

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

100 YEARS AGO — July 1903

It is quite apparent that the cold weather is over. It certainly is hot enough for anyone now.

Wheat cutting began in earnest the first of the week and farmers will now rush things for the next 10 days.

The Editor and family returned home Thursday evening during that fearful rain storm from their trip to Northern Indiana.

The new Pacific cable has been completed and messages can now be sent around the world.

In the write-up of the big Fourth of July celebration held last week, the following will be of interest:

100-yd. foot race won by Fred Conquest, Dresden; second, Fred Hamper, Traer;

tug-of-war was won by the southwest part of the county, Henry Simpson, captain.

Olive beat Liberty 7-6 in the first ball game; batteries for Olive, Heaton, Moss and Walton, for Liberty, Venrich and Chapman.

Oberlin beat Dresden, 3-0, in the second game, batteries for Dresden, Motz and Miller, for Oberlin, Barnes and Coldren.

75 YEARS AGO — July 1928

With the exception of it being somewhat hot, more desirable weather for the Fourth of July could not have been asked for.

The subject of this week's biographical sketch is Viola Caster who was born in Ohio and came to Buffalo Park, Kan., in June 1879 where she was married to Daniel Caster before coming to Oberlin in a covered wagon. They made their home in a dugout and later in a frame home on the north edge of the present golf course. Mr. Caster died in 1914 and Mrs. Caster moved to Oberlin. She has been a staunch supporter of the Baptist Church.

Rev. Wilbert Helberg, who has served the Swedish Mission Church at Lund, preached his farewell sermon last week and leaves this week for Courtland. Rev. Arvid Nygren of North Park College will take up the work July 15.

The Episcopal funeral service was read at the home of Mr. Guy Allen for Edward Blake who was a mail carrier for 20 years.

Custer: Miss Rosie Flaska hurt her arm stopping runaway horses.

Clifford Marietta returned home Sunday from Topeka where he has been working since school was out a few weeks ago.

Kanona: Mr. and Mrs. Otto Johnson are rejoicing over the arrival of a handsome baby girl born to them July 8 at the Norton Hospital.

50 YEARS AGO — July 1953

Wheat yields in Decatur County varied from 6 to 8 bushels to 47 bushels per acre with the bulk of yields between 20 and 35. In Lincoln Township Mike Shirley had an average yield slightly above 30 bushels with one field making 47. Most of the continuous crop and some of the summer fallow was plowed up early last spring when crop prospects looked dim.

The official moisture total for Oberlin for the first six months of 1953 totals 11.68 inches which is above average.

Jennings: Funeral services were held for Joseph Shimmick, 80, a pioneer resident of the Jennings community. Interment was in Big Timber Cemetery.

Roy Campbell, just returned from Paris, France, where he attended the convention of Rotary International, presided as the new president of Oberlin Rotary at their Tuesday noon meeting. He succeeds Ted Addleman.

The Oberlin city planning commission recommended that the water supply, both supply and distribution, be the main focus of the city council in future meetings.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mr. LeRoy Schmidt, Gem, a son, Chris James, July 5; Mr. and Mrs. William Dewar, Norfolk, Va., a son, William Alexander, jr., July 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Welter of Dresden announce the engagement of their daughter, Magdalen Elizabeth, to Donald R. Esterl. Miss Welter attended St. John's School of Nursing in Salina and is employed as a nurse at St. Anthony's Hospital in Hays. Mr. Esterl attended Brown-Mackie School of Business in Salina and is employed at Cowl Electric in Salina. The wedding has been set for Aug. 29.

Miss Lola Jean Kaus, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Kaus of Selden, and Merlin Diederich, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Diederich of Cedar Bluffs, were united in marriage June 11 in a ceremony at the Leoville Immaculate Conception Church. The couple left for Fort Bragg, N. C., where the groom is stationed as a paratrooper.

Jennings: Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Wilbur Hooper for Mrs. Theo (Mary Prachej) Tacha, who died at the age of 83.

25 YEARS AGO — July 1978

Many area farmers were stunned into disbelief early Sunday evening as a devastating hailstorm pounded its way across Decatur County beginning north of Herndon. In Logan Township Fred Helmkamp reported a complete loss of crops while in Sappa Township a funnel cloud did considerable damage at the Gaylord Shields home and an estimated 5-9 inches of rain and considerable hail fell. Most other farmers in Sappa Township re-

ported damage. The storm continued through the Lund community and Bassettville and Prairie Dog Townships before ending south of Leoville.

