

THE OBERLIN HERALD

# Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

**100 YEARS AGO — June 1903**  
Born, to Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Vale, June 15, a 10-pound son.  
Born, to Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Smith, Monday, June 8th, 1903, a bright-eyed baby girl.  
Prof. H. A. Stowell arrived in town Sunday to remain during vacation.  
Jack Frost, Fred Patton, Chas. Page and W. T. Stevenson were fishing Tuesday afternoon.  
H. O. Douglas' family moved last week to rooms over his store and J. E. Edmonds moved into his old property.  
W. J. Marvin has purchased the stock of hardware owned by I. O. Wear and will take possession just as soon as the invoicing is completed.

Of the 51 Normalites enrolled the first day, only 48 are girls. What will the boys do for parties to take to the ice cream socials, etc.?  
Jennings News: The Jennings Oil, Coal and Gas Company are now down 800 feet and if nothing happens will be down 1000 feet by the time we go to press. For shares: address, J. A. Langer, Jennings.

**75 YEARS AGO — June 1928**  
Next week's issue of *The Oberlin Herald* will celebrate another birthday and mark the completion of the 49th year during which the Herald has been issued. A year from now, at the completion of the Herald's 50th year, we are planning something special in the way of an anniversary edition but this year we will be content with getting out 16 pages, just to show that we are still alive.

Farmers are wishing for the rains to cease enough for them to weed their corn. Rain is not needed for the wheat either. Just sunny days without strong winds is all that we are asking for now.  
Guy B. Morrish has begun to market some of the potatoes on his 8-acre patch east of the Bliss crossing. He estimates the crop will amount to 300 bushels per acre and though he had the patch all fixed for irrigating the rains have come so opportunely that he has not needed to irrigate even once.  
A number of Oberlin people drove to McCook Tuesday to see the damage done by the tornado. At least two persons were thought to be fatally injured. The home of Dr. D. H. Morgan on the east side of Main Avenue was almost a total wreck and the Dr. W. E. Knox home at 1212 West First practically destroyed. Dr. Morgan crawled out of his wrecked home and finding his car still in order rushed a neighbor woman to St. Catherine's Hospital but she is not expected to survive. The Knox family were away from home at the time.  
Herbert Hoover is expected to be nominated for president by the Republican national convention meeting today in Kansas City.

**50 YEARS AGO — June 1953**  
Decatur County is now assured of more than average rainfall for the first six months of the year replenishing the subsoil deficiency of the fall and winter.  
Norcat: The formal opening of the new Standard service station located just south of Norcat at the intersection of Highway 36 and the county highway south to Clayton has been announced by the owner Floyd Miller. Fred Crabill is the station attendant and assists Mr. Miller in the operation.  
Construction has started on a new service station in Oberlin which is located just north of US-36 Highway and opposite the Frontier Motel. It is to be completed in August and has been leased by the Sinclair Refining Company.  
The waters of the Republican River are now spilling through the concrete structure of the Trenton Dam. The body of water behind the dam, known as Swanson Lake, will be the largest in southwest Nebraska.  
More than 600 persons attended the High Plains Angus Breeders

Assoc. Field Day barbecue held at the Alvin Johnson farm near Kanona. Alvin and his father, Adolph Johnson handled the butchering and cooking of the two beeves and the women of the Kanona Methodist Church handled the serving of the noon meal. In the afternoon the Decatur Saddle Club presented a drill team performance.  
Herndon: The annual free ox roast will be held on Saturday, June 13.  
Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Sanders announce the engagement of their daughter Patsy, to Don Ater, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ater.  
New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. John Sater, Lebanon, a daughter, Mary Ellen, June 7; Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Foster, Jennings, a son, June 9; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hessenflow, a daughter, June 8; Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Cathcart, a daughter, Joyce Elaine, June 7.

