

# Good Samaritan Center

By Lisa Paulson

When Dad Hoeger founded the Good Samaritan Society in 1922 he wrote, "I, of course, like to think that the whole Good Samaritan Society started in the heart of God, that it was His good will that His old people should have Christian care, and so He put into the hearts of men that they should go and do His good pleasure."

Some Good Sam residents were not even born yet, when he received this calling to care for them 90 years ago. Dad Hoeger has long gone to be with Lord, but the seed that God planted in his heart has continued to grow and bear great fruit. It is an awesome privilege for us who work here to be a small part of such a wonderful harvest.

The Good Sam in Decatur County has many long-time employees: Kyle Hertzog 29 years; Loretta McFee, 27 years; Don Farr and Penny Smith are close behind with 23 years. Fourteen more employees have been here for 10 or more.

The excitement of Homecoming crosses the generational line and finds its way into the hearts of the staff and residents. It is fun and amusing to hear stories of what happened on the football field. Talk

of past Homecoming Queens, who they were, and who they married etc. Then there is the excitement of great-grandchildren who are carrying on the traditions so long ago established.

Residents and staff crowded onto the front porch to watch the Homecoming Parade Friday. Walt and Betty May eagerly waited to spot their two great-grandsons, Zach and Ryan May. Lisa Davies was proud to watch her cheerleader daughter, Cerys, and the squad cheer for the crowd.

We had lots of other things happening this week, too. First graders came to find out who their Reading Pals will be and to leave their hand print behind. They were a well-behaved group of kids. We are anxious to have them start reading and watch them grow in both their skill and their stature.

We are happy to welcome Vivian Mock and Grace and James Schroer to our family.

The residents are already planning and looking forward to serving our community with the proceeds of our seventh annual Rock-A-Thon. We would love to hear from different service opportunities for the res-

idents to consider. Each year we try to match the concerns that have been voiced by the ladies during Bible Study. They then have the privilege of deciding how the money will be distributed. This is just one more way they can play an active role in ministry to others...and they take it very seriously. We will be announcing the date shortly.

Visitors this week included: Gerald and Connie Olson for **Evelyn Olson**. Elden and Deita Anderson, Donna Kelley for **Eva Bryan**. Royal and Gayle Tacha (Hoxie) for **Galen Tacha**. Max Carman for **Myrtle Waldo**. Marilyn Horn for **Myrtle Ross**. Marvin and Sharon Slabaugh and Laurene Van Otterloo for **Opal Bryan**. Mert McEvoy for **Lucy Schissler**. Cheryl Miller for **Loren Schrock**. Gerald Benda for **Eulaine Benda**. Eunice Martin for **Glenn Martin**. Jody Betts, Joy Russell, Pat Fringer and Reta Barratt for **Margaret Vacura**. Penny Fringer and Reva Marshall for **Dorothy Hunt**. Jerry Hill for **Cheryl Hill**. Susie Sabatka (Atwood) for **Vera Kacirek**. Gene Leitner for **Marcella Leitner**. Donna and Virgil Mock for **Vivian Mock**.

# Breakfast an important meal

Nutrition plays an important role in assuring your child has a successful school year. Many children do not eat breakfast every day; others grab a soda and high-fat, high sugar pastry — definitely not a "breakfast of champions" relative to cost or nutrition.

Studies have shown that those who eat a morning meal perform better in school; they have higher test scores, higher attendance, less tardiness, better concentration, and more muscle coordination.

Also, children who eat breakfast are less likely to be overweight.

If your child doesn't like traditional breakfast foods, don't worry — breakfast can be most any food, even a slice of pizza. If your child claims not to be hungry, offer 100 percent juice and toast. If the school has a midmorning snack time, pack healthy snacks like yogurt, cheese stick, or bagel. Remember to use an ice pack and insulated lunch bag to keep foods at a safe temperature.

As for lunch, school meal regulations are new this year and have improved the nutritional quality of lunch. School meals have always supplied one-third of a child's nutrition needs; however, tighter regulations mean lower fat and sodium limits and a greater variety of fruits and vegetables (including fresh). If you choose to pack your child's lunch, let your child help plan and prepare the lunch. Include meals that are easy to prepare and fun to eat as well as nutritious. A few examples are sandwiches, raw veggies, crackers, string cheese, whole fruit and yogurt.

If your child is one of the many youths who are now saying they are hungry shortly after eating the



## Home Time

By Tranda Watts  
Regional Extension Agent

school lunches, this may be a prime time for you to encourage your child to eat a substantial breakfast. Those saying they are hungry seem to be youths in junior and senior high. They may also be the toughest audience to sell when you are trying to get them to eat breakfast.