Neighbors of Lynn Johnson in Harlan Township pitched in Saturday to harvest his wheat while he is hospitalized in Hays for three-weeks for treatment of a staph infection. Helping out were Roger, David, Mike and Randy Wilson, Sid Metcalf, Cecil Bailey, Rick Deibert, Odell Grafton, Lowell and Lyle Johnson and Bob, Cecil and Gary Matheny.

Lynn Johnson of Kansas City, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Johnson of Oberlin, presided over the recent meeting of the Kansas Trial Lawyers Assoc. held in Wichita. He is a member of the law firm of Schnider, Shamberg and May in Kansas City and makes his residence at Lake Quivera.

Mark Olson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Olson of Herndon, has been accepted into the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University.

Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, co-director

With the rise of the temperature we had a slight decline in guests this week. Those who braved the heat really enjoyed their visit and were traveling through from Texas, Colorado, Nebraska, and eastern Kansas.

Since several of my other articles have included information about Allison, I found one more that you might enjoy. This is taken from *The Oberlin Herald* Aug. 14, 1919.

The beginning and the end of the Allison post office. The Allison post office was established in 1878. In 1880, Chancy D. Wheelock was appointed postmaster; the name of the office up until that time was known as Toyab. C. D. Wheelock had the name changed to Allison, and during Cleveland's administration, J. F. Leonard, a resident of Dresden now, held the office.

When the Rock Island came to

Jennings, all of Allison moved to Dresden and Jennings except the post office and it came back to C. D. Wheelock. He held it until his death in 1893 and his son, Geo. M. Wheelock, took charge of the store, was appointed postmaster and held it until the store sold to W. E. Wilson, a resident of Oberlin. It was handed down by Wilson to W. S. Miller and they passed it back to Geo. H. Wheelock. He held it until his death, 1906. Mrs. Wheelock-Price sold the store and post office to Wilbur Hughes. He was postmaster until he sold out to J. E. Goodson and he has given it back to Uncle Sam as a relic of western Kansas.

We appreciate the emails, notes, and calls from you telling us that you enjoyed the newsletter and information about the Airline Station. We want to thank those who renewed their memberships.

Rexford News

By Zula Horinek

Harvest time is here, and the tractors and combines are rolling. We had a three-inch rain earlier, along with golf ball sized hail, but fortunately it only lasted a few minutes and did little damage.

Damon Williams, grandson of Chuck and Pat Williams of Rexford and Margret Perkins of Colby, was injured in Iraq and will be returning to the states soon.

The Rex Carswell family spent from Thursday to Sunday in Grove, Okla., in the Grand Lake area. They included: Betty and Rex Carswell,

Selden; Robert and Peggy Dible and Brandy, Menlo; Lance and Maisha Dible, and Rita Carswell, Hays; Vince and Peggy Carswell, Oberlin; Scott, Kristin, Brooklyn and McKenna and Kaden, Hillsboro, and Steve and Terry Salter, McPherson. A good time was had golfing, fishing, boating, shopping, and visiting Lendonwood Gardens, Har-Ber Village and other activities of the 16th annual Grovestefest.

Royal Neighbors met Thursday, June 26, with six members present. Darlene Robbins was hostess. A

luncheon was served after the business meeting.

Edna Colson attended a birthday party for Anice Richard on June 13. She was 14 years old on Flag Day, June 14. Edna visited with Kathrine and Floyd Richard the Saturday and Sunday following the birthday party.

Edna Colson and Grace Kauk of Colby attended a bridal shower Sunday, June 22, for Dianne Richard in Norton. They visited the Katherine Richard family afterward.

A flea market is held the first Saturday of each month in Rexford.

Sada Munkres and her niece from Winston, Ore., went on a 10-day tour to visit three islands of Hawaii. They flew from McCook to Denver, which is a short 45-minute flight.

Kenneth Munkres of Madison, Wis., has been helping his brother, Ward, with harvest.

Cleda Woeder and Zula Horinek recently went to the Village Inn of Colby for lunch, then did some shopping.

