

THE OBERLIN HERALD

# Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

**100 YEARS AGO — June 1904**  
Misses Zena Jackson and Clara and Cora Gierhart, Messrs. Alfred Gierhart, Frank Moore and Roy Eiler drove to Selden last Sunday to see the destruction the cyclone had wrought.

An automobile from Herndon caused some interest on the streets Friday.

A fine baby boy was born last week to Mr. and Mrs. Pearl Fringer of Custer Township.

The children of Judge Hayward and wife came in last Friday and moved the old people to their new residence, the Mathias property.

S.A. Fish returned from Chicago the first of the week. He reports a good market for his fat cattle and is feeling so good over it that he and his wife will start for New England next week.

Mr. E.E. Blake has received the appointment as rural carrier on Route No. 4.

Jennings: The Gulf, Hutchinson & Northwestern Railroad Company's promoters were in town last Friday in the interest of their project.

H.Q. Banta, principal of the high school, announces the addition of a commercial department to the school under the direction of Prof. E.A. VanGundy.

**75 YEARS AGO — June 1929**

Tuesday evening, a hail storm formed west of Oberlin and moved southeast, extending from the Earl Shaw place south of town to beyond Jennings in a strip 5 miles wide, damaging the crops badly. Only a few hail stones fell in Oberlin but one measured 5 inches in circumference and where they hit, windows were broken and cars tops punctured.

In a drive through the neighborhood hit by the storm, you can see that some of the wheat standing knee high was pounded into the ground until you can see the drill rows.

Court House News: Lawrence R. Carter, 23, and Hazel D. Mulkey, 21, both of Jennings, were issued a license and were married by Rev. Ira J. Bieber.

Births: May 28: Mr. and Mrs. Roy Maggard, a baby girl; June 7, Mr. and Mrs. Emmett St. Clair, a baby boy, Donald Lee; June 8, a baby boy to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ehler of Cedar Bluffs, Frederick

Edward is the name given the newcomer.

Funeral services were held for James Fred Hauger, who came to Decatur County in 1886 and made his home in Cedar Bluffs. He died at the age of 76 and the body was laid to rest in the Fairview Cemetery to await the resurrection day. He is survived by his wife, Liday, two brothers and two sisters.

Harlan Items: Miss Evelyn Hendricks planned a surprise shower for Leo VanVleet and wife Sunday evening with a large crowd present and many useful gifts received.

Fern Vale and her sister Jalva arrived in Oberlin Tuesday to spend several weeks vacationing with their grandmother, Mrs. Viola Caster and brother, Archie Vale. Fern has been teaching in Morgantown, W. Va., and Jalva has been attending the University.

Rell Landau tells us the public sale of the Chas. Kasper property held Monday was attended by an enormous crowd and good prices were bid.

Miss Lula Betts of Norcat, who received a bachelor of science degree from Emporia Teacher's College this spring, has accepted a position as instructor in commerce at Mound City.

**50 YEARS GO — June 1954**

Ralph Moody, an author who makes his home in San Francisco, but once lived in Decatur County in the Cedar Bluffs area, visited this area last week to do research for a new book he is writing. He is the author of "Little Britches," "Man of the Family," and "The Fields of Home" and his next book will be about wheat country. With all his success as an author, Mr. Moody does not write for a livelihood, as might be expected. He now is Western Manager for the B/G Food Company with headquarters in San Francisco.

Jennings: Funeral services were held for Frank Mazanek, 80, who was born in Czechoslovakia and came to Decatur County in 1884 where he settled on a homestead three miles west of Jennings.

The Kansas Territorial Centennial committee has advised H.G. Mahon that the Centennial Display Coach will be spotted on the C.B.&Q. railroad track in Oberlin Aug. 3-4-5 for a three-day inspection by the public.

tion by the public.

Mrs. Dem Moore underwent surgery June 16 at St. Mary Hospital in Rochester, Minn.

Miss Colleen Paddock, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Paddock, and Ivan Lemman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Lemman, were united in marriage June 4 at the Presbyterian Church in Oberlin.

S/Sgt. Harold Olson has returned after spending three years in France with the Army Air Force. After a month's furlough, he will return to Kirtland Air Base at Albuquerque, where he will complete his service in October.

**25 YEARS AGO — June 1979**

The first 100 years of Oberlin, Decatur County and the area is chronicled in this Centennial and Progress Edition of *The Oberlin Herald* — an edition of 106 pages that is nearly twice as large as any single issue in the 100-year history of this newspaper, and an edition that took hundreds of hours of work by the coordinators, Helen Riepl and Mary Lou Olson, the dedicated staff and the many contributors of photo and editorial copy.

Members of the Herald staff and guests were honored with a dinner Friday evening at the American Legion Hall in observance of the 100th anniversary of *The Oberlin Herald*. Those present were Mrs. E.R. Woodward, Topeka; Howard Kessinger, Marysville; Mr. and

Mrs. Jerry Riepl, Cimarron; Mrs. Ernest Nemeth, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Kelley, Mr. and Mrs. Randall Braden, Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Shields, Jill Anderson, Doris Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Betts, Lloyd Shields, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Grafel, Mrs. Robert L. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Pachner and Mr. and Mrs. Keith Olson.

The Claar family reunion is being held this weekend. Highlight of the family reunion will be the Saturday memorial service at Hawkeye Cemetery, where lie buried many of the descendants of Henry and Electa Claar who homesteaded 100 years ago this September in Cook Township, Decatur County.

Recent rains have helped the area wheat crop. The price of wheat reached \$3.39 on Monday at local elevators.

The rains came, but so did a throng of people who were determined to help the Herndon community celebrate its 100th birthday. Gov. John Carlin crowned Carol Solko, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Solko, the Ox Roast Queen and an estimated 3,500 persons lined up in the city park to be served as the meat was removed from the pits.

Pat Austin, Oberlin, received the top price of \$225 on a painting exhibited in Salina last weekend at the Smoky Hill River Festival.

## Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, director

We were honored this week by having visitors from two foreign countries. We had a couple from Austria, and a young high school lady from Brazil who was visiting the Votapka family.

Other guests represented the states of Illinois, Wisconsin, Virginia, Nebraska, Texas, and Missouri, and we had about 10 guests from various places in Kansas.

A group of "Red Hat" ladies from Goodland spent the day in Oberlin and several toured the Museum.

A couple from California is in doing research on the Fowler surname. After visiting with relatives in Oberlin, getting land records and marriage information from the

courthouse and spending time at the cemetery on Monday, they spent Tuesday morning at the Museum getting obituaries and other articles from old newspapers. Their families had homesteaded in Oberlin and Sherman townships.

We are looking forward this week to the Claar descendants that will be in town for their family reunion. They are planning on at least 150 people and have made time in their reunion plans for touring the Museum.

We want to thank all of you who donated to the Modern Woodmen of America fund-raiser that will help with expenses for moving the St. Mark's Lutheran Church from Norcat to the Museum grounds.

## Herndon News

By Carol Ginther

Sympathy is extended to the family of Charlotte Adams, 87, who died June 13 in Colby. She was a former resident of Herndon.

Additional winners at the Ox Roast games include:

Official timed winners of Out-house or Personal Porcelain Appliance races: Bob Chartier's team with Dave Unger, Mitchell Tuma, Robert Pappa and Doug Chartier, pushers, and Bob Chartier, rider.

Wheels Contest: Best decorated bicycle in the parade sponsored by Herndon PRIDE — Taylor Shephard, niece of Joy Solko, first; Ashley and Emily Laurie, granddaughters of Vernon Franke, second; Michelle Herzog, daughter of Melissa Solko and Joe Herzog, third.

Claudia, John and Adam Powell of Atwood; Aaron Powell of Holyoke, Colo.; and Ken Sears of Joes, Colo.; spent last weekend at the home of Dorothy Engleman. Joining them for the ox roast on Saturday was Mary Schwerdt of McDonald.

Celebrating their birthdays at the home of Walter and Ollie Hafner last weekend were host Walter Hafner, Mrs. Heather Hafner of Fountain, Colo., and Roger Hafner of Jerseyville, Ill. Others present were Haden Hafner, Fountain, Colo.; Angela and Vanessa

Hafner, Jerseyville, Ill.; Kendra and Alyssa Jo Hafner, Canon City, Colo.; Lois and Dan Philman, Charity and friends, and Kathy Hafner, Thornton, Colo.; and John Hafner, Westminster, Colo., and Walter Hafner III, Westminster, Colo.

Weekend guests of Edie Pettera for the alumni banquet and ox roast were Les and Myrna Pettera, Loveland, Colo.; Bud and Pat Bosler, Pine, Colo.; Keith, Tress, Alyssa and Matthew Pettera, Lakewood, Colo.; Joe and LeAnn Burns, Grand Junction, Colo. On Saturday, Tom and Marlene Cook, Harper, Colo., and Jan Sattler joined the group.

Les and Myrna Pettera, Bud and Pat Bosler, Marlene Cook, Keith, Tress, Alyssa and Matthew Pettera, Joe and LeAnn Burns, Grand Junction, Colo.; and Edie Pettera attended the birthday party honoring Jan Sattler at the former Pooch's Pizza building.

Guests of Mildred Kleidosty last Saturday were Tony and Bev Kleidosty, Riverdale, Neb.; Phillip and Keli Kleidosty, Wichita; Doyle and Kay Brown, Jennings; Kent Brown and girls, Estes Park, Colo.; Kenny and Kathleen Jankovitz, Culbertson; Kenny and Doris Ann Stuart, Kearney, Neb.; and Mary Ann Solko, McCook.

Other guests were Corky and Mary Chessmore, Justin and Emily, Atwood; and Ernie and Gloria Coleman and Candice, Washington, D.C.

Judy Solko of Larned spent last weekend with her mother, Monica Solko. Ron Solko of Oberlin joined them for dinner on Sunday.

Guests of Helen Marintzer last weekend were Dan and Jo Marintzer, Hastings, Neb.; Melvin

and Regis Kogl, Lakewood, Colo.; Mike Marintzer, Austin, Texas; Eric Marintzer, Chicago; Jamie and Lisa Kogl, Kayla and Rachel, Lakewood, Colo.; Kris and Laura Glaser, Cody, Emily and Tanner, Omaha, Neb.

Marty and Michelle Rohm and family of Aurora, Colo.; and Joe and LeAnn Burns of Grand Junction, Colo., were guests of Kent and Chris Wood for the ox roast.

## Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Congratulations to Orrin and Beth Holle, who were married on Saturday, June 5, at the First Christian Church in Beloit.

The bride is the daughter of Howard and Suzanne Wehrman of Sylvan Grove, and the bridegroom's parents are Kevin and Mary Holle. They will be making their home on the farm where his parents have been living near Achilles, and his parents are moving to the former Oscar Anderson farm in this community. He is engaged in farming with his father.

Covenant Women Ministries will hold a baby shower at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday at the Prairie Development Center in Atwood hon-

oring Susan (Bell) Flavin of Dublin, Ireland.

Pastor Keith and Sandy Reuther and family have been vacationing at the Grand Canyon and other points with his mother and stepfather, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Kennedy. DeWayne Jackson of Norcat spoke at morning worship services on Sunday at the Herndon Covenant Church in his absence.

Guests at the home of Elden and Delta Anderson Sunday evening to honor him with an early birthday celebration were Richard and Maureen Anderson, Samantha, Chris and Gabe; Gary Anderson, and Dick and Donna Kelley.

## Cedar Living News

Wynemah Cox went to Herndon on June 12 to attend the Ox Roast. She also enjoyed visiting with classmates in town for the Alumni Reunion.

The Oberlin Covenant Church was in charge of the Sunday worship service on June 13.

Residents enjoyed a demonstration on molding wedding mints presented by Roberta Petracek on Monday afternoon. Several residents and staff tried their hand at making the mints. Roberta has donated mints on many occasions for parties at Cedar Living Center and also for weddings and showers of staff members.

Myrna Jones gave the music program on Monday afternoon.

Zola Brown won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Maxine Chambers and Charley Vavroch tied for blackout.

A Bachelor Party was held at noon on Wednesday as part of our month-long celebration of weddings. Residents Don Thomas, Hank Wolfram, Charley Vavroch, and Harold Frickey ate a barbecue lunch with employees Richard Kimble, who acted as host for the party; Dave Nichols, who did the grill work; Jon Brown, Jim Sullivan, Loren Vogel, and Jonathan Fick. Golda, a statutory goose dressed in a bikini, was a surprise visitor at the party.

The craft group met on Wednesday afternoon to make party favors. Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson on Wednesday. Father George was here for Mass on Thursday morning. Delores Koerperich assisted.

The women of Cedar Living Center enjoyed a bridal shower on Thursday afternoon. Marie Jean Vavroch and Bernadine Samson assisted with the party. Residents and staff shared recipes, helpful hints, words of wisdom, and favor-

ite kitchen utensils.

A dance was held on Thursday evening. Residents and guests enjoyed the music of Vic Mowry and his band. Nora Bell Manning, Opal Huntley, and Marie Jean Vavroch donated refreshments.

Several more items have been added to our bridal display, including the dress worn by Tressie Samson at her wedding in 1929. Visitors are welcome to stop in to view the items or to attend our Bridal Tea at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday.

Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler of Faith Lutheran Church gave the Sunday worship service on Father's Day. An ice cream social was held on Sunday evening in honor of Father's Day.

Recent visitors: Dale and Lillian Wurm, West Covina, Calif.; Sara Bishop and Jamie Samson, Lindsborg; Richard and Bernadine Samson, Ludell; Shirley Cogburn, Hobbs, N.M.; Marie Miller, Dresden; Ann Martin, Herndon; Jerry Temple, Margaret Magers, Norcat; Paul and Kathy Nauer, Jennings; Shirley Emigh, Don Ashley, Carl Mumm, Jean Skubal, Selden; Allan Vavroch, Manhatan; Kevin Vavroch, Topeka; Janice Doyle, Lincoln, Neb.; Larry, Sandy and Kyle Wolfram, Liberal; Tom and Glenva Burrell, Max, Neb.;

Mary Ann Amack, Mary Lemman, Dolores and Jacob Koerperich, Orlin Beneda, Elvin Beneda, Fern Wenger, Dorothy Cochran, Rita Garver, Elsie Wolters, Nadean Stoney, Barb Solko, Irene Fringer, Wayne and Lois Larson, Patty Brown, Nora Bell Manning, Eunice Richards, Bertha Schwisow, Marian Wenger, Eileen Laird, Lyle Gamblin, Nolan and Barbara Pierce, Elaine Bryan, Laurene VanOtterloo, Oberlin.

## Good Samaritan News

On Monday, June 14, devotions were brought by Jan Badsy. Merry Mums gathered to recognize Flag Day, with residents Agnes Chambers, Erma Holt, Bernice Brown, Veda Pingetzer, Ruby McKenna, Eva Cuthbertson and Mamie Unger reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and talking about its meaning.

Children from Little Sam's Daycare created paper flowers with Marilyn St. Clair, Eryline Nichols, Agnes Chambers, Fern Anderson, Elsie Macy, Eva Cuthbertson and Mamie Unger, assisted by Barb Berry and Jessica Soderlund. Garrah Gaumer, Ivah Alexander, and Hildegard Euhus shared a game of Canasta with volunteer Mildred Holmdahl, who also served Social Hour.

The message was brought by Janice Shobe for Tuesday morning devotions. Staff and residents gathered for a delicious barbecue with hamburgers grilled by Lisa Stacy and Angela Musgrave, assisted by Kyle Hartzog. In the afternoon Ivah Alexander, Fern Anderson, Jan Conway, Ruby Shuler, Eryline Nichols and Ruby McKenna enjoyed making floral arrangements.

Songs of worship was led by Violet Krizek on Wednesday morning, accompanied by Cheryl Miller. Residents gathered to hear an inspirational Bible lesson with volunteer Mert McEvoy, attended by Ann Leitner, Agnes Chambers, Eva Cuthbertson, Garrah Gaumer, Dena Gillespie, Marilyn St. Clair, Eva Bryan, Bonnie Weskamp, Fern Anderson, and Hazel Flaska.

Karli Fredrickson, Dorothy Alstrom, and Roxie Erickson shared nail care with the ladies. Ellen Horn served Social Hour and bingo concluded the day's events.

The Thursday morning devotional message gathered Bonnie Weskamp, Marilyn St. Clair, Elsie Macy, Fern Anderson and Leo Mooty to paint dough-art projects. Reading pals joined Lora Zwickel, Garrah Gaumer, Fern Anderson, Mamie Unger, Eva Bryan and

Kathryn Post. A welcome party was held in the afternoon for Irene Wagoner and Lora Zwickel, with fruit plates for the guests. Members of the Welcoming Committee were Eva Bryan, Neva Campbell, Elva Shaughnessy, Hildegard Euhus, Garrah Gaumer, and Marguerite Fullerton. Twenty-four members of the Stick-To-It 4-H Club and leader Maureen Anderson provided special entertainment with a presentation about the 50 states.

"Refiner's Fire" was the morning devotion on Friday, brought by Lisa Stacy. Mary Henzel played piano. The social group Shