

THE OBERLIN HERALD

# Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

**100 YEARS AGO — March 1904**  
Geo. Keys is having a bathroom built and fitted with complete equipment. He says it is a nice thing to have but is rather expensive.

Vince Roe of Beaver Township was in town last week with the best span of mules in the county, or at least one of the best. They are both young and handsome.

Saturday forenoon Sheriff Leaman let two prisoners out of the inner cells of the jail to allow them an opportunity to bathe and after telling them he would be back in a couple of hours, left them to the enjoyment of a general cleaning up. But the prisoners were not aesthetic. They appreciated the opportunity offered them but not in the way anticipated by Sheriff Leaman. One of them, with the help of the stove poker, reached through the barred outer door and effectually disposed of its lock in a few moments. Once free they set out for Nebraska on the road northwest of town, but unfortunately at the edge of the city they encountered Newt Marks, who surmised that they were escaping and soon let the sheriff know.

Grant Elson and son Gordon went to California last week to see that country. Grant told us not to say anything about it and we have not told a single person.

**75 YEARS AGO — March 1929**  
Everyone who is interested in vocal music will be at the City School Auditorium next Sunday to hear John Stainer's oratorio, "The Crucifixion", given by a chorus of 130 singers under the direction of Prof. Chas. L. Hinchee, voice instructor at the high school.

Ownership of the local J.B. Byars Company stores has just passed to the J.C. Penney Company.

J. Bedford Jennings, son of Warren Jennings, for whom the city of Jennings was named, died in Iowa Sunday. Funeral services were held at Jennings Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Jennings' life has been intimately connected with the history of the southeastern part of Decatur County since the early 1870's and the city of Jennings has lost a real leader and highly respected citizen.

The afternoon of March 14, the outgoing freight engine set a prairie fire near the Will Richardson farm in Altory Township. While Will and a number of others were fighting the blaze he was seen to suddenly fall face forward into the blazing grass. When the others reached him he was dead. The exertion of fighting the fire had brought about heart failure.

Russell defeated Oberlin in the high school basketball tournament at Hays. Reeves at center and Francis at guard were named to the second all-tournament team.

**50 YEARS AGO — March 1954**

One of Oberlin's oldest landmarks is being torn down and will be replaced by a new, modern building for the Decatur County National Bank. The west part of the new building is already under construction and will be occupied by the bank while construction of the new building is under way. These offices will later become the property of the Decatur County Abstract Company and Arthur J. Dowling, certified public accountant. According to J.R. Betts, the contract was awarded to Western Bank Contractors of Kansas City and is expected to be finished by Nov. 1.

Court House News: Doyle Morton and Beverly Cozad were issued a license March 18 and married at the Lyle Methodist Church on Sunday by Rev. Marian Holbert; Ray G. Coleman, Jennings and Lila Lee Harris of Clayton were issued a marriage license March 20 and were married that evening at the Jennings Methodist Church by Rev. Wilbur Hooper.

A new, modern office building will be constructed in Oberlin in the near future by Wilbur E. Meckenstock just west of the Miller-Corcoran Funeral Home on East Commercial. Dale Young has the general contract for the building.

Officials of 30 western counties met with Kansas Governor Ed Arn at Scott City last week to discuss the soil erosion caused by the wind and to receive offers of state and federal assistance for control measures. In Decatur County, letters

have been sent by the County Commissioners to nearly every farmer in the county requesting them "if you have land blowing, please work it at once, to prevent soil blowing over a large area."

**25 YEARS AGO — March 1979**

Scoffers, ye of little faith, take note. It happened just like the rest of us knew it would all along. Right there in the prestigious weekly *New Yorker* magazine—an article about Oberlin, Kansas, U.S.A.

Subscribers who had been watching and waiting turned quickly to page 81 of the March 19, 1979, issue for the feature entitled "A Reporter At Large—Authentic Accounts of Massacres" by Ian Frazier. Frazier spent considerable time in Oberlin last fall during the Mini-Sapa celebration which marked the 100th year since the last Indian raid in Kansas. Being from Oberlin, Ohio, Frazier stopped in Oberlin several years ago while traveling and visited the museum and began a correspondence with its curator, Kathleen Claar, which brought him back for the centen-

ennial year celebration. In the 15-page article Frazier writes of the museum, its curator, the background of the raid, the tour of the massacre sites and life in Oberlin in general.

Little escaped his eyes or ears, including the town's faithful whistle.

With the promise of a good wheat crop and a continued shortage of hopper cars, area railroads are testing the use of unit trains which would take grain directly to the Gulf for shipment.

Work began last week on a local recreation facility to be located near the Oberlin County Club. According to Farrell McAtee, a local group of people have formed Decatur County Recreation Inc. to build a club room, dining room and tennis and handball facilities on land which has been donated by Johnny Simonsson for the recreational project.

Three Oberlin athletes, Roger LaSalle, David Stapp and Shanna Wurm were named to the Northwest Kansas League all-league basketball team.

## Chamber News

By Glenva Nichols

The Oberlin Business Alliance "Pot of Gold" winner was Diana Solko. Congratulations, Diana. There were a lot of very nice things in the pot.

The Home and Garden Show has come and gone. We were very pleased with the number of exhibitors present with their many different items. The crowd was good and the Gateway cooks outdid themselves. Thanks to all who took time to show their wares and those who attended.

Coming up next from the Oberlin Business Alliance will be the Final Four contest. Entry forms can be picked up at Addleman's or the Chamber office. This starts Monday, March 29, and ends Friday, April 2, at 5 p.m. When you have filled in the blanks with your guesses for the winning team turn them back in at Addleman's or the Chamber office. Be sure to put the

total points of the final game, if we need to break any ties.

Fifth Wednesday will be March 31. Be sure to do your shopping that day, sign up at that store and you could be the winner of \$50 scrip money to spend in participating stores. You can enter each time you make a purchase.

Watch the paper for an announcement about April 15. This could save you some money and be fun, too.

April 21 is "Professional Assistant's Day" (formerly Secretary's Day). The Chamber will host a luncheon for those who want to honor their right-hand person. There will be more news later.

Again, thanks to all who helped make the first Annual Home and Garden Show a success. We will be back next year.

Stop by the office and have a cup of coffee, as the pot is always on.

## Selden News

By Jacque Boultinghouse

Birthdays and anniversaries: March 25 - Jeremy Schiltz; March 26 - Jeni Rogers, Elsie Wessel, Dagmar Becker; March 27 - Julie Geisinger, Shani Sauvage, Dori Pauls; March 28 - Lori Miller, Bernie Koeperich, Shirley Campbell Weber; March 29 - Paula Schiltz, Tammy Shaw, Alexia Campbell; March 30 - Wyatt Ashley; March 31 - Kyle Emigh, Bruce Otter.

On March 18 at Senior Citizens, Betty James won high, Carol Shaw took second and had the most aces, and Catherine Campbell got low. Other members present included: Cecelia Ottley, Dorothy Lovin, Sandy Haas, Irene Kruse, Lola Cook, Don Smith, Don Shaw, Gene Rogers and Edna Schiltz.

The Sheridan County Rural Fire Department will be holding a First Aid class at the Senior Citizens Center in Selden on March 29. Anyone interested should contact Steve Hirsch, Steve Rogers or Jacque Boultinghouse. Class will run from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The Rexford American Legion should have a pat on the back. Once a month they provide an environ-

ment of good fun, food and Pinhole. An average of 20 to 25 people show up with smiles, a plate of goodies and an attitude for winning.

On March 20, Dave Williams, Dwight Williams, Rex and Betty Carswell, Deb Stepper, Grace Cheney, Pete and Phyllis Zeigelmeier, Warren and Julie Zeigelmeier, Dick Standford, Kenny Standford, Mark Basgall, Bill Dible, Rick and Tammy Shaw, J.R. Albers, Steve Shuler, Ben Albers and Jacque Boultinghouse all met for Pinhole night, each of us with hopes of being dealt the winning cards.

Although Pete and Phyllis believe they bring up last place every week, it mostly has to do with how the cards are dealt. And heck, the food is worth the whole night. All I know is, I can't wait till next month so I can pester Rick and Mark and hey—at some point—I am sure I will be able to remember what trump is.

This past weekend, the Catholic Youth Organization kids went to Wyoming to go skiing and snowmobiling.

They left on Friday afternoon and returned home on Sunday night.

They have participated in numerous activities through the year to raise money for the trip.

## Herndon News

By Carrol Ginther

James Eugene Hartner, 70, a native of Herndon, died Feb. 8, 2004, at St. Joseph Hospital in Denver. He was a son of the late Clarence and Margaret (Riepl) Hartner and his wife was the former Mary Haller.

Survivors include a daughter, Mercedes; four sisters, Vivian Horinek, Chris and Kent Wood, Myrna and Les Pettera, and Ardis and Jim Jefferies; two brothers, Jack and Linda Hartner, and Alan Hartner; a sister-in-law, Virginia and Ron Cahoj; and brothers-in-law, Louis and Mary Lou Haller,

and Glenn and Charlotte Haller. Mass of Christian Burial was held in Denver and burial was at Fort Logan Cemetery in Denver with military honors.

Tony Kleidosty of Kearney, Neb., spent last weekend with his mother, Mildred Kleidosty.

Ron Solko of Oberlin was a last Saturday dinner guest of his mother, Monica Solko. Tom and Patrick Solko were visitors during the week.

Jamie and Lisa Kogl of Lakewood, Colo., spent last Thursday night with Helen Marintzer.

## McGraw News

By Karl Launchbaugh

Saturday Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Sines of McCook, Mr. and Mrs. George Launchbaugh, Edith Wassermann, and Mr. and Mrs. Mike Metro of Salina were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Launchbaugh, to celebrate George's and Gerald's birthdays.

Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Bart

Snyder visited Mr. and Mrs. George Launchbaugh.

Della Jean Shipley visited and had dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Gayle Bainter Thursday. Mr. and Mrs. Mark Heim visited the Bainters Sunday afternoon.

Troy, Bart and granddaughter, Brandi Ecker would like to request a card shower for

### Sharon Ecker

who will be celebrating her

### 60th Birthday

on March 29, 2004

Cards will reach her at:

647 Palermo Ave, Apt. C  
Herndon, KS 67739



## Cedar Living News

Sympathy is extended to the family of Elna Larson who passed away at Cedar Living Center on Sunday.

Dennis Brown of the Forget-Me-Nots hosted a party in the Cedar Living Center dining room on Monday afternoon. He served blarney stones and ice cream to residents, staff and guests. Myrna Jones played a variety of Irish tunes at the music program in the afternoon.

Fern Moore gave the reading program on Tuesday morning. Zola Brown won the first bingo that afternoon and Freida Matheny won the blackout game.

The dietary department hosted an Irish lunch on Wednesday. Tara Votapka hosted a St. Patrick's Day party during the afternoon. Stuart Euhus gave the Bible Study lesson.

Father George was here for Mass on Thursday morning. The Zeta Nu Club hosted the March birthday party in the afternoon. Janice Winters entertained on the piano. Those honored with March birthdays were Eva Marie Vacura, Alvin Jording, and Harold Frickey.

Jodee Carman and Mackenzie hosted the social hour on Friday afternoon. Katie Glading assisted.

The ZCBJ Lodge held their monthly meeting on the Cedar Living Center patio Sunday afternoon. The lodge made a donation toward the purchase of candy for the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Cedar Living Center.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 6 at 7 p.m., and all children are welcome to attend.

Alvin Jording was the guest of honor at a birthday party hosted by Fern Jording and Marj Law Sunday

afternoon. They served ice cream and cookies to residents and staff, and were also guests of Alvin for Sunday dinner.