Lyle News

By Helen Helm

Harvest is proceeding nicely in the Lyle area. The wheat crop is turning out well and is a blessing after the disappointing past year. The rain June 28, did stop the machines for awhile and church services were called off at Lyle the next day.

Earnest Huff had an emergency appendectomy on Tuesday, June 24, at the Decatur County Hospital and returned home on Tuesday, July 1. He is feeling well at this time and even trying to help with the harvest.

Margaret Magers, June Jolly, Marguerite Fullerton and Kathy Van Meter helped with the Share program at Norcat Saturday morning, June 28.

Ceanne and Martin Rinehart and John Rinehart, all of Colby, stopped at the John Helm home Sunday en route home from the Nebraska American Legion Convention at Kearney, Neb. Martin did some plumbing repair and they still found

time for cards and supper together. The Mike Helm family telephoned that they were safely home from Kearney, also.

June Jolly and Karen Leach, Lebanon, played cards at the Eagles Club in McCook on Monday evening, June 30, and Mrs. Jolly won the jackpot.

Mrs. Margaret Magers and Mrs. Marguerite Fullerton were in Oberlin Tuesday, July 1, for a doctor's appointment, then drove to Norton before coming home. That evening they and Kathy Van Meter visited Van Cozad at Beaver City, Neb. Don and Shanna Netzel of San Diego were visiting there. The Netzels plan to stay in the area until the Powell picnic in August. The seniors attended cards at the Senior Center.

David and Tina Wood, Omaha, arrived at the Veda Wood home Thursday evening and spent the long weekend working on home

and shop projects for his mother. They were joined Saturday by Carol Moye, Oberlin, and Teresa Reves. Others there were Veda's grandchildren, Hannah and Israel Jirak and Hester Wood of Fort Collins, Jay Kelly, and Dennis Wood. Because of the hot weather

they had a hamburger fry inside.

Mrs. Magers and Mrs. Fullerton attended the wedding of Larry Van Otterloo Jr. and Mary Zodrow at the United Methodist Church in Oberlin Friday, and the reception and dinner held at the Red Crown Lodge there.

Traer News

By Maralyn Courange

Rocky Courange, and Kelly Brown, Lakin and Kaitlin, Oberlin; and Shawn Wheelbarger, Sheri Hornkohl, Vicki Courange, and Dave and Becky Wolcott, McCook,

attended the Courange family reunion at Hoisington on July 4-6. States represented were Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska and Utah.

Jennings News

By Sonya Gillespie

There will be a Wobble Trap Shoot and Horseshoe Tournament, sponsored by the City of Jennings, one-half mile north of Jennings from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. Lunch will be served and in the evening, there will be a barbecue hog roast at the Community Building in Jennings. Those attending are asked to bring a covered side dish. Meat, buns and drink will be furnished. A free will donation will be taken to help with the renovation of the Community Building. Musical entertainment will be provided throughout the evening. For team sign-up information, contact Louise Cressler at 678-2233 or Eric Green at 678-2621.

Wayne and Louise Cressler attended the 50th wedding anniversary celebration at Mankato on Saturday for Jack and Jean Blair, former residents of Jennings.

On Sunday, the Cresslers attended the fourth birthday party honoring their great-granddaughter, Adalie Schroter, at the City Park in LaCrosse.

Lois Scott is recuperating from recent knee surgery. Mail will reach her at Newton Medical Center, Room 142, Newton, Kan., 67114; phone (316) 804-6142.

The Heritage Associates of Jennings met on June 5 at the Royal Neighbors of America hall. President Neoma Tacha conducted the meeting with eight members and one guest present. The secretary

and treasurer reports were given by Jessie Davis. Mrs. Tacha said that \$137.62 had been received from the county treasurer, as well as several donations which were received over Memorial Day weekend. Discussion included an open house when the building walkway is finished, the pitch of the roof changes, and the tourism grant which is going to be made. The next meeting was scheduled for July 3, depending on harvest.

Bob Jones of Jennings, auctioneer and antique appraiser, along with Tom Simpson, auctioneer; Tom Harrison, broker and auctioneer; Ken Christiansen, associate broker and sales, and Jerry Wykoff sales, has opened TNT-Jones Auction in the old Boogart's grocery building in downtown Colby.

Congratulations to Linda Wahlmeier, with American Family Insurance in Norton, who was named agent of the month. She has been an agent since 1986. She and her husband, Carl, live on a farm southeast of Jennings.

Joanna Zayac, who will be the new music teacher at Jennings this fall, is included in the list of top scholars named to the Dean's Honor Roll at Southwestern College in Winfield for the spring 2003 semester. Full-time students who earned grade point averages of at least 3.70 (4.0 equals an A) were eligible for the honor. She is from Rochester Hills, Mich.

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Dr. Rachele Gorrell and Connor, Rolla, Mo., have been guests of her parents, Ralph and Norma Unger, since last Wednesday and returned home on Tuesday.

Dinner guests of Ralph and Violet Shaw on July 4 were Ben and Leone Spiers, Tom and Joni Christensen and family, Milaca, Minn.; Pat and Tom Egli, Travis and Julie Egli and family, Truro, Iowa; Gary and Becky Knight, Des Moines, Iowa; and Thelma Spiers, the Richard Shaw family, Joel Shaw, and Steve Nelson. The out of town guests also attended the Muirhead/Van Otterloo wedding Friday at the Methodist Church in Oberlin.

Tami Shaw and Dante spent the Fourth of July with her parents and family at a cabin at Jeffries Lake.

Susan Nelson and Makenzie spent the weekend visiting her father, Bill Davenport, in Laramie, Wyo. Mike and Nancy Shields,

Corinne and Brett, Omaha; Mark and Corby Shields and Keric, Tucson, Ariz.; Phil Shields, Salisbury, Md., and Ali Lamb, Lincoln, Neb., were guests of Gaylord and Shirley Shields over the July 4 weekend. Additional weekend and Friday dinner guests at the Shields home were Hildegard Euhus and the Paul Shields family.

Ladd Wendelin was a visitor at the Norman Wendelin home over the July 4 weekend.

Wilma May accompanied Jack and Mildred Fortin and Charles to Norton on July 4, where they were guests of Elwood and Jeanie May for a picnic at the Norton Lake. At dark, they watched the fireworks.

Sunday dinner guests of Butch and Colleen Rittmann and family were Rachele Gorrell and Conner, Rolla, Mo.; Alvina Unger, Ralph and Norma Unger, and Ryan Unger.

Rebecca Helm was a Friday overnight guest of Jessica Bremer.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Chris Schmidt was honored with a surprise party Saturday evening at his home in observance of his 50th birthday, which was hosted by his wife, Sherri, and their family. Jordan Maloney and Bobby Ester were also honored for their July birthdays.

Weekend houseguests at the Chris Schmidt home were Curtis and Dawnelle Heim, Karli and Kelsi, Tucson, Ariz.; Danace Maloney, Clae, Jordan and Kainin, Colby; Clint Schmidt, Manhattan; Erin Schmidt, Northglenn, Colo., and Adam Derby and Bobby Estes, Westminster, Colo. They all left Sunday, except Mrs. Heim and girls, who remained for a longer visit.

Fourth of July weekend visitors of Edla Olson, and Steve and Arian Arnold, were Galen and Lynne Olson, McKinney, Texas; Mike and Nione Rhodin, Loveland, Colo.; and Lee and Terri Munsell and Amanda Renee, Lee's Summit, Mo. They and Elizabeth Migchelbrink of Atwood were Friday supper guests at the home of Jim and Jean Roberts of Atwood.

Maxine Peebles and Karen Peebles, Denver, and Sheila Waters

and Karin, Palau Island, visited over the weekend with Hattie Olson and other relatives.

Congratulations to Wayne Lanning, who graduated recently with honors and a 3.9 grade point average in business administration from Columbia Union College. He is a former resident of this area and is the son of Bill Lanning and Meredith Hrnchir. He is employed by World Com in the Washington, D.C., area.

Arlene Glad and Rosemary Bergling took Eulaine Benda out for lunch last Tuesday at the LandMark Inn, then spent the afternoon at her home.

Youth from the Herndon Covenant Church who are attending camp at Covenant Heights near Estes Park, Colo., this week are Elijah and Josiah Jones, Sarah Grafel and Bill Reuther. Greg Jones took them out on Sunday.

Weekend guests of Bob and Sally Olson were Bob and Annette Frenzel and girls, Salina. Amalia Marks, who had been visiting her grandparents, accompanied them home on Saturday. They also visited Hattie Olson at the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center in Oberlin.

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