Parents are going to be asked to step up to the challenge of preparing a more substantial breakfast for their school children. Try to serve a breakfast from at least three of the major food groups. This may mean

even earlier starts to the morning for both parents and youths, but getting up early enough to eat a nutritious breakfast should pay big dividends.

Tranda Watts is 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 information, contact the Decatur County office of Twin Creeks Extension, 475-8121.

# Decatur Health Systems

By Becky Wilson

The atmosphere's bittersweet at Decatur Health this week, as this Friday will be the last day Sean Conroy, our physician's assistant, will be with us.

Sean has been with us for about a year and a half, and has been very popular with both patients and staff alike — particularly with fellow Nebraska fans. Sean, a McCook native, is known around the place as a big Cornhusker fan; his office was always filled to the brim with sports memorabilia.

He is moving to Hays to be closer to his fiancé, Shannon Purviance. Though he'll be living in Hays, he'll be working in LaCrosse starting Oct. 1, providing medical care to a semirural area rather like ours.

"The situations are similar," he said. "I just hope the people are as nice."

I don't think he'll have much to worry about there; Sean has the sort of personality that people can't help but respond to. He'll be missed around here, and LaCrosse should feel quite lucky to have him coming to their community.

The question of who will come here to help work at the Family Practice Clinic in Sean's stead is on people's minds. One of the new faces at Decatur Health is here precisely to help answer those questions.

Amy Anderson started work last week, taking on the roles of recruiter and fund raiser for the hospital. Amy moved here from Oklahoma City, where she'd lived and worked,

first with the Muscular Dystrophy Association for 20 years and then as director of operations at Integris Neuromuscular Center. Now she's bringing all that expertise back to her hometown. She's an Oberlin native, the daughter of Jay Anderson of Osborne, and a 1979 Decatur Community High graduate.

She's only been here a few days, but already she's impressed everyone with the enthusiasm and drive she's bringing to the efforts to put us back on a stable footing as far as having the health care providers that Oberlin needs. She's always looking for new leads, so feel free to give her a call if you know of someone who might be willing to relocate or who would need a placement following their schooling.

When new doctors and physician's assistants are found, that will have an effect on the bottom line here at Decatur Health, managing their salaries and the income that they bring. Overseeing all of those matters is the job of Derick Lorentz, our new finance manager.

Derick, like Amy, has local ties. He is a McCook native, and his wife, Amber, (formerly Reynolds) is from Oberlin. He attended Colby Community College and then received bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He comes to Decatur Health Systems after spending five years working in an accounting firm, and both he and Amber are excited to be back here, among so

many family members.

It's sometimes hard to go through changes, but we have to look at the good things that time has brought us as well. We're sad to see Sean go, but delighted that Amy and Derick have joined the team. All of their talents have been and will be important to Decatur Health.

# Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Cassidy Shields, daughter of Paul and Kelly Shields, and Cody Wurm, son of Kevin and Kayla Wurm, were crowned the 2012 Decatur Community High School Homecoming Queen and King during the Homecoming assembly Friday afternoon.

Their court included queen candidates Keatra Fisher, Mika Hackney, Cheyanne Soderlund and flower girl Makadyn Ketterl, ringbearer Grady Lohofener, and king candidates Ryan May, Zach May, Tyler Bruggeman, Matt Glading and Channing Fortin.

# Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Stan and Ramona Shaw enjoyed spending several days last week visiting at the home of Cindy and Danny Black, Logan and Bowen, Carlsbad, N.M.

Carla Latimer is home after having gall bladder surgery last week. She is doing well.

Playing cards at the Sunflower senior center on Wednesday were: Agnes Wahlmeier, Carol Carter, Eleanor Morel, Diane Carter, Scott Taylor, Stan and Ramona Shaw, Wayne and Louise Cressler.

Bob Tacha observed his 91st birthday on Sept. 13. Bob and Neoma celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary this month also.

There has been a lot of activities

going on in Jennings the past two weeks. Remodeling continues at the home of Terri Hanke. Robert Papps is doing the work.

Several houses have been demolished and hauled away. Leroy Sprenger was doing this work. Though we don't like to see the houses gone, the cleaned up lots look very nice.

Men from the Norton Correctional Facility worked in Jennings cleaning curbs. Thanks, guys for your good work.

Fall is such a beautiful time of the year. The leaves on the trees west of town are changing to oranges and yellows. Still no rain for this part of the country.

# Can we sharpen God? Roy Matthewson, Lund Covenant Church

Two weeks ago, I introduced a question based upon Proverbs 27:17, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." As I explained, when people interact with one another, they have an impact upon each other. They sharpen each other. The Christian faith says that when we become followers of Christ, we enter into a relationship with Jesus. While we recognize that Jesus sharpens us as we relate to Him, my question was whether we sharpen Him in any way?

Last week I explored the metaphor of sharpening to see if that might give us some insight. While a blade definitely changes when a stone or file passes across it, the file also changes. Eventually the file will wear out and need to be replaced, just as a knife eventually wears out. And I also pointed out that throughout history, God has found it necessary to reprimand and rebuke people who have worn Him out.

And throughout the articles I have maintained that God is unchanging in His good nature. That means that He might change his mind and not bring judgment like He planned to do. If sinful and guilty people repent and seek forgiveness, since God is merciful, he might extend mercy. So with all of this as foundation we return to the original question — Does our relationship with God the Father, through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit sharpen Him?

The notion of sharpening as expressed in the proverb indicates that those interacting with each other are refining one another. Sharpening removes impurities and imperfections. Two blades rubbing against each other make both more capable and perfect. We maintain that God is perfect in His essence. To be perfect is to be complete, whole and lacking nothing. As such we believe God lacks nothing.

Since God is perfect, lacking nothing, no amount of interactions with Him will make Him more perfect. He will not become more complete because of how you or I influence Him. What makes the notion that I cannot sharpen Christ unsatisfying is my own vanity. I want to believe that I am important enough, intelligent enough, strong enough or etc. that God needs me. But perfection needs nothing.

We believe God's perfection also includes omniscience — knowing everything — including what we think and how we will act. It seems therefore that since God knows all, He does not need to respond to us at all. After all, He knows what we are going to do. And yet, since God continues to be actively involved in the world and does respond to our prayers, we know that He must change. If God could not change, then He could not respond to us. And God does respond.

There has never been another person just like you or me. There may be people who had similar looks, walk, voice, or etc., but no one has ever thought just like you do or felt like you do. For God to interact and relate to you, He must be able to respond to you as you are. And this relationship with each and every one of us is what God wants. It is why God created us, why Christ went to the cross and rose again, and why the Holy Spirit comes to comfort and empower us to growth and change.

God's desire is to be in relationship with each individual. God's perfection does not mean that He needs us in order to become complete, refined, or sharpened. He created the world out of His abundance of joy and love. It is for this reason, out of a desire to love others, that He seeks us out. He is looking for you and me.

# Schedule of Oberlin and area church services:

**OBERLIN SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
785-475-3103  
Fr. Mark Berland,  
MASS: 5:30 p.m. Saturday

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC, LEVILLE**  
Fr. Mark Berland,  
MASS: 8 a.m., Sunday.

**SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, SELDEN**  
Fr. Mark Berland,  
MASS: 10:00 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. (Nurse 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 208 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.

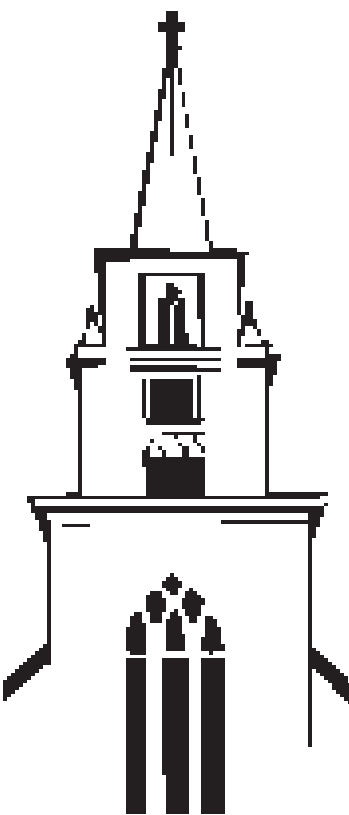
**LYLE UNITED METHODIST**  
Guest Speakers every Sunday  
SUNDAY: Morning Worship 9 a.m.

**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..

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
404 North York Avenue  
Oberlin, Kansas  
The Rev. Charlotte Strecker-Baseler  
Church Office Phone: 785-475-2053  
SUNDAY: Worship, 10:00 a.m.; Fellowship and Educational Hour, 11:15 a.m. Holy Communion first and third Sundays. THURSDAY: Women's Bible Study second Thursday at 9:30 a.m.



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