

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

100 YEARS AGO — March 1903
Monday at 10 a.m. Judge Geiger convened court, and took his seat with rather more than his accustomed cheerfulness. It is not often that a Populist judge has the satisfaction of having his seat affirmed by a Republican senate. In the case of State of Kansas vs. W. L. Comer the following jury was empaneled: C. E. Carper, Preston Enes, W. H. Harold, Frank Lytle, John Herzog Jr., Frank Guy, E. E. VanGundy, P. P. Moler, J. J. Birky, K. J. Vickers, J. N. Steichen, S. T. Hagan.

Henry Clear of Cook Township came down on Tuesday to prove up on his school land. In a residence of over 25 year he had never come to Oberlin when the roads were as bad. For several miles after he left home the snow was about 15 inches deep and not a track made.

It is claimed that the man Dewey of Rawlins County has 70 hands skinning dead cattle all the time.

The Sappa River has been higher than we ever knew it to be this time of year, in the 19 years, we have lived near its banks.

Most people claim that the winter wheat is looking fine. It certainly ought to be all right for it has had a covering of snow all winter.

Lew Wentz has moved back on the old farm near Norcatatur and will now likely stay there.

75 YEARS AGO — March 1928

This issue of *The Oberlin Herald* carried a short sketch of some of the hotel buildings which have served Oberlin in the past in keeping with the opening this week of the Hotel Stapleton.

Saturday Coach Riley and Capt. Veeh Reeves were proudly displaying the trophy given Decatur as the champion basketball team of the Northwest Kansas League for 1928. The trophy has been placed this week in the Addleman Drug Store window, alongside the wrestling championship trophy which the Decatur Community High School wrestling team brought back from Hays a week ago.

Both Norton and Oberlin had eight wins and one loss prior to the championship game and the doctor had told Coach Riley that Capt. Veeh Reeves could play only a short time, Lee Reeves not at all and Joe Goodrich only a part of the game but the substitutes put in their places and Francis and Gill played valiantly. With the score tied at 20-20 just a minute before the end of the game, Veeh Reeves was sent in and acquiring the ball back of center threw a perfect goal. Goodrich contributed another goal to give Decatur a 4-point lead which was well as a Decatur man fouled as the game ended and although fans from both teams poured across the court as he shot, the Norton player made both throws leaving the score at 24-22.

Sappa Valley: Last Sunday on returning home from church, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Cathcart found that some of their neighbors and friends had arrived before they did and brought plenty of good things to eat in honor of Mrs. Cathcart's birthday which was March 2. She was presented with a nice fruit dish and casserole.

Custer: There has been no school for several days owing to the illness of the teacher, Miss Fern Frickey.

Cedar Bluffs: We have only had one case of truancy in our school this year.

An aeroplane flying over Oberlin a little after ten o'clock Tuesday night disturbed the slumbers of some of our citizens.

Jennings: Forrest Jennings sold his barber shop in Clayton last week to Walkey & Bainter of Dresden.

50 YEARS AGO — March 1953

A "million-dollar snow" blanketed the state bringing much needed moisture to this area which had received no beneficial moisture since August. All farmers agree that the 1953 wheat crop has suffered damage but it is too early to determine to what extent.

Gary Coulter and Jack Metcalf, high school seniors, took first place

in the individual entries category of the Lions Club Talent Show with their superb performance as Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis. The boys split the \$10 prize.

The Red Devils closed out the league season Friday by triumphing over the Oakley Plainsmen 59-41 with Bobby Brown scoring 19 points. The team took third in the Northwest Kansas League with Colby and Goodland tying for first.

The state wrestling tournament held at Salina resulted in another state championship for St. Francis. David Brainard at 120 pounds was the only boy from Oberlin to place as he took second in his division. Other boys going were Erickson, 154; Fortin, 165 and Marietta, 175.

Rexford: Funeral services were held at Rexford Community Church for Alvin Lunkenheimer, 50.

A basketball game between the Central Bankers and the Oberlin Aces will be played Saturday night at Decatur Community High School under the sponsorship of the Chamber of Commerce. The Central Bankers team is composed of former college players. The Oberlin Aces are Bob Lawson, Oberlin high school coach; Pete Dawson, Norcatatur basketball coach; Jack Hague, Gene Lindemann, Dean Coughenour, Lawrence Zodrow, Joe Brown, Leroy Alaska, Raye Brown and Ralph Shaw. Managers are Ray Adams and Elmer Zodrow.

Norcatatur: Mr. and Mrs. Norman Beachler are the parents of a daughter born Feb. 28 at the Norton hospital.

Hospital News: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Elling, a son, Rodney James, Feb. 26; Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Wolfram, Traer, a son, March 1.

Jesse Huff, who has been operating a welding shop and hardware store in Jennings for the past 10 years, is moving to Norton this week to open a shop and will be joined there by his son-in-law, Sandy Spires and wife Jean of Hoisington to be in partnership with him.

Hawkeye: Mr. and Mrs. Joel Nickols moved Sunday to their new home in Rexford.

25 YEARS AGO — March 1978

Monday was devoted to orientation of the local medical facilities, but Tuesday was business as usual as Dr. Robert Simpson put in a full day of work practicing in general medicine and surgery. Dr. Simpson is making his home at 412 N. Wilson and plans to find permanent living quarters when joined here in June by his wife, Nadine, and family.

Funeral services were held for a long-time Decatur County resident, Edna Mix Lotker who died at the age of 87. The daughter of Millard and Elizabeth Meade Mix, she graduated from Decatur County High School in 1910 and from Boston College in 1915 and was married to Floyd Lotker in 1918 in Kansas City, Mo.

New Arrival: Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Ketterl, Herndon, baby boy, 3-7-78.

Gary Fredrickson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Fredrickson, and a graduate student at Fort Hays State University, was among the members of the Fort Hays State Singers who presented a performance at the Decatur Community High School auditorium the evening of March 2. The group, directed by Dr. Donald Stout, is on tour and spent the night in Oberlin with the Fredrickson family and other friends and relatives.

Approximately 1,000 man hours were spent by Jerry Juenemann of Selden in restoring his 1929 Model A Tudor Sedan which was entered at the Goodland Early Iron Show last summer and received the Best Model A and Best Antique award and also the Best Model A prize from the Phillips County Rod and Custom show.

Construction of 17 new units of low-to-moderate income housing at Sappa Valley Manor should be under way by mid-month according to Mayor Lloyd Corcoran.

Norcatatur News

By the Norcatatur News Committee

The United Methodist Church will hold a pancake feed from 5-7 p.m. on Saturday at the Educational Building of the Norcatatur United Methodist Church. Everyone is welcome.

U.S. Congressman Jerry Moran spoke at the Cardinal Cafe II last Monday and answered questions from area residents.

Recent visitors of Rea and Dee Magers were Sonny Ruff, Logan; and Gary Anthony and Mike Helm. Mr. and Mrs. Magers attended the graveside services for Fay Ginther on Feb. 18 at the Oberlin Cemetery.

Lloyd and Sharon Staton of Salina spent last Tuesday and Wednesday with Francis and Arlene Hix.

Francis and Arlene Hix, and Veryl and Freida Van Der Wege went to Logan last Monday for graveside services for Lois Pearson. They also visited their aunt, Clara States, at the nursing home in Logan.

Bill Craig underwent surgery for a tumor on his jaw in Hays last

week. His son, Clayton, of Denver, took him to Hays.

Recent birthdays include: Juanita Eckhart, Feb. 24; Mike Helm, Feb. 25; David Hare, Andrea Marshall, Feb. 26; and Bill Nelson, Feb. 28. Gail and Denise Bailey observed their wedding anniversary on Feb. 23.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Clark of Greensburg and daughter, Anita of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, were recent visitors of Marguerite Clark. Oran and LaVerne Milner joined them for lunch at the cafe.

Tuesday evening visitors of Virgil and Joyce Price were John and Connie Prentice of Callmar, Canada, and John Lawton of Niton Junction, Canada. They were traveling with Bob Price of LaGrange, Ill., on a tour of feedlots in Colorado, Nebraska and Kansas.

Ralph and Evelyn Strayer of Atwood visited Oran and LaVerne Milner on Wednesday afternoon.

There were 18 present for Senior Citizens on Feb. 21. Winners were Kathy Van Meter, Virgil Price and

Dorothy Lawn. The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Friday.

There was excitement at the Norcatatur Post Office Friday morning when two hand-carved wooden giraffes arrived from South Africa for Von and Greg Sumner. The largest was over 6 feet tall and the small one, a foot or so shorter. They were sent to them from a friend in Africa who worked for the Sumners one summer. Von has a giraffe collection.

R.D. Thornton received word of the death of his aunt, Maudie Dupree, of Phillipsburg on Feb. 11. She was a sister of Hazel Thornton. Services were held on Feb. 15 in Phillipsburg.

Doug Dempewolf received word that Ted Day, a hunter/fisherman from Colorado, died on Feb. 18. He and his wife, Buddi, own the former Locy home. Cards will reach the family at 16215 Crestline Place, Aurora, Colo., 80015. Sympathy is extended to the family.

Congratulations to Chance Harman, Scott Harman and Lance Roe, who placed in the regional wres-

tling tournament to qualify for state at Hays.

