the parents of a son, Staley William Ahlberg, born 5 1/2 weeks early at 6:11 a.m. on Aug. 17, 2011. He weighed 4 pounds, 12 ounces, and measured 19 inches. He spent 32 days in the hospital, but is home and doing fine. He has a brother, Dreyvn. Grandparents are Dick and Suzanne Ahlberg, Oberlin, and Bill and LaReta Hageman of Spivey. Great-grandparents are Leola Osner, Kingman, and Marion Ahlberg and Ailene Lane of Clay Center.



Staley



A FAMILIAR SIGHT in the coming weeks for rural residents will be this helicopter, which will be checking power transmission lines for Sunflower Electric Power Corp. The tail number is N222GR.

Helicopter flyover set

Sunflower Electric Power Corp. plans to check about 1,900 miles of its transmission lines from a helicopter, says Jacque Boultinghouse, emergency preparedness director for Sheridan and Decatur counties.

The helicopter will fly seven days a week for four to seven weeks starting on Tuesday, depending on the weather. The tail number for the

helicopter to be used is N222GR, she said, and it will be flying low to the ground.

Sunflower, a cooperative which supplies rural electric and municipal systems, will be checking lines across western Kansas, so the exact dates the crew will be in Decatur County are not known, she said.

Club News

Singers entertain club

Christmas music by the DCHS Singers, directed by vocal teacher Susan Nelson, opened the Dec. 12 meeting of Monday Evening Club at the LandMark Inn. Ann Anderson was hostess with help from Marcia Lohofener and Ann Williams.

Eighteen members were present; table favors were Russell Stover "billion dollar" chocolate bars.

Instead of gifts, cash donations had been collected for the school and orphanage in Haiti sponsored

by club Vice President Nanette Zander. She told the members she had bought shoes and other needed items to take on her trip there this month.

The Jan. 9 meeting also will be at the LandMark with Mrs. Zander as hostess and Dutch treat desserts. The program will be given by Dick Carman, a member of the Decatur County Museum board, and roll call will be "A Trivia Question About Oberlin."

Gals enjoy gift exchange

Calico Gals Club met Dec. 14 at the LandMark with Detta Anderson as hostess. Also present were Jan Hackney, Marylu Brown, Donna Kelley, Phyllis Screen, Millie Lippelmann and Shirley Shields.

The club collect was given and the treasurer reported that all bills are paid. Mrs. Anderson reported on the big care package sent to Jaxen Alstrom, who is taking amphibious training in Guam.

Gifts which will be given to four members who are in nurs-

ing homes for Christmas were shown. Mrs. Lippelmann read an article on the meaning of the candy cane. A card will be sent to Earl Brown from the club for his 100th birthday. Members held a Christmas gift exchange.

The next meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18, at the Pizza Hut, then members will go to the home of Mrs. Lippelmann for the meeting. Roll call will be to show and tell about your favorite Christmas gift.

Club holds tasting tea

Joy Russell was hostess for Pi Alpha Club's annual Christmas tasting tea Dec. 12 at the parlor of the Decatur County Museum, which has been remodeled with added space and decor.

Co-hostesses were Joan and Kristy Evans, with Christmas delicacies for the tea furnished by the second half of the club roster. Twelve members were present.

President Marty Olson conducted a short business meeting with Mrs. Russell giving "The Christmas Prayer" for devotions. A total of \$125 was collected for the Angel Tree. Rachelle (Lytle)

Hileman thanked the club for the wedding gift it sent following her recent marriage to Brian Hileman. Christmas cards were signed for absent members and friends. Rosella Meitl won the hostess gift.

Agift exchange was held, with Mrs. Russell playing as gifts were passed in a musical-chairs manner.

The next meeting will be Monday, Jan. 9 at Sappa Valley Manor with the Evanses as hostesses and Joyce Ploussard as co-hostess. This is a change from the original club book listing.

Widows and Friends meet

A Christmas luncheon was enjoyed by Widows and Friends when they met on Dec. 14 at Coffee, Tea and Me.

Those attending included Marian Dempewolf, Nadean Stoney, Millie Lippelmann, Phyllis Screen, Laurene Van Otterloo, Doris Fringer, Martha Fringer, Virginia Spratling, Cecil Hess, Eula Juenemann, Kathleen Worlicky, Susan Rynearson, Mary Ann Amack, Elaine Bryan, Esther

Carlson and Joyce Hartzog.

Coordinator Mrs. Amack read "The Real Reason" in keeping with the season, after which guests shared special Christmas memories. Christmas cards were signed for Doris Sloan and Alice Shirley.

In the New Year, the club will meet for breakfast at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11, at the Frontier Cafe.

Churches make Christmas plans

By MARY LOU OLSON
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Area churches will be holding Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child. Here is a list compiled by *The Herald's* staff:

LUND COVENANT
A candlelight service will begin at 5:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve. A Sunday School program will be given during the 11 a.m. service on Sunday.

OBERLIN COVENANT
The Christmas Eve service will begin at 7:30 p.m. and Christmas morning worship starts at 9:30 a.m.

JENNINGS, DRESDEN UNITED METHODIST
A Christmas Eve service begins at 4 p.m. at Jennings. The Dalene Gawith family will present a Christmas Eve program at 6:30 p.m. at Dresden and the public is invited. Morning worship will be at 9:30 a.m. at Jennings on Christmas Day.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN
Christmas Eve services will begin at 8 p.m. A Christmas Day service will be at 8:30 a.m.

FAITH LUTHERAN
A Christmas Eve candlelight service with communion begins at 7:30 p.m. Christmas Sunday service starts at 10 a.m.

OBERLIN UNITED METHODIST PRAIRIE CHAPEL
Christmas Eve services are scheduled at 6:30 p.m. at Prairie Chapel and at 8 p.m. at Oberlin. Worship will begin at 9 a.m. on Sunday at Prairie Chapel and 10:45 a.m. in Oberlin. There will be no Sunday School.

OBERLIN UNITED CHURCH
A Christmas Eve service will begin at 5 p.m. Christmas carols begin at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, led by Richard Russ.

IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
The Christmas Eve service will begin at 5 p.m. Saturday at the home of Leon and Marita Portschy.

LYLE UNITED METHODIST
There will no services at Lyle on Sunday.

UNITED METHODIST NORCATUR, CLAYTON
A Christmas Eve candlelight service will begin at 4:30 p.m. in Norcatur and at 6 p.m. in Clayton. Services will begin at 9:30 a.m. Sunday at Norcatur and 11:15 a.m. at Clayton for Christmas Day.

HERNDON COVENANT
A Christmas Eve candlelight service is planned at 11 p.m. Worship begins at 10 a.m. on Sunday with no Sunday School.

OBERLIN SACRED HEART IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

SELDEN SACRED HEART
Christmas Eve Mass will begin at 7 p.m. at Leoville and 9 p.m. in Oberlin on Saturday. Mass at Selden will be at 8 a.m. on Sunday.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC
Christmas and New Year's Masses will be combined with the regular Saturday and Sunday celebrations for Sacred Heart in Atwood, St. John Nepomucene and St. Mary's in Herndon. Sacred Heart services will be at 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve and Saturday, Dec. 31, and at 10:30 a.m. Christmas Day and New Year's Day. St. John's service will be at 7 p.m. both Saturday. St. Mary's will be at 8:30 a.m. both Sundays.

A Christmas Mass is scheduled at 8:30 a.m. on Christmas Day, with regular Mass at 7 p.m. on Sunday at Herndon.

NONDENOMINATIONAL
A public Christmas Eve service will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center, conducted by John Paulson.

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