**25 YEARS AGO — June 1978**  
Some areas of the county reported heavy hail last week with farmers in Garfield, Pleasant Valley, Lyon and Roosevelt townships all reporting damage. According to Faye Leichter, who had farmed 60 years south of Norcat, it was the worst hail damage he had ever seen. Nursing degrees have been awarded to: Marcy Russell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Russell of Oberlin, by Stormont-Vail School of Nursing, Topeka; Donna Leitner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Leitner, rural Herndon, by St. Joseph School of Nursing, Wichita; and Laurie Lotker Wasson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Lotker, Asbury Hospital School of Nursing, Salina.  
Susan Screen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Screen, has been awarded a Search for Excellence scholarship at Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina where she plans to major in accounting.  
Dresden: Funeral services were held for a longtime Dresden area resident, Pearl Foster, 90, who was born in Calloway, Neb., moving to Brown County, Kan., in 1894 with her parents, Henry and Phoebe (Jackson) Bobbitt. She was married in 1908 to Douglas Foster and taught a year of school at Fairview southeast of Dresden.  
Penny Fisher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Fisher, rural Oberlin, was named rodeo queen at the 11th annual Wilsonville Rodeo.  
Coach Richard Harlan, his wife, Cindy, and Keith Rosin, were among the players, coaches and their wives of the Shrine West football team who flew to St. Louis last weekend to visit the Shrine Hospital.

Nadean Stoney of Oberlin was a Sunday supper guest there.  
Ben Rhodes, a freshman at Fort Hays State University, was among Business and Leadership students who were awarded scholarships at the recent awards ceremony. He received a \$500 Farm Credit Scholarship and \$500 Creta Lois Sproul Scholarship. He is the son of Jeff and Sheila Rhodes.

Lawrence and Lila Jennings were last Sunday dinner guests of Eugene and Donna Mrstik. Other guests were Brent and Mechele Jennings, Brendan and Jordyn of Chapman.  
Sympathy is extended to the family of Melvin Ray Gilbert, 84, who died May 31, at his home in Westminster, Colo. His wife is the former Minnie Reuber, and she and their children survive. He was a brother of the late Clara Wancura. Mail will reach his wife at 7951 Green Court, Westminster, Colo., 80030.  
The new summer schedule will begin Sunday at the Herndon Covenant Church with Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., followed by morning worship at 10:30 a.m.  
A congregational workday is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 21, at the Herndon Covenant Church for both men and women.  
Dr. Kirk Kelley, son of Dick and

## Jennings News

By Sonya Gillespie

Billy Mrstik of Milwaukee, Wis., was a recent guest at the home of his brother, Eugene and Donna Mrstik of Jennings. He was here for the Alumni Banquet and Memorial Day and also visited relatives and friends.  
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## Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

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Dr. Kirk Kelley, son of Dick and

Donna Kelley, is spending two months in Annecy, France, where he is studying for a degree in French. He is a professor at St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa.

Mary Lou Olson accompanied Cecil Hess to Great Bend last Tuesday, where they visited until Thursday with their sister, Frances Starbuck.

Amber Peterson, daughter of Greg and Brenda Peterson, and Bud and Micki McCain, has been awarded an academic scholarship to Colby Community College for the 2003-2004 academic year. She is a granddaughter of Doris Peterson of Atwood.

## Cedar Living Center

Nadean Stoney hosted the Coffee Club on Saturday, May 31. Marie Jean Vavroch hosted the group on June 7.

Pastor Glenn and Betty Krebs of the Jennings United Methodist Church were in charge of the Sunday worship services.

Maxine Chambers celebrated her birthday on June 1. Carol and Gary Allen were her guests for a birthday lunch on Monday. Mrs. Allen brought cake for all of the residents.

Myrna Jones and Carol Witt provided the music program on Monday. Fern Moore gave the reading program on Tuesday.

Rachel Gallatin won the first bingo on Tuesday morning. Mary Uehlin and Mildred Cochran tied for the blackout win.

Waunita Stoney hosted a social hour on the patio on Wednesday evening. Father Mathew held Mass

on Thursday.

Recent visitors: Craig Smith, Wichita; Rachel Grace, McCook; John Miller, Culbertson; Pastor Glenn and Betty Krebs, Paul Nauer, Jennings; Larry Sumner, Greg Sumner, Jerry Temple, Norcat; Don Ashley, Carl Mumm, Selden; Shirley Cagluern, Hobbs, N.M.; Dona Hughes, Hays; Joseph Schmaderer, Ludell; Ann Martin, Herndon; Marc Adams, Littleton, Colo.; Kathie Albers, Rexford; Joanne Dolance, Dallas; Judy Stark, Sun City, Ariz.;

Lyle Gamblin, Nadean Stoney, Karen Bennett, Lavonne Baker, Irene Fringer, Fern Jording, Elaine Bryan, Frannie Nothdurft, Eleanor Kircher, Faye Miller, Alice Shirley, Ila Ray, Betty Jenik, Dolores Koerperich, Ann Mines, Esther Noren, Vayle Rohan, Elvin Beneda, Orlin Beneda, Oberlin.

## Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, co-director

The weather has been just perfect for our visitors who have toured the museum the last three weeks. We have had guests from 18 different states. It is so fun to visit with them and they are really impressed with our small town museum.

I have been working on the Vallonia Cemetery the past couple of weeks. There are a number of unmarked graves so with the plat of the cemetery telling who owns different lots and looking up obits, we have been able to put names and dates to several. Along with names and dates for some we have found cause of death such as one committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor; one was crossing the tracks behind a standing train and was struck by the Zephyr, and a 17-year-old died of typhoid fever in 1901.

I also found that the Vallonia Cemetery was a donation to that community by James Martin Park. I have also found two Civil War Veterans buried there: Archibald

Ewing and Martin D. Smith. If any of you have additional information about this cemetery or those buried there, please call me at 475-2712.

Myrna has been reading and indexing the early years of the Norcat Dispatch. Along with deaths, births, marriages and other events she has been finding some very interesting tidbits. This one is taken from Dec. 31, 1914. "Chas. Brunk had a band of 37 pieces a few days last week; the only fault being that it played 37 different tunes at once. They took 37 calves away from the cows to wean them, leaving the cows here and taking the calves up to Henry Brunk's. We suppose Henry had a similar band."

## Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Joanne Wendelin, Greta and Rory, left May 29 for Winfield to spend a few days with Bill and Bonnie Condit. They also visited Eowyn Crane in Winfield and Jay and Suzanne Cooper in Wichita. They returned home May 31.

Martin and Evelyn May accompanied Marvin May and Gayle Anderson to Lawrence on Friday, May 30. Marvin and Gayle attended the wedding of Jill Mermison Saturday evening and helped with the rehearsal dinner Friday evening. Martin and Evelyn were Friday and Saturday overnight guests of the Ernest May family in Tonganoxie. They returned home Sunday afternoon, June 1.

Duane and Lois Unger, Colby, and Ralph and Norma Unger were

Sunday evening visitors of Alvina Unger on June 1.

Zach May, Hannah May, Ryan May, and Kaylee May left Tuesday to attend 4-H camp at Rock Springs near Junction City, returning home Friday.

May Family Farms hosted a breakfast at the 4-H building for 55 farmers of the area on Friday, after which they went to the test plot site three miles west of Oberlin, where the various wheat varieties were discussed by several Kansas wheat breeders.

Quintin Cundiff and Sarah Marcuson, who were sponsored by Decatur County Farm Bureau, attended "Leadership America" at Barton County Community College in Great Bend from Tuesday to

Friday. It is a motivational camp designed to foster leadership in high school youth throughout Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter May attended funeral services on Saturday for Mrs. Victor (Florence) Voelker at Palmer. Mr. May and Mr. Voelker are cousins.

John and Dianne Bremer took Warren and Jan Bainter out for dinner Friday evening to celebrate Warren and Jan's wedding anniversary.

Abby Anderson, Menoken, N.D., and Kassie Bryan were Saturday evening guests of Jessica Bremer. Abby and her sister, Angie, daughters of Calvin and Brenda Anderson, are visiting their grandparents, Enid Anderson, and Gene and Lila Holsman.

In Association With the Spine Surgery Program at Hays Medical Center...

### Mirza S. Baig, MD

### Spine Surgery & General Orthopaedics

at Hays Orthopaedic Clinic

Hays Medical Center is pleased to announce the association of Mirza S. Baig, MD, with the Spine Surgery Program.

The Hays Medical Center Spine Surgery Program provides a complete range of services for the diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of patients with spine and peripheral nerve disorders, including the following:

- Cervical thoracic, lumbar and lumbosacral intervertebral disc removal
- Treatment of spine fractures and other spine injuries
- Spinal cysts
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