Virgle Craig of Brighton, Colo., died on Feb. 6. He was a 1938 graduate of Norcatatur Rural High School.

Rea Magers underwent back surgery at Presbyterian/St. Luke's Hospital in Denver on Feb. 21. Bernard McCormack of Norton also had back surgery the same day. While at the hospital before surgery, they had a surprise meeting with Doris Faye Jackson. Her daughter-in-law had taken her to Denver for a doctor's appointment.

Bill Nelson has completed half of his radiation treatments.

Harold Curran underwent surgery in Kansas City on Feb. 21 and is staying with his brother, Delmer Curran, until he returns for a check-up. Mail will reach him, in care of Delmer Curran, at 405 Hillside, Abilene, Kan., 67410.

Kristi Gallentine was elected to the board of the Norcatatur Citizens Alliance at the annual board meeting held at The Bank on Feb. 20.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Congratulations to Joel and Sarah Uerling, who were married Saturday afternoon at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Herndon. A reception and dance followed at the Red Willow Community Building in McCook.

The bride is the former Sarah Gutchewsky, daughter of Jack and Mary Gutchewsky of this community, and the bridegroom's parents are Mark and Sherri Uerling, McCook. They will make their home at Rt. 3, Box 133, McCook, Neb., 69001.

Weekend guests at the Jack and Mary Gutchewsky home were Joe Gutchewsky and Jan Pollard, Omaha; Frank and Dee Gutchewsky, Juliet, Ill.; Brian Gutchewsky, and Krista Simonsson, Lawrence; Tammy Gutchewsky, Oberlin, and Danette Sellers and Amy Bell, Bogue.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Clara (Carlson) Swisher, 94, of Payson, Ariz., who died Friday. She was a native of this community and a daughter of the late Gustaf and Hulda (Hoaglund) Carlson. Fu-

neral services were held on Monday at the Payson Christian Church.

Survivors include four sons, Wayne Swisher, Badger, Minn.; Wallace Swisher, Sonoita, Ariz.; Ronald Swisher, Honaunu, Hawaii, and Stanley Swisher, Golden, Colo.; and a daughter, Jeanette Miller, Payson, Ariz., and their families.

She was a sister-in-law of Lois Carlson, and an aunt of Willard Noren, Roger Holmdahl, Elvera Wendelin, Edith Tate, Delta Anderson and Donna Kelley. Her husband, Cecil, and a daughter, Ruth, preceded her in death.

Covenant Women Ministries will be in charge of the morning worship services at 11 a.m. on Sunday at the Herndon Covenant Church. A potluck dinner will follow.

Congratulations to Mike and Sarah Thompson of Binghamton, N.Y., who are the parents of a son, Rory Mason, born Feb. 20, 2003. He weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces, and has a sister, Kelly, 3. Maternal grandparents are Roger and Melinda Carlson, and Dennis and Adda

Bell, Atwood. Maternal great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Tony Tucker, and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Bell, Atwood.

Verol and Rosemary Bergling received word on Saturday of the death of her brother-in-law, George Ashmore, of Brighton, Colo. His wife, Marge, and Mrs. Bergling are sisters.

Genevieve Henningsen was a Sunday dinner guest of Tony and Trish Henningsen.

Covenant Women Ministries

McGraw News

By Karl Launchbaugh

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Sines of McCook visited Mr. and Mrs. George Launchbaugh on Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Bainter and Ben were Saturday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gayle Bainter, and

spent the evening visiting with them.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Lewis attended state wrestling in Hays on Friday and Saturday. Jay placed fourth, and Jeffrey also participated with the Atwood team at the tournament.

Jennings News

By Sonya Gillespie

The Rock Island Rockets are sponsoring a food drive for the Decatur County Food Pantry. Items will be collected during the month of March at the Jennings United Methodist Church. The community is urged to help make the project a success by donating boxed or canned food items.

The second meeting for "Establishing the best practices at the Czech Memorial Museum" was held on Feb. 13 at the Royal Neighbors of America Hall. It was made possible by a grant from the Kansas Humanities Council.

Consultant Mary Douglass of Salina was lecturer and topics included how to list, catalog, identify and categorize items; also what to do with the items that have no information, known as "Orphans".

Those present were: Dean Gawith, Dresden; Jessie Davis, Lila Jennings, Jay Kump, Bob and Neoma Tacha, Twila Stieben, Jennings; Delores Stapp, Norton; Janet Bean, Oakley; Jack Benton, Connie Grafel, and Myrna Jones, Oberlin.

The final meeting will be held at 9 a.m. on Thursday, March 13, at the Royal Neighbors of America Hall. This will include more "hands on" learning. These meetings are open to the public and anyone who would like to attend is asked to contact Lila Jennings at (785) 678-2299 or Neoma Tacha, (785) 678-2470 by Wednesday, March 12.

An Academic Fair open house will be held from 3-6 p.m. on Thursday, March 13, at the Jennings School gym. Students in grades 7-12 will have projects on display. Everyone is invited.

Prairie Heights Teachers Association will hold a scholarship fundraiser from 5-6:30 p.m. followed by

White Elephant Bingo at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 28. Anyone wishing to contribute either cash for the scholarship fund or prizes for bingo are asked to contact Kathy Randolph at (785) 678-2414, or e-mail her at krandolph@usd295-12.ks.us.

Eight members of Heritage Associates met on Feb. 6 at the Royal Neighbors of America hall. President Neoma Tacha conducted the meeting and said she would contact a contractor about the walkway. She also gave a report on Seeds of Hope. She and Bob and Roger Tacha worked the phones for an hour each.

The Hays Daily News sent a representative to Jennings on Jan. 14 to interview and take pictures of the museum and Jan Ackerman made an appointment with Tye Yhane to photograph the items he has made. The case for the Norton Bomb Site, made from Plexiglas by Dean Gawith, was accepted.

The annual meeting of the Heritage Associates was held following the regular meeting on Feb. 6. Lila Jennings, Jay Kump, Bob Tacha and Steve Hirsch were elected for three-year terms. It was voted to change the dues to \$3.

Among things accomplished during the past year were: donated items of historical area; cemetery books, covers for newspapers, labels for the papers, the visitors bike-a-thon with some 250 people served lunch; sponsoring the Kansas Day program and annual meeting; laminating newspapers, purchasing the laminating machine; getting computers in order; the Norton Bomb Site, the Kansas Humanities Council Grant; \$5,000 from the Hansen Museum and \$300 from the Bargain Box and individual donations.

Rexford News

By Zula Horinek

Gene Rogers was admitted to the Oakley Hospital by Dr. Hildyard. He has pneumonia. Hope he has a fast recovery.

Cleda Moeder spent from Friday to Monday in Pratt to help her first cousin, Bernice Patton from El Dorado, celebrate her 88th birthday. She stayed with her second cousin, Don and Sandy Patton, in Pratt where the surprise party was held.

Royal Neighbors had their meeting at the Community Hall on Thursday. There were seven present. Betty Carswell was hostess.

Cleda Moeder went to Denver with David Gould to visit Carrol Gould, his dad and her friend. He will need a lot of physical therapy

to get him back on his feet.

While Jolene Hansen was out of town, Lane Purcell and Steve Allen decorated her yard with Christmas things, as a joke. She was really surprised.

We really appreciate the nice snow, especially since we didn't have wind with it. The temperature was really cold but we didn't complain. We were really hurting for moisture. Hope this helps the farmers in this area and it isn't too little, too late.

There is a jigsaw puzzle set up at the Barn, which several of our residents have enjoyed this winter.

Bill Dible has purchased Jim and Eula Dible's house and is doing some repairs and remodeling on it.

Selden News

By Jacque Boultinhouse

Birthdays and anniversaries: March 6 - Sheila Ritter, Jennifer Eatherly; March 7 - Bud and Tressie Rogers; March 8 - Vala Mosier, David Weis, Lindsey Albers; March 9 - Evelyn Brainard; March 10 - Mark Miller, Lindsey Carman, Raymond Zodrow, Joe Zodrow, Debbie Koerperich; March 11 - Lois Neff, Everett Shuler, Marge

Wilson; March 12 - Joe Jruse.

On Feb. 27 at Senior Citizens, Carol Shaw won high, Harold Schiltz and Alfred Alber tied for second, Edna Schiltz got low and Irene Kruse had the most kings. Other members present include: Royce Cook, Lola Cook, Laura Berls, Anna Albers, Don Smith, Don Shaw and Paulie Neff.

Herndon News

By Carrol Ginther

The Immanuel United Church of Christ hosted a pancake supper at the church basement on Sunday.

Herndon Senior Citizens held a potluck dinner at the Senior Center on Feb. 19. County Health Nurse Shirley Organ took blood pressures. Bingo was played and Beth Hraha and Anna Mae Ketterl had black-

out. Pooch Portschy won the door prize. The next business meeting will be today at the Senior Center.

Dinner guests last Thursday of Frank and Wynemah Cox were Roseann, Shakia Rose and Sohn Michael Domsch of Atwood.

Tom Solko visited his mother, Monica Solko, last week.

INCOME TAX SERVICES

Reasonable Prices
Electronic Filing and Direct Deposit
of Refund Available.

Hirsch & Pratt, LLP

Steven W Hirsch / Preston A. Pratt
Attorneys-at-Law
124 South Penn, Oberlin, Kansas
785-475-2296