

Norcatatur News

By the Norcatatur News Committee

Congratulations to Nolan Henningson and Amanda Marshall of Norcatatur who were among those selected for the Kansas Music Educators Association Honor Choir which will be held in Wichita from Feb. 23-25. Their parents are Robbie and Jeni Henningson, and Troy and Deb Marshall.

Congratulations to Helen Helm who celebrated her 90th birthday on Sunday.

Dewaine Stapp and Charlotte Meints attended Myrtle Carman Waldo's 100th birthday party at the Good Samaritan Center in Oberlin on Jan. 22 and also visited several other residents.

On Martin Luther King Day, Jeff Magers and Joy Luoto of Cedar Bluffs met his parents, Rea and Dee Magers, at the Frontier Cafe in Oberlin for lunch. Joining them were Debbie Malone of Aurora, Colo., and her aunt, Lora Craig of Almena. Later, Rea and Dee visited Mary Waldo at the Good Samaritan Center.

Birthdays include: Luis Senra, Jan. 24; Gerry New, Jan. 26; Larry Dick, Jan. 1. Happy Anniversary to Dennis and Judy Shirley, and Gerry and Devonna New on Jan. 29.

Twenty Senior Citizens met on Jan. 20 for cards. Winners were Joyce Sumner, Margaret Magers

and Al Sedlmayer. The next meeting will be at 1 p.m. on Friday at the Methodist Educational Building.

Troy and Deb Marshall spent last weekend in Manhattan for the K-State Band Clinic. He drove one of the vehicles for the 12 students who participated from Oberlin. Local students going were Nolan Henningson and Amanda Marshall. Anthony Marshall gave them a tour of the Manhattan Art Center, where he is volunteering with the lighting. They enjoyed the three-hour concert of six bands which included 800 high school students.

Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

The Herndon community extends sympathy to the family of Marjorie Owens Berger Koetter. Marge was born May 7, 1932, and passed away Sunday evening, Jan. 29, at her home in McCook, surrounded by her loving family. Marge and husband Lloyd Berger settled on the Paul Berger farm northwest of Herndon. She was the resident beauty operator in town for many years before moving to McCook.

Eileen Portschy hosted a birthday dinner Jan. 22 for Pete Portschy at their home. Guests were Greg, Rita and Joe Marintzer; Dean, Deb, Marcus and Neil Portschy; Cheri Kastens, Isaac Marintzer, Bethany Chartier and Gene Kleidosty.

Esther Hartner Pennington was at Oak Canyon with Alan and Ann Solko recently. The last time she was there was 82 years ago for a Herndon High School picnic in 1930 when she was a junior. As she recalls, one of the girls broke her leg and they were not allowed to go to Oak Canyon for picnics after that.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Harry Kastens who died Friday, Jan. 27, in Atwood. Harry lived to the wonderful age of 97 before the Lord called him home. Funeral services were Tuesday morning at Redeemer Lutheran

Church in Atwood.

Weekend visitors at the home of Richard and Theresa Rippe were Norma and Roger Cichorz of Boulder, Colo. On Saturday evening, they joined Gary and Pat Louise Sloan of Colby at Park Hill in Atwood and on Sunday they visited with Tom and Myra Sattler at their farm. Sunday evening Kevin and Megan Rippe and girls, Tim and Wyatt Rippe joined the family for pizza.

Father Kerry Ninemire of Salina will be guest priest the weekend of Feb. 4-5 for Rawlins County Catholic parishes while Father Nick is gone.

Herndon salutes Dave Green on receiving the Rawlins County Soil Conservation Banker's Award. Dave continues to practice good stewardship with his farming and ranching while being active in the Herndon community and raising his family.

Sunday, Dan, Gigi, Jackie and Kale Sattler, McCook, along with David and Lauren Sattler from Norton came for dinner and a visit with Tom and Myra Sattler. Jackie and Kale spent a couple of days with Grandpa and Grandma to play and visit, returning home on Tuesday.

Cork Riener took wife, Jacque,

back out to visit the seismic crews in the area. They are setting 2.5 pound charges of dynamite. The crew that will set off the charges is in WaKeeney and is expected on the north divide within 10 days. The drilling crew will be out of here in a couple of days. The rig observed this week was a "buggy". The rig had large tractor tires front and rear and a pivot point in the middle. An engine in the front segment powers the rig, an air compressor and the hydraulically operated rig. The derrick was only 10 feet or so high and has a top head drive assembly. The rig is not "highway worthy" and has to be hauled to the area. Several survey stations were observed. The stations accept satellite signals and assist the crews on foot in staking drilling locations.

Jackie Votapka, Oberlin and Julie Hafner traveled to Selden last Wednesday, enjoying shopping at Pauls Furniture Store and lunch at Southwind Bar and Grill.



Decatur Health Systems

By Becky Wilson

This past weekend was a busy one at Decatur Health Systems, as we were rolling out the welcome mat for a physician and his wife who came to Oberlin for an interview.

Dr. Alexander Pleszynski-Platz and his wife Mary arrived Friday afternoon. Unfortunately, they made a couple of wrong turns and arrived a bit late.

Usually during a recruitment trip, physicians get to meet all of the department heads at the hospital, to get to know names and faces, but that had to be cut from the plan.

Itineraries can be flexible, though, and there was enough time for the critical aspects of the visit: an interview with the senior management team and two members of the hospital board and a tour of the facility

Dr. Platz said he was impressed with the updates and the spacious rooms in the clinic.

Later, Dr. Platz and his wife went out for supper with other providers and their spouses. Saturday, the Platzes got a tour of Oberlin so that they could get out and meet some people and see the Good Samaritan Center and Ward Drug Store.

They also saw some of Oberlin's amenities - such as the bowling alley, Sappa Park, the Gateway and the new theater - and a first glance at real estate options. Dr. Platz said he was impressed with what the community had to offer.

During this visit, the doctor and the interview team discussed Oberlin's health care needs, and they entered into negotiations with regards to him coming here.

Unfortunately, there's no easy way of predicting how long that will take, but when there's news, we will let everyone know.

The recruitment process in general is long, with both sides needing a lot of information from the other.

The doctors want to know about the facilities and communities interested in them, and the hospitals look right back at the doctors: at their education, their particular interests and specialties, and their past records. Though we want to recruit

more providers, we're also trying to make sure we recruit providers who are a good fit for this area.

Right now, Chief Executive Officer Lynn Doeden is working with 14 recruitment agencies in a continuing effort to make contact with doctors and other providers.

To give a few examples from the past two weeks, she has talked with a military physician replacement service; with a Via Christi resident program regarding international fellowships; with the Christian Medical and Dental Association, a doctor search that specializes in mission-focused providers; and with Dr. Zaid Alshawaf, a physician whose name was given to her by a citizen who thought Dr. Alshawaf could be a good fit for Oberlin. There are a lot

of options to be explored, and we're looking at each possible one.

In other news, February is American Heart Month and we'll be observing that all month long at Decatur Health Systems. Stop by the main lobby any time for information about exercise, dietary choices, and target numbers to shoot for to help with cardiac health.

This Friday in particular is National Wear Red Day, when people are asked by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to wear red to spread awareness of the fact that heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women. We're lucky in Oberlin that wearing red on Fridays also helps boost the Red Devils, so don't forget!

Museum Matters

By Sharleen Wurm,

Through the winter months one of my projects is helping Jeremy Tally, Oberlin Cemetery Sexton, update the records.

I find having memorial/funeral cards very helpful. If anyone has cards that you would donate to the museum or at least loan me, it would make this project easier and more accurate.

Another great source is YOU. If you have family records on relatives that are buried in the cemetery and would bring in dates; month, day, and year of birth and death that

would also be appreciated.

Our winter office hours are: 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday or by appointment. I am usually in the office those three days by 9 a.m.

The museum will open for the 2012 season Tuesday, April 3 and will be hosting Oberlin Business Alliance Coffee Hour.

The annual rummage sale is set for April 14 and 15. You can start bringing things in even this winter if you would like, but we will officially start taking items April 3.

Farm Bureau Members

can pick up their

Decatur County Area Coupon book

at the Farm Bureau Office

at 122 E. Commercial in Oberlin.

One coupon book per member family

Thanks for your continued membership



Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

This week we said good-bye to another loved one. Lois Carlson. Janice Shobe brought the message, Anita Hirsch sang and Loren Schrock honored her with the harmonica. It is an amazing thing to be part of a loving family as they sit with their mother and grandmother as she leaves this earthly life to begin her new life in heaven.

Working at the Good Sam is really a gift, when we hear stories of joys and sorrows, good times and regrets. We begin to discern what is truly important in life versus the trivial things that just clutter up your life.

The first graders came this week, with their cheerful little faces. Sammy the Squirrel hid from them pretty good. It took lots of hints for them to find him. Their reading is sure improving. It is always a delight to see them interact with the grandmas and grandpas that live here.

The 180 Boys came too, and played the Life Stories game with Loren Schrock, Amy Rehm, Mary Waldo and Dorothy Pryor. We get a chance to share God's love with them and living out our motto that "In Christ's Love, Everyone is Someone."

Alice Bobbitt, Eva Bryan, Olive Arnold, Betty and Walter May,

Leone Porsch, Myrtle Ross, Lucy Schissler, Violet Schissler, Leona Helmkamp, Edla Olson and Amy Rehm all gathered in the Quiet Room for Bible study as we finished our study on heaven.

The In House Club played Vegetable Bingo again. Bingo, no matter the form, is always a hit. Leone Porsch, Alice Bobbitt, Edith Persinger, Vera Kacirek and Evelyn Olson played.

It's time for the Ho Down! Save the date: March 24 at the American Legion!

Visitors this week: Mert McEvoy to see **Lucy Schissler**. Marvin and Sharon Slabaugh to visit **Opal Bryan**. Reva Marshall for **Dorothy Hunt**. Max Carman for **Myrtle Waldo**. Bob and Jan Baer (Topeka) for **Evelyn Olson**. Rhonda May for **Walt and Betty May**. Galen Olson and Arian Arnold for **Edla Olson**. Ralph and Norma Unger for **Lucy Schissler** and **Earl Brown**. John and Edie Tate for **Lois Carlson**. Cheryl Miller for **Loren Schrock**. Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem) for **Doris Marintzer**. Von Johnson for **Crystal Moore**. Jody Betts and Ella Betts for **Mary Waldo**. Murry and Audrey Pavlicek for **Mary Lemman**. Barb Wolters for **Don Gilbert**. Jerry Hill for **Cheyl Hill**.

Celebrating Epiphany

Pastor Brad Rick, St. John's Lutheran

We are now in the Season of Epiphany. The word "Epiphany", means, "an appearance, or, a manifestation." It also includes the nuance of, "now I get it, or now I finally understand."

During the Church Season of Epiphany, we celebrate the appearance of the Son of God in Jesus, as He made Himself known by being conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, being fully God and fully man, doing the work necessary for our salvation.

The Readings for the First Sunday After the Epiphany are for the Baptism of Jesus.

At His Baptism, in the Jordan River, all three parts of the Godhead were present. The Holy Spirit took the form of a dove, and anointed Jesus. This was a sign affirming and confirming Jesus as the Promised Messiah. So that there

would be no confusion or doubt about the identity of Jesus, the Father spoke from the heavens and said, "This is My Son whom I love, with whom I am well pleased." The Father was well pleased with His Son because the Jesus fulfilled all righteousness in His Baptism, and the waters of the Jordan led Jesus to His cross and empty tomb, the place of His death and resurrection for our salvation.

The Season of Epiphany ends with the Sunday of the Transfiguration. Jesus is now transfigured in front of the Apostles Peter, James, and John. On one side of Jesus is Elijah, the Prophet, on the other Moses. Both these Old Testament guys had died and were now resurrected. Peter recognizes them and says, "Lord it good for us to be here. Let's put up and shelter, one for You, one for Elijah, and one for Moses."

(how did Peter know that Elijah was Elijah and Moses was Moses without name tags?)

At the Transfiguration, the Holy Spirit appeared in the form of a cloud. The Father spoke from the cloud and said, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased. Listen to Him."

So now Jesus reveals Himself and makes Himself known through His Word, especially spoken and heard. As we hear His voice and words, He changes and transforms us, by doing only what He can do: replace our weakness with His strength; replace our doubts and fears with His confident hope; replace our hurts and pain with His comfort.

So we celebrate Epiphany until the Season of Lent starts, in the middle of February with Ash Wednesday.

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

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; 10:30 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.

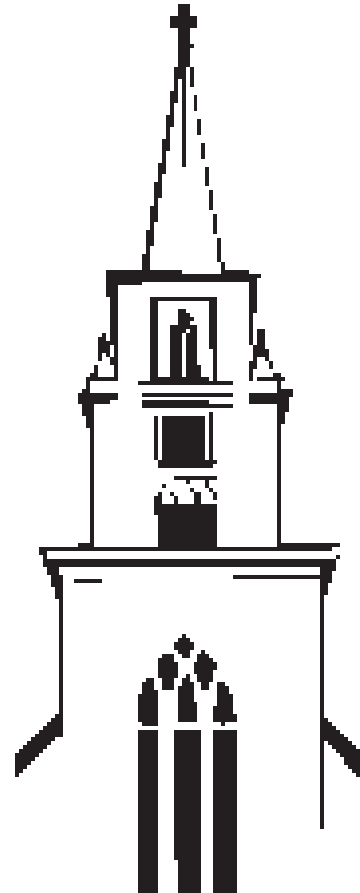
NORCATATUR UNITED METHODIST
Pastor: **Ed Woods**

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..



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Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

The Jennings Tuesday Study Club met at the Broken Wheel on Jan. 24 for a delicious meal. Following lunch, the group went to the Jennings United Methodist church for the meeting and program. "A Toy worth restoring" was the roll call answered by Rachel Carter, Ruth Chance, Pat Foster, Patty Foster, Carla Latimer, Sue Long, Wilma Mader, Joan McKenna, Shelley McKenna, Joan Metz, Helen Muirhead, Kathy Nauer, Helen Rhodes, Lynn Tacha, Neoma Tacha, and new members, Sheila Rhodes, Louise Cressler and Paula Krizek. Marge Hartzog was a guest. Members brought dolls and special toys to share. Violet Krizek presented a wonderful program on restoring and collecting dolls. She shared the histories of many of her dolls which were beautifully dressed and displayed. Vi told about repairing some of her dolls and sewing special clothes for them. Playing with and

collecting dolls is an entertaining activity that can continue to be enjoyed beyond childhood. The Tuesday Study Club ladies thank Vi and her babies for the memorable program.

A beautiful "dedication" for Parker Vahling, son of Mike and Kandy Vahling, rural Dresden, was held during Sunday morning worship at the Jennings United Methodist Church.

Many people enjoyed the Kansas Day program held Sunday afternoon at the Sunflower Senior Center. Arian Arnold, Herndon, and Joy Russell, Oberlin, spoke on the "Last Indian Raid" in Kansas. Displays were on tables for all to read. Cookies and drink were enjoyed.

The American Red Cross Blood Drive at Jennings will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 10 at the United Methodist Church. For more information contact Marge Hartzog, 785-678-3010.