

People in Our Community

Mary Lou Olson, society editor
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Charlotte Meints drove to Grand Island, Neb., for a surprise retirement party for her son-in-law, Rod Carlson, on Saturday, Jan. 28. He is retiring from New Holland Manufacturing. On Sunday, Jan. 29, Charlotte's great-granddaughter, Kaitlyn Carlson, daughter of Scott and Crissie, was baptized during services at Peace Lutheran Church, Grand Island. The weekend was enjoyed with visiting with the Carlsons and granddaughter Angie Rittershaus, Joelle and Calista, and granddaughter Beth and husband Tim Francis, Bree and Drew, all of Omaha.

—Sunday Brunch Buffet Feb. 12 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. LandMark Inn 475-2340.

Guests of Elaine Bryan from Wednesday were Corinne and Dave Denton of Topeka.

—Surf & Turf Buffet Friday, Feb. 10, 6-8 p.m. LandMark Inn 475-2340.

Winning highs in pinochle at the Golden Age Center last week were

Fund raiser helps project

Though Old Man Winter put a damper on the crowd at a benefit brunch Saturday at the Oberlin American Legion Hall, the event raised nearly \$1,000 to help with restoration of the Veterans Monument at the Oberlin Cemetery.

Benefit set at Golden Age

A potato-bar with all the trimmings will be served from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday at the Golden Age Center to raise money for the landscaping on the east side of the building.

Decatur Health Systems

By Becky Wilson

If you have not yet had the chance to meet the newest nurse practitioner to come to Oberlin, I hope you have some free time this weekend.

Decatur Health Systems plans an open house for Lynnetta Ward from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday at the Family Practice Clinic, 902 W. Columbia Ave.

This should provide a good opportunity to meet Mrs. Ward and get to know her and her interests and specialty areas, and let her get to know the people of Oberlin.

Other employees of Decatur Health Systems will be at the open house as well, and that offers people the chance to get different perspectives on the state of the hospital and clinic and how things are going from voices they might not have heard before.

A few of the people who commented at last month's board meeting were employees. Amy Haas made a statement reaffirming that Decatur Health Systems always has the emergency room open and has provider coverage.

Shelley McKenna discussed some of the changes she's witnessed over the years — and as someone who started helping out when she was just 5, she's seen a lot. She mentioned her experience on the

Henry Edgett, Max Carman, Marie McKisson, Dorothy Moore, Doris Fringer and Ardis Roe. Lows went to Dorothy Moore, John Cederberg, Neil Marshall, Doris Fringer and Norma Anderson. Pitch highs were won by Dewaine Stapp and Max Carman with lows going to Dorothy Moore and Pat Abbey. Marty Olson, Ila Ray, Cynthia Matson and Marie McKisson had highs in bridge. Potato Bar Bake for landscaping, Sat., Feb. 11, 5 to 7 p.m., Golden Age Center.

—Spaghetti Western night Feb. 15, 6 p.m. at Sunflower Cinema. Tickets available until Tuesday at Chamber or EDC offices.

Lloyd Waldo is hospitalized at Hays Medical Center in Hays with pneumonia. His daughter, Susan Waldo-Wright of Lawrence is with him. Mail will reach him at the hospital, 2220 Canterbury Drive, Hays, Kan., 67601.

Valentine Buffet Tuesday, Feb. 14, 6-8 p.m. LandMark Inn 475-2340.

organizers, "and everyone who took time for an extra cup of coffee and a visit enjoyed the event. The donations are really appreciated."

She said that \$84 had come in so far from collection jars placed in all Oberlin banks. Goal for the repair work is \$5,000.

County Economic Development Corp. An application has been made for a grant to assist with the project.

Plans are to add lights and a place for benches, as well as to complete concrete work.

doctor procurement committee, the roadblocks and struggles she saw then and the need to stay positive and pull together.

Tiffany Palmer talked about her experiences working in Colby and Atwood, and about how those places have in the past few years experienced the same provider recruitment issues that we are going through right now.

Decatur Health Systems just had its employee recognition banquet a couple of weeks ago, and it was good to see the people who have been here for five, 10, 20, or 30 years be honored for their years of service. There are people who work here who have an immense amount of experience to draw upon when responding to concerns the community might have.

Come on by Sunday during the open house, have a drink and something to eat, and ask some questions. For that matter, if you're busy Sunday, drop by at any time. We'd be delighted to see you.

Meanwhile, American Heart Month keeps ticking along. Exercise Week is finishing up, and it will be followed by a week focused on nutrition. Stop by the front lobby of the hospital on Thursday morning for a cup of coffee and information about a heart-healthy diet.



Jimmy and Katelyn Garcia

Wedding vows read in Colorado Springs

Katelyn Unger and Jimmy Garcia were married on Saturday, Dec. 31, 2011, in a family ceremony in Colorado Springs. Officiating was Mark Copelin, an uncle of the bride.

Rena Unger, sister of the bride, was maid of honor and her son, Darien, was ring bearer.

Groomsmen were Ricardo Garcia, brother of the bridegroom, and Pedro Rodriguez.

Parents of the couple are Kevin and Jeanie Unger, Oberlin, and Santiago and Iris Garcia, Colorado Springs.

Grandparents of the bride are

Doyle and Karol Styles, and Roy and Jane Unger, all of Oberlin, and Robert and Suzanne Loudon, Colorado Springs.

Following the ceremony, friends and family joined the couple for a New Year's Eve party and dance held at the J. Gregory Salon.

The bride is a hair stylist at the salon. The bridegroom is a teacher and coach at Fountain Middle School, south of Colorado Springs.

The newlyweds plan a honeymoon trip to Germany and France in June.

Piano students perform

Fourteen piano students from Oberlin joined 22 others from Grinnell, Colby and Goodland for the Northwest Piano Clinic and Multi-Piano Concert on Saturday, Jan. 28, in Colby.

The students performed individual pieces for three judges, Dr. Steven Gustafson, McPherson; Kathy Jamison, Quinter; and Karole Erikson, Great Bend, and rehearsed

with their groups for the concert. Dr. Timothy Shook of Southwestern College in Winfield conducted.

Oberlin participants were David and Michael Noren, Kade and Isabel Grafel, Caleb, Luke and Melody Koeperich, Cori and Judith Isbell, Clayton Carter, Maddie Johnson, Erin May, Daniel Lerew and Gavin Lytle, all students of Cheryl Metcalf.

Club News

Man speaks on Youthville

The Prairie Chapel United Methodist Women met at the Oberlin United Methodist Church on Wednesday morning with the Oberlin women as guests.

President Cheryl Metcalf opened the meeting with the group singing, "I Love to Tell the Story," followed by devotions and prayer by Coleen Rippe.

Matt Johnson of Wichita was introduced by Mrs. Metcalf. He talked about Youthville, a church-sponsored youth agency. Most children the agency serves are between 10 and 18, he said, but any child in need will be helped and many are adopted or live in

foster homes. He said recent program additions include horses and dogs, which are used as therapy for children. School is held on two campuses as part of the school districts, and teachers come to each campus. He said they are always looking for stories from those who have lived on one of the campuses, and received one from a 73-year-old man in Wichita who lived at Youthville in the 1930s.

The two groups sent a cash donation with Mr. Johnson for valentines for the youths, as well as Labels for Education.

Women enjoy brunch

Members of the Prairie Chapel United Methodist Women entertained the Oberlin United Methodist Women with a 9:30 a.m. brunch on Wednesday, Feb. 1, at the Oberlin church with 25 present. Table decorations represented the Youthville program, sponsored by the United Methodist Church in Kansas.

Guest speaker was Matt Johnson of Wichita, director of Methodist Youthville campuses in Wichita, Newton and Dodge City. He said the program began in 1927 and told of changes made over the years to meet the needs

of youths who could benefit from foster care.

He talked about the therapeutic animal programs, with horses and dogs now in use at the Dodge City campus. A discussion followed on possible local projects to benefit Youthville.

The Oberlin women will meet on March 7 with Bernice Martin and Louise Pollnow as hostesses. Maxine Smith will present the program and devotions will be given by Elaine Bryan. World Day of Prayer will be observed on Friday, March 2, at the Oberlin Covenant Church.

Employees honored

Decatur Health Systems honored long-time employees at its 2012 Employee Recognition Banquet on Saturday, Jan. 21, at the Oberlin American Legion.

The invocation was given by Jan Bainter. Hospital Board member Pam Wilson recognized other members of the board, including Ruth Wolfram, Norbert Zander, Gary Walter, Kathy Nauer and county Commissioner Ralph Unger.

Natasha Weishapl presented employee awards to:

- 35 years: Joanne Wendelin.
- 30 years: Peggy Ream.
- 25 years: Dorothy Vacura, Lisa Votapka.
- 20 years: Enid Anderson, Teresa Ely, Bernita Daniels, Sandra

Fowler. 15 years: Nancy Vath, Charlene Shields.

10 years: Charissa Huff, Leslie Jones, Nikki Murray, Shayla Bailey.

5 years: Judy Scott, Amber Scott, Roberta Blake, Mark Nelson, Kara Allen, Vonda Leopold, Jason Johnson, Danyel Jeffrey, Joni Marshall, Jennie Anderson.

3 years: Julie Weigel, Sherryl Kyte, Vicky Ray, Denae Brown, Heather Waterman, Darlene Wahrmann, Stephanie Bruggeman, Carolyn Miller, Erin Bishop, Tiffany Palmer.

Chief Executive Officer Lynn Doeden spoke, and Becky Wilson led the group in a trivia game.

New Arrivals

Aivah Rae LaRue

Aivah Rae LaRue was born to Kaitlyn Gillespie and Tony LaRue Jr. of WaKeeney on Jan. 16, 2012, at Hays Medical Center. She weighed 7 pounds, 4.5 ounces and measured 21 inches long.

Grandparents are Sonya Gillespie, Oberlin; Elton Gillespie Jr., Jennings; and Tony and Marlene LaRue, WaKeeney. Great-grandparents are Wallace Cox Jr. and the late Sharon Cox, Raymore, Mo.



Aivah LaRue

Carter Ronald Cornelius



Carter

Carter Ronald Cornelius was born Dec. 30, 2011, to Kaylee and Daniel Cornelius of Dickinson, N.D. He weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces and was 18 inches long. He has a brother, Elijah, to welcome him. Maternal grandparents are Kim Ware, Sturgis, S.D., and Brad Ware, Gettysburg, S.D. Maternal great-grandparents are Don and Kay Archer, Gettysburg, and Maralyn Courange, Oberlin, and the late Irvan Courange. Paternal great-grandparents are Dan Cornelius, Boise, Idaho, and Dawn Gerber, Rapid, City, S.D., and Ronald and Gloria Cornelius, Lemmon, S.D.

Valentine's Day weather forecast



Definitely a warming trend ... hot at times ... steady showers of kisses and hugs ...!



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