Pastor Heidi Wiebe of the Oberlin Covenant Church was in charge of the Sunday service. Fern Wenger assisted.

The Girl Scouts donated handmade Easter decorations for all of the tables in the Cedar Living Center dining room.

Recent visitors: Joseph Schmaderer, Richard and Bernadine Samson, Ludell; Lori Lowrance, Westminster, Colo.; Marj Law, Lakewood, Colo.; Larry and Sandy Wolfram, Liberal; Kyle Wolfram, Manhattan; George Wurm, Rose Boehm, Patt Tuller, Gary and Nancy Janoušek, McCook; Susan McKain, McDonald; Don Ashley, Selden; Marie Miller, Dresden; Pastor Rick Rostek, Clara Thiele, Norton; Ann Martin, Herndon; Jerry Temple, Norcat; Ed Geisler, Gwen Geisler, Arvada, Colo.; Ed and Ruth Noren, Cadillac, Mich.; Paul Nauer, Jennings; Diana Knopp, Frank Knopp, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Tom and Glenys Burrell, Max, Neb.; Phyllis Screen, Lawrence Wenger, Pastor Heidi Wiebe, Neil Marshall, Ed and Vivian Russ, Megan, Josiah, Sarah, Andrew, Michelle, and Nicole; Kay and Gail Marcuson, Stuart and Mary Henzel, Mary Ann Amack, Esther Noren, Juanita Williby, Alice Shirley, Karen Bennett, Jacob Koeperich, Dolores Koeperich, Elaine Bryan, Eula Juenemann, Vayle Rohan, Lyle Gamblin, Marie Jean Vavroch, Paul Sass, Earl Brown, Ella Betts.

## Good Samaritan News

Jan Badsy shared devotions on Monday, with inspirational words shared from Billy Graham's "Kennedy's Story." The message centered on life and the promises of scriptural guidance. Little Sam's Daycare children came to play ball with residents, including Eryline Nichols, Agnes Chambers, LuVerne May, Kathryn Post, Hazel Flaska, Lorna Bishop, and Elsie Macy. Don Farr led exercises. Afternoon brought a quiet gathering for rug braiding with residents Fern Anderson, Garrah Gaumer, Mamie Unger, Clarice Leake, and activity assistant Lisa Stacy. Sing-a-long was shared by Myrna Jones. The STAR committee shared St. Patrick's Day fun with ice cream sandwiches for everyone at Social Hour. Committee members who served were Fran Nothdurft, Joan Evans, and Linda Hollowell, assisted by Mildred Holmdahl, volunteer. Card Sharks gathered at the Elva Shaughnessy home, including Garrah Gaumer, Mildred Holmdahl, and Ivah Alexander.

On Tuesday Janice Shobe shared devotions, with a message focused on morning. Spring cleanup took place, with residents observing as staff cleaned different areas of the building. Activity Assistant Lisa Stacy led morning exercises. Helping with the different dance maneuvers were Agnes Chambers, Leo Mooty, and Eleanor Demmer. Lisa Stacy conducted St. Patrick's Day trivia games. Social Hour was served by Dennis Brown of the Forget-Me-Nots, with Blarney Stones made by Mary Lou Long. Items lent from Times Past, a local antique store, centered the discussion on spring cleaning. Aprons beautifully embroidered, a bar of lye soap, Soilex cleansing detergent, and a broom holder were some of the items to spark discussion.

Jan Badsy shared morning devotions Wednesday with a message on St. Patrick. Accompanying singing on the piano was Cheryl Miller. Bible Study gathered in the morning with a message given by Jan Badsy on forgiveness. Those attending were Garrah Gaumer, LuVerne May, Mamie Unger, Ruby McKenna, Dena Gillespie, and Eva Bryan. The Jennings Coyote Cubs shared reading time with their special friends. Many of the residents, including Garrah Gaumer, Marguerite Fullerton, and Neva Campbell participated in the special event. Jessica Bremer and Peggy Carswell provided nail care. Social hour brought Shamrock Shakes in honor of St. Patrick's Day, with old Irish tunes in the background. Serving were Jan Badsy and Ellen Horn. Family Night gathered residents and fam-

ily to an evening meal of corned beef and cabbage, provided by the center, and side dishes brought by the families. Janice Shobe, the new center administrator, welcomed everyone and led the doxology. Family discussion followed with Coleen Rippe and Mrs. Shobe.

On Thursday Lisa Stacy led morning devotions. The message focused around the Lord's Prayer and its meaning. Eva Bryan led special prayer. Catholic services were held and attended by Bonnie Weskamp, Lois Buchholz, and Ruby McKenna. Hearts Creation gathered in the quiet room to continue an ongoing project of rug braiding. Fern Anderson and Clarice Leake assisted others with the activity. Eva Bryan and Hildegard Euhus accompanied Jan Badsy to the extension office to hear a presentation on edible soybeans. Speaker Dianne Frickey shared important growing information and dispensed seeds for the group to try. Samples were shared while everyone enjoyed a brown bag lunch. Lisa Stacy shared some sunshine with LuVerne May on the front patio. Memory games were played.

Observing were Ruby McKenna and Helen Styles, and participating were Eva Bryan, Neva Campbell, Ruth Laidig, and Fern Anderson. Current Events were shared with Ruth Laidig, Fern Anderson, Neva Campbell, Eva Bryan, and Ruby Shuler. Garrah Gaumer enjoyed an afternoon movie entitled, "Charlotte Church in Concert."

Revs. Nolan and Barbara Pierce brought morning devotions on Friday, and Communion was distributed. Accompanying on the piano was volunteer Mary Henzel. Teacher Vickie Schmidt brought students Crystal Franco and Tiffany Wheel, of the Jennings High School sociology class, to learn from residents about their life experiences and the many changes they have witnessed throughout their lifetimes. It was an interesting dialogue, enjoyed by both generations.

Residents who contributed in the discussion were Marilyn St. Clair, Dena Gillespie, Elfie Brown, Marguerite Fullerton, Lois Buchholz, Garrah Gaumer, Elva Shaughnessy, Ivah Alexander, and Eva Bryan. For Social Hour everyone got to sample homemade baked beans made by Fern Anderson, assisted by Jeanette Diederich. The Friday Movie Feature was "Phantom of the Opera."

Dennis Brown led Saturday devotions and Social Hour was served.

The Oberlin Covenant Church led Sunday church services, and Phil Erickson served Social Hour.

## Rexford News

By Zula Horinek

Sadie Munkers celebrated her 95th birthday by taking a trip to the Grant Bahamas. She went by plane with two of her friends. We'll have to give Sadie a lot of credit for staying so active and keeping on the go.

Spring is here and we are all looking forward to the spring flowers, green leafy trees, and hopefully, lots of rain.

Deb Stepper and Cleda Moeder went to Logan to visit Hazel Richardson at the Logan Manor on Wednesday.

The Social Hour Club met at the Barn on Wednesday with 12 present. There were two visitors, Tiffany Barnett and Liz Rall. The bingo prizes were won by Deb Stepper, Grace Cheney, Marg

Leh, and Liz Rall. Hostess prize was won by Zula Horinek. The hostess was Hulda Wark. She served a nice lunch with St. Patrick's Day as the theme. She had green jello salad, green decorated cookies, green deviled eggs, sandwiches, and lots of goodies.

Monday Barnswallows had four tables for pinochle. On Thursday there were two tables for the "Come on Down" pinochle group. The games are held at the Barn and are really enjoyed by the players.

There were nine at the Coffee Klatch Friday at the Barn. Those who were present were Eunice Sanford, Deloras Dible, Vesta Roth, Bernita Zoberst, Liz Rall, Hulda Wark, Grace Cheney, Sondra Barnett, and Lacy Barnett.