

Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

Dave and Judy Ketterl, Herndon, and Aaron, Sarah, Gideon and Isaiah White of Norton enjoyed Christmas dinner at the home of Adam and Angela Ketterl in Atwood.

Christmas Day celebration was held at the Greg, Rita and Joe Marintzer home. Those attending were Justin and Lori Marintzer, Isaac Marintzer and Betheny Chartier all from Herndon; Jacob, Tara, Kade and Phoebe Marintzer of Westmoreland, and Abe, Alex, Addisyn and Amilee of Neosho Rapids.

Dean, Deb, Marcus and Neil Porschky spent Christmas Day in Stockton with family at the home of Scot and Denise Murchie. Presents, games and lots of food were enjoyed by 22 family members attending.

Guests of Carol Kompus of Oberlin have been Lauri and J.L. Fox and Chris, Kenny and Alex Hosaka. They were all dinner Christmas guests of Stephani, Brian and Adrian Hawkins of Oberlin. Joining them for dinner were Doug Bobinmyer of Herndon; Kathy Brainard and Elmer and Lynetta Ward of Oberlin. Lauri and J.L. returned home Christmas afternoon but the Hosakas will visit until Jan. 3.

Out-of-town visitors at the home of Richard and Theresa Rippe on Saturday before Christmas were Ron and Debi Rippe from Tyler, Texas, and their friend Deb Klaus of Hays. On Christmas day Richard and Theresa enjoyed dinner with Gary and Pat Sloan in Colby. Others attending were Tim and Wyatt Rippe and Lindsey Meixner of Lincoln, Neb., Brenda and Aaron Schilde and Addison of Minneola, Rodney and Katelyn Rippe of Hays, and Norma and Roger Cichorz of Boulder, Colo. Wednesday evening Kevin and Megan Rippe, Lilly, Michaela, Allison, Kimberly, and Connor joined all of the family and celebrated Christmas at the home of Richard and Theresa.

The Beims family celebrated Christmas twice this year. Jenni-

fer, Justin and Mason Davis, and Jeff, Leslie, Payton and Reagan Beims enjoyed dinner and their gift exchange at Ron and Peach's home on Dec. 22 before the Davises headed to Iowa. Mark "Fred", Alisha, Connor and Caden joined them that evening. Ron and Fred took a side trip to Denver for the Bronco game on Sunday, as they prepared for Christmas dinner. They all attended Christmas Eve mass in Atwood, enjoyed Alisha's delicious potato soup, played games and waited for Santa to visit. Scott Beims, Bobi and Juan Robles, and Gary Worthy joined them for late afternoon Christmas dinner. Due to the weather Kaye O'Brien was unable to attend. **Looking Back on 2012**

January: Herndon welcomes Paul and Joyce Gibson to Herndon. The Gibsons, their two cats and four dogs moved from Denver.

February: Herndon native inducted into Hall of Honor: Rear Admiral Daniel Wolkenstorfer, was a 1950 Herndon High graduate, retired in 1991 as a rear admiral, having spent 35 years in antisubmarine warfare planning.

March: St. Mary's Catholic Youth Organization group served the annual St. Patrick's Brunch on March 11.

April: The City of Herndon was host to animal vaccinations on April 21 at Herndon City Hall. Drs. Aaron and Sarah White gave the vaccinations.

May: The 93rd Herndon Alumni Potluck Banquet was held May 26, at St. Mary's Hall with President Bill Adams of Colby welcoming the honor classes, members and guests.

June: Colette Pettera Kramer, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, was named Postmaster of the Year for the State of Idaho. Colette is the daughter of Les and Myrna Pettera, Loveland, Colo., and a granddaughter of the late Edie Pettera of Herndon.

July: Congratulations to Kendra

Solko, Kearney, who was accepted into the Doctorate Program for Occupational Therapy at Creighton University in Omaha. Kendra is the daughter of Pat Solko of Herndon and the late Joy Solko of Kearney, Neb.

August: Herndon news was boring this month. All attention was given to Prince Harry and his visit to Las Vegas.

September: The Eugene Wurm Memorial bench has been completed in the Herndon Pride Park.

October: Herndon and Achilles Fire Department fundraiser a success. Enough money was raised from the chili soup and hamburger feed to pay for the new radios for all the volunteers.

November: Large numbers of hunters, Rawlins County residents and visitors enjoyed the plentiful food at the annual St. Mary's Fall Festival in Herndon.

December: Herndon received its first widespread snowstorm of the season. Five to six inches of nice moisture accumulated on Wednesday, making travel dangerous for Thursday. The world did not end on the 21st so be sure to send your news to Scoop-Dog in the New Year.

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

A wedding reception for Igor and Greta Perel was held at the home of Joanne Wendelin Dec. 22. Greta and Igor were married in Overland Park on Oct. 27. Greta is the daughter of Joanne Wendelin and the late Norman Wendelin. Local friends and relatives in attendance included Ladd Wendelin, Rory Wendelin, Sid and Cheryl Metcalf, Teresa Shaughnessy, Craig and Karen Larson, Karol Styles, Belinda Larson, Brad Larson, Kathy Almqvist, Wayne Larson, Tiffany Palmer, and Bruce Wendelin. Out-of-town visitors included Jeff and Jan Jenkins, Boulder, Colo.; Cheryl Timm and Brenda Peterson, Atwood; Eddie Rockenfield, Cambridge, Neb.; Andrew and Jennifer Swenson, Seward, Neb.; Ryan and Leslie Nelson, Topeka; Kelly Olson, Junction City; Jeff and Kim Wickersham, Calvin and Cason, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Darrell and Natalie Mickey, McCook; Lonnie Weyeneth, Danbury; Anthony Marshall, Wichita; Bryan Richards, Denver; and Heather Wilson, Lindsborg. The reception featured a special performance of Ladd's short play, "Kong", which included performances by Michael Booton and Spencer Wolfe, both of Lincoln, Neb.

Ralph and Norma Unger; Bob and Rachelle Gorrell, Connor and Logan, Bland, Mo.; and Drew, Ty,

and Brock Zweygardt of St. Francis met Dec. 21, at the home of Butch and Colleen Rittmann, Christian and Rielly, Shawnee, to celebrate their family Christmas. While there, they also enjoyed watching the Kansas State University/Florida basketball game. Everyone returned home on Sunday except for Ralph and Norma who returned home Christmas Day.

Roger and Susan (Schaffer) May, Ryan and Erin; Steve and Lauren Schaffer and Kate, Lone Tree, Colo.; and Bob and Amy Schaffer and family, Phoenix, Ariz., spent Dec. 21-22, with their parents, Gerald and Darlene Schaffer of Hoxie, celebrating their family Christmas.

Casey and Jennifer (Shaw) Harshman and Isaac, Cedar Point, arrived Sunday to spend a few days with her parents, Richard and Anna Shaw, and celebrate their family Christmas.

Ralph and Violet Shaw, Alfreda Seeber, Richard and Anna Shaw, Casey and Jennifer Harshman and Isaac, and Joel and Tami Shaw and Dante were Christmas Eve guests of the Steve Nelson family.

Joanne Wendelin, Rory Wendelin, Ladd Wendelin, Igor and Greta Perel, Wayne Larson, Monica Larson and Adam Steinmetz, Carl Larson, and Jeff and Kim Wicker-

sham, Calvin and Cason, enjoyed a Christmas Eve party at the home of Craig and Karen Larson.

Christmas Day dinner guests of Ralph and Violet Shaw were Alfreda Seeber, Richard and Anna Shaw, and Casey and Jennifer Harshman and Isaac. Joel and Tami Shaw and Dante were unable to attend since they were Christmas Day dinner guests of her parents, Norman and Julie Gallentine.

Ladd Wendelin, Lincoln, Neb.; Igor and Greta Perel, Overland Park; and Wayne Larson were Christmas Day dinner guests of Joanne Wendelin and Rory.

Christmas Day dinner guests of Craig and Karen Larson were her parents and daughter and family, Zane and Gladys Geis, and Jeff and Kim Wickersham, Calvin and Cason.

Kristen Bremer and Rowan, Colby, and Jessica Bremer and Justin Zodrow enjoyed Christmas Eve dinner at the home of John and Dianne Bremer.



Values start at home

On the Sunday, after the Friday massacre, as President Obama spoke to the families of the terrible tragedy in Newtown, Conn., he reminded us that, "This is our first task," as he spoke of the task all parents have and the great responsibility we bear to have the wonderful privilege of parenthood.

I, like many of you, am angry about the world that has been created by all of us, for our children to inherit. It is a very violent and self-serving, permissive world which is foreign to all of us who grew up in the 1950s and '60s, yet we all have been part of the problem, rather than the solution, as we politically sought to feed our own selfish ambitions and quest of materialism. When did it get OK in the name of free enterprise, for kids to buy and watch and play violent and sexually abusive games, that research has shown destructive to the conscience and compassion of those who play them?

When did it become OK not to listen to the concerns and advice from teachers when they see a problem in a child's behavior? How long has it been since you popped into the school to visit classrooms and have seen the rude behavior toward teachers and authority by children in the classroom? Did you perhaps go to the school to explain or defend your own child's behavior, when you should have stood with the school and their efforts to help?

When did it become OK for many of America's Vets to return so mentally compromised and find no real help, and end up on the streets as homeless. There is a statistic that tells us that 40 percent of the homeless in this great nation are military vets. Where is their help. The other 60 percent is made up of many who are profoundly mentally ill and in need of treatment. Are they getting it? Families give up in desperation because to get an adult into mental health care is nearly impossible unless they commit a crime like happened in Newtown. That's ridiculous isn't it? That began in the 1980s as a cost-saving effort, to save tax money. Has it been worth it? Ask the victims of violent crime that question.

I spent weeks, before school was dismissed in May, teaching in a school that suffered greatly from the bombing in Oklahoma City. Our school was very close to the Murrah Federal Building that was put down by a very disturbed man, using a common farm product, dry fertilizer and a mix of chemicals. It is readily available and of course, never banned. That

would have been stupid.

You see, the problem is not guns, ammo, explosives or any other form of destruction. The problem is that we have become a nation of selfish, self-serving adults who have left our children to fend for themselves. We have lost our way.

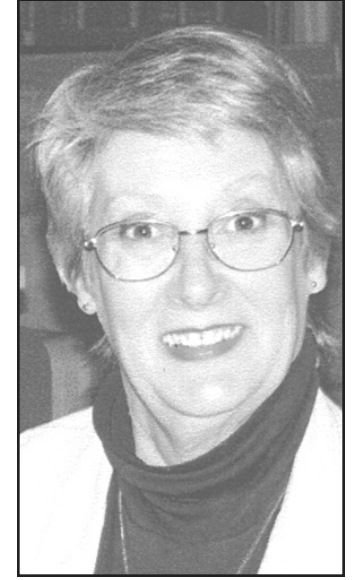
In all of the interviews about the shooter at Newtown, no one said, "He attended church on Sunday, he was always at Sunday School." There is a compassion, a wonderful sense of self that comes from Christian teaching. Not from denominational selfishness, not from doctrine, but from the love and support that Christian education offers for families. Yet, we cannot offer it when families are not in church, children are not in Sunday School.

If we really want to make changes, so that these terrible situations don't continue to happen, then we need to start REALLY caring for our children. Ease out of the video game violence and movie violence. Start teaching individual responsibility to children, so that they learn to accept the consequences for their actions, not be defended when they are clearly wrong. We need to start supporting our schools, and help them cut out all the great activity, that is trying to fill the bill for parents that are absent in children's lives. Sports are wonderful, they help build healthy people, but they cannot be substitute parents, and that is what they are right now. Think about it a minute, and I think you will agree.

Children learn by example. What kind of nasty fight did they see during the last election? We tell them not to bully by fist or by talk, and we give them the example that it is OK to do that as adults. It's not ever OK.

Let's get back to basics. Let's get back to family. There can be no "family values" if values are not taught around the table, TV off for an hour or so, no video games, and activities cut so that parents can spend time teaching their children, helping with homework, discussing their day.

Let's stop the frenzy of our lives. Let's return to church on Sunday, actually take the hour to go out and worship. You don't need to dress to the nines, just come and worship and spend time with people who want to support you, to help with your children. Come back to the manger this year, and have a very blessed holiday with family around the table.



Pastor Judith Stricker
United Church of Oberlin

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Christmas dinner guests on Dec. 23, at the home of Andy Hanson were Elizabeth Horney, Wichita; Christina Thompson, April Mul, Ava and Shane, and Scott Brown, Colby; and Brian and Jacque Hanson, Eddie, Gus, Raleigh, Katherine and Andy, Atwood.

Dinner guests of Jack and Mary Gutchewsky on Dec. 22, were Kendal and Tammy Neal, Katrina and Jimmy, Oberlin; Brian and Krista Gutchewsky, Gavin, Jena and Julian, Kearney, Neb.; and Sarah Uerling, Addy and Hayden, McCook.

Those who had Christmas dinner with Eulaine Benda at her home were Losson and Leanne Pike, Ashland; Gerald and Patti Benda, Ludell; Daryl and Shirley Maresch, Nathan, Jenna and Tim, Nekoma; Bev Messerly, Paul and Anna, Sublette; Mark and Barbara Olson and Spencer Rose, Hoxie; Mary Olson, Colby; Kurt Olson, Glendale, Ariz.; and Rachelle Scott, Hays.

Elden and Detta Anderson were hosts for Christmas Eve supper. Guests were Richard, Maureen, Samantha, Chris, and Gabe Anderson, and Gary Anderson, Oberlin, and Zach Hartwell, Norton. They all enjoyed the family tradition of "Aunt Wilma's Hawaiian Chicken."

Christmas supper guests of Keith and Mary Lou Olson on Wednes-

day were Rex Olson and Abbie, Boulder, Colo.; Seth Olson, San Francisco; Sam Olson, Greeley, Colo.; Sarah Shukert, Denver; Mark and Barbara Olson, Spencer Rose, Hoxie; Mary Olson, Colby; Kurt Olson, Glendale, Ariz.; Rachelle Scott, Hays; James and Kimberly Witt, Ashley and Whitney, and Tyler and Tiffany Witt, Trevor and Tessa, Oberlin; and Chris and Keely Wilson, Julie, Harmony, Derek, Noah and Luke, Minden, Neb.

Christmas Day guests of the Richard Anderson kingdom were Elden and Detta Anderson and Gary Anderson. Invited guests for some holiday cheer with the Richard Anderson family on Thursday were Steve and Arian Arnold of rural Herndon, Mike and Nione Rhodin of Loveland Colo.; and Galen and Lynn (Chase) Olson, Oberlin.

Saturday dinner guests of Dick and Donna Kelley were Kirk Kelley, Davenport, Iowa; Sheldon and Brenda Kelley, Kendra and Jessica, Frederick, Colo.; Nathan, Payton and Mason Kelley and friend Mandi, and Seth, Chelsey and Brody Kelley, Topeka; Halley Roberson, Dallas; and Jan Hackney, Herndon.

Christmas weekend guests of the Richard Anderson family to enjoy a belated Christmas were Nick, Stephanie, Bryan, and Cole Anderson of Lawrence.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Twinkling lights, snowmen, and Santas greeted Book Club members on Dec. 18 at the home of Sue Long. The book "Cold and Sassy Tree" by Olive Ann Burns was discussed by Ruth Chance, Patty Foster, Violet Foster, Pat Hall, Terri Hanke, Lila Jennings, Charla Matkimer, Joan McKenna, Shelley McKenna, Lynn Tacha, and the hostess.

Playing cards Wednesday at the Sunflower Senior Center were Diane Carter, Eleanor Morel, Carla Latimer, Ramona Shaw, Scott Taylor, Wayne and Louise Cressler.

Danny and Cindy Black and Bowen, Carlsbad, N. M.; Brandon Wagoner and Noah, Granby, Mo.; Kevin and Colleen Wagoner, Sharon Springs; Jeff and Mary Wahlmeier, rural Clayton, were last weekend guests at the home of Stan and Ramona Shaw.

Family at the Tom Votapka farm were Mary Votapka, Cedar Living Center, Oberlin; Lori Schiefen and

Katlyn, Overland Park; Rex and Ann Rowh, Jodi Inguanza, Meagan and Christopher, Cimarron; Rollie and Jean Hallagin, Goodland; Josh and Michele Ivans, Brooklyon and Alianna, Spring Hill; Jason Rowh, Drake and Brecken, Sue Long, Tom Votapka and Terri Hanke, Jennings.

Lori Schiefen and Katlyn, Overland Park, spent Christmas weekend at the home of Sue Long.

Darlene and Martin LaRue enjoyed having Troy and Ann LaRue, Fulton, Mo.; Jessica and Chris Jaeger, and Emerson; and Jared LaRue, Nashville, Tenn., visit several days during the Christmas week. Darlene and Martin especially enjoyed seeing their five-month-old great-grandchild, Emerson.

Visiting Wayne and Louise Cressler Christmas Day were their son, Russell Cressler, Bison, and Mary Kinser, rural Jennings.

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, LEOVILLE
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 8 a.m., Sunday.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, SELDEN
Fr. Mark Berland,
MASS: 5:30 p.m. Sunday

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. Nancy Proffitt
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.

OBERLIN UNITED METHODIST 102 North Cass — 785-475-3067
The Rev. Nancy Proffitt
SUNDAY: Church School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m. (Nursery provided.) WEDNESDAY: Praise team practice, 8 p.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.

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.,

CLAYTON UNITED METHODIST
Pastor: Ed Woods
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.

OBERLIN CHURCH OF CHRIST South Beaver Street - Oberlin
Bill Duncan — Phone 785-475-3259
SUNDAY: Fellowship and coffee time; 10:00 a.m. Praise and Worship time, with Weekly Lords Supper, Multi-media Bible sermons & open bible studies combined. Private Bible studies on request.

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 Roy Matthewson
10 miles south, 4 miles west of Oberlin.
Sunday: Sunday School 10am Worship 11 am "The Difference is worth the Distance" facebook.com/LundCovenantChurch

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 North Wilson
Interim Pastor: Brad Rick
SUNDAY: Sunday School and Bible class, 9:45 a.m.; Divine Worship Service, 8:30 a.m.; Holy Communion: 1st and 3rd Sundays.

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