

Norcatatur News

By the Norcatatur News Committee

The community extends sympathy to the family of Ruby (Chambers) Strayer, 92 of Norton, who died on March 9.

The results of the pool tournament held at the Cardinal Bar & Grill Wed, March 9, Winners were first Stan Miller, second Don Relaford, third Les Ward.

Beth Sebaugh and Dorothy Ward accompanied Bee Nelson to Norton to eat dinner at the Legion in Norton after church on Sunday.

There will be a soup supper at the Clayton Community Center from 6 to 8 p.m. on Saturday to help Diedre Kramer with expenses for a trip to Europe this summer. Diedre was recommended by her high school band instructor to participate in this tour and perform with other students from the Midwest area in several cities in Europe. There will be a free will donation and also items for sale that Diedre has made to raise money

for her trip.

Wava Reames hosted an early Irish dinner Saturday. She prepared corned beef and cabbage for her guests Frank Ward, Dorothy Ward, and Bee Nelson. Dorothy brought a vegetable and cheese dish and Bee brought apple pie and ice cream.

Wava's grandchildren may come up for their spring break if Shawnda gets over strep throat.

Happy Birthday to Marilou Long, March 16; Venessa Wentz, Bob Sawdon, March 17; Michael Selmayer, March 18.; Norma McCallister, Dorothy Ward, March 20, and Kelsey Gallentine March 21.

Jeff Magers and Joy Luoto, Cedar Bluffs, had dinner with Rea and Dee on Sunday, then enjoyed playing Scrabble.

Election is coming up. Mark your calendars for Tuesday April, 5. Polls are open from 7 a.m - 7 p.m. and are located in the Norcatatur City Office.

Incumbents whose names will be on the ballot are Wava Reames, Jerry Hill and Jim Plotts. If you are unable to make it to election you may take advantage of Advanced Ballots. Call the County Clerk's office at 475-8102 to request an Advance Ballot. You must request these no later than April 4. If you think you might not be able to come vote, call NOW to get a ballot mailed to you! The sooner the better! You all have opinions on how things should be in our town, let your voice be heard and vote for the Council person of your choice. You must be a registered voter to vote.

Bee Nelson accompanied Dorothy Ward to Oberlin on Thursday, March 10. They attended the Foot Clinic, Beauty Shop and then were joined by Beth Sebaugh for the chicken noodle benefit dinner at the Masonic Hall.

Vanilla enhances taste of foods

Vanilla ice cream, sugar cookies, vanilla icing, the list goes on and on. But that's just in desserts! How about vanilla in savory dishes such as meats and soups?

Vanilla has a sweetness that comes from the natural vanillin in vanilla beans. This makes up a tiny fraction of the over 300 flavors compounds within the bean. As a flavor enhancer, vanilla helps intensify other flavors. Examples would be intensifying coffee, nuts or fruit flavors. Citrus fruits will have a creamier taste.

In soups such as pumpkin, butternut squash or cauliflower, vanilla enhances their flavor. Add a couple drops to tomato soup and the acidic bite is mellowed to provide a smooth flavor.

Add vanilla to vinaigrette dressings to boost the flavor of cucumbers, tomatoes and bell peppers. Tahitian vanilla works well for cold salads. For meats, add vanilla to sauces such as barbecue sauce or marinades. For example, vanilla



Home Time

By Tranda Watts
Regional Extension Agent

helps Mexican mole sauces have a flavorful kick. When root beer is used in a ham glaze, it has vanilla in it to increase the flavor.

Don't forget seafood! Add to citrus sauces or a traditional beurre blanc sauce. The vanilla in citrus sauce reduces the acid taste for a smooth favor. Another way to season and add flavor is to season with vinegar - especially if you are looking for an alternative to seasoning with salt. Try a dash of vinegar.

Vinegar works like salt by masking bitter flavors. This competes with the perception of bitterness and helps to bring out other tasty flavors. Try vinegar in a variety of recipes

such as soups, stews, sauces, meat dishes and many others. Use a flavor that matches the other ingredients in the recipe. It only takes a dash, or 1/8 teaspoon, to replace the need for salt and reducing added sodium in your diet.

Questions? Contact your local K-State Research and Extension Office. 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 twatts@ksu.edu. For more information, contact the county extension office, 475-8121.

Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

Marty Rohm of Arvada, Colo., spent the weekend at the home of Kent and Chris Wood. Alan Hartner was a guest of Michelle Hartner. They were here to attend the funeral of Pooch Portschy.

Herndon was treated to a nice surprise Wednesday. Richard Drath, great-grandson of Johann Frederick Drath visited with Bob and Julie Hafner and stopped in a few local businesses. Richard, who lives in Sparks, Nev., was visiting relatives in Colorado and decided to jump in the car and visit local cemeteries and add to his family's Herndon history.

For those not familiar with the name, John Frederick constructed the first flour mill in Herndon on the creek, then a son, Robert Drath took over the mill and built the Beaver Valley Roller Mill. After selling that business, Robert became president of the State Bank of Herndon and when that closed, he became president of the First State Bank. Richard's grandfather, Julian William moved to Lincoln, Neb., in 1920 and then to California where he used his blacksmith trade and carpentry. He worked for the Heb Auto Industry, Auto Tech Program, using his skills. Julian was a champion chess player and was known to close the blacksmith shop for a good chess game. Richard is retired from the American Cancer Society.

This was Richard's second visit to Herndon and he is welcome back anytime sharing the history of his prominent pioneer family.

Joe and Shannon Hafner and family, Scottsbluff, Neb.; Jason Hafner and Raquel Frerichs, Lexington, Neb.; Marlene Cook, Littleton, Colo.; and Janice Sattler, Atwood, were visitors of Bob and Julie Hafner Saturday afternoon. They attended the funeral of Pooch Portschy Saturday morning.

Once again, the Irish Steppers performed in front of the Herndon Pool Hall in honor of St. Patrick's Day. There is no mention of a winner but a contest will be held again next year. All Irish eyes were smiling at the annual pool hall St. Patty's party and parade.

Les and Myrna Pettera, Loveland, Colo.; Janice Sattler, Atwood; Marlene Cook, Littleton, Co and Bob and Julie Hafner attended the 100th birthday celebration of their great-aunt, Hattie Toth in Atwood Sunday afternoon. Sunday evening they enjoyed pizza at Roger's Bar and Grill.

Weekend guests of Don and Joan Grafel were Keith, Roma, Teryn and Sager Grafel of Council Grove. Other guests for pizza Sunday evening were Kyle, Cindi, Sarah and Rachel Grafel of Herndon; Kent Grafel of Culbertson, Neb.; Rusty Grafel of Colby and Chelsey Myers of Hays, Kan.

Julie's Memory Joggers
1937 Beavers' Tale Yearbook
Courtesy of the late Chauncey Hafner
Staff of "The Beaver's Tale" at

Herndon High School included: Louise A. Leitner, Editor-in-Chief; Roberta Nemeth, Assistant Editor; Chauncey Hafner, Production Manager; Ruth Brecht, Sports Editor; James Trotter, Business Manager; Sam Brecht, Art Editor; Mildred Thiringer, Organizations; Evelyn Berger, Alumni; Hazel D. Slocum, Sponsor.

Shirley Maresch, Jenna and Tim of Nekoma visited over the weekend with her mother, Eulaine Benda, and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Kennedy of Akron, Ohio, were weekend guests of her son and family, Pastor Keith and Sandy Reuther.

The board of the Herndon Covenant Church will meet following morning worship services on Sunday for a sack lunch and meeting.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

enant Church will meet following morning worship services on Sunday for a sack lunch and meeting.



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"The Easter Vigil: The Third Story" Rev. Charlotte Strecker-Baseler, Faith Lutheran Church

This month my meditations are focused on the stories from The Easter Vigil worship service. The early Christians gathered together the night before Easter in hopeful expectation of the celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Stories recalling the powerful deeds of God were read. These past two weeks The Creation Story and The Flood were shared. Today the third story of The Testing of Abraham is told from Genesis 22:1-18.

This powerful story shows the great willingness of Abraham to follow God's direction. This story should be seen in the context of a test. Today in our lives, we don't like to be tested, especially a test of our faith. We live in the most comfortable age that humanity has ever lived. We have so many conveniences at our disposal, that we have become soft compared to the experiences of human beings of other times in history. Perhaps, that is why we do not like to be tested. We want things to go smoothly and our way is the smooth way in life. For Abraham it was not that way. After the initial promise from God to Abraham in Genesis 12, he and Sarah had to wait decades before God blessed them with their first son, Isaac. Abraham must have thought, "And, now God wants me to do what to my son!?" It would have certainly been a difficult task to take on, but Abraham is faithful to the test. He remains faithful to God.

Abraham bound Isaac to the altar to sacrifice in worship to God his only son. Abraham held the knife in the air ready to kill his son when he was stopped by the voice of an angel of the Lord from heaven saying,

"Abraham, Abraham! Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." We need to make the connection here that many years later God indeed does give God's only Son as a sacrifice for us. Jesus dies willing on the cross for you and me. For the early Church hearing this story at the very moment in history that Jesus lays in the tomb (Saturday evening before Easter) was a powerful connection from this story of Abraham and Isaac to the story of God sacrificing his Son, Jesus. May we be faithful in our tests of faith today as well.

How are we tested in our faith? We live in a very different context than Abraham. The time in which we live could not be more different than the days of Abraham and Sarah. We are tested by our hectic schedules which edge God out of our calendars. We need to make time to come and worship God, learn from God's Word, fellowship with God's people, pray together, sing together, and make time alone with God in our personal devotions as well. It is important to our spiritual well being. We are tested by our attitudes: cynicism has infected our spiritual climate. Material wealth makes it difficult to keep focused on God as number one. Health concerns, the economy, anxiety about radiation from Japan's nuclear reactors crippled by the earthquake and tsunami, wars, terrorist threats: the list is long as to what troubles us and makes life rough instead of smooth.

Yes, we are tested in many ways, and yet, the Testing of Abraham still rings true as the ultimate test of a father's willingness to give up his son. May we be



Lyle News

By Veda Wood

Yesterday was the day to set our clocks ahead. We hardly ever hear "Oh, goody, goody time change!" "I wish they'd leave the time alone!" I am more in the "Bah Humbug" group". (Oh no, it's the wrong time of year for that expression). This year the time change came at the same time as the first Sunday of Lent. It should remind us that spring will soon be here. One man in Wyoming told us that what he didn't like about spring was that it was so close to next winter. A few snowflakes were flying during the afternoon on Sunday, but no accumulation.

Charles and Inez Keller visited the Lyle church on Sunday and he served as pastor. We enjoy and appreciate them. We made a 'joyful noise' although some listeners may not have thought so. We missed Joyce and her piano playing.

Jim and Carolyn Plotts are helping build another house in Mexico.

They are very dedicated to their mission and I'm sure they are blessed by it, as the people are who get the house.

Rhonda Jolly had surgery on her neck March 8 and is wearing a collar. June said she is getting along all right, but it will take time to heal.

The earthquake and tsunami in Japan was terrible. Japan had been building strong anti-earthquake buildings for a long time, but they still had a lot of devastation. It is scary thinking it could be our turn at some time. Saturday, March 19, was National Quilting Day. Members of the Heritage Quilt Club are planning a special observance of the day. A variety of activities will be on-going from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Stitch Up A Storm in Norton.

Bee Nelson, Dorothy Ward and Frank Ward were Saturday noon guests of Wava Reames for corned beef and cabbage.

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Mollie Tate competed in the Nebraska State swim team meet in Hastings, Neb., on March 5, taking 12th place in every event she competed in. There were over 100 youth in her 9 and 10-year-old age group participating.

Emma Nickels, Oskaloosa, and her grandmother, Dorothy Moore, were Tuesday evening visitors of Martin and Evelyn May.

Delegates Elizabeth Nedland and Ryan May and chaperone, Rhonda May, attended the Kansas City 4-H Global Summit for Youth Wednesday through Saturday in Kansas City, Mo. The summit provided opportunities for the youth to explore careers, technology, environment, and cultural diversity in a global society. Through hands-on activities and interactive sessions, the youth were exposed to issues central

to their lives, families, and communities. Delegates from Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Arkansas were in attendance.

Ralph and Norma Unger traveled to Topeka where Ralph attended a Kansas Workers Risk Cooperative for Counties (KWORCC) meeting on Thursday. On Friday Ralph, one of seven board members across the State of Kansas, attended a Kansas District Lutheran Laymen's League Endowment meeting in Junction City.

Duane and Lois Unger, Colby, were Saturday afternoon callers at the home of Ralph and Norma Unger.

Tara Tate and Abigail, Hot Springs, Ark., were Sunday visitors and lunch guests of Jay and Becky Tate, Dakota, Mollie, and Grace.

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, LEVILLIE
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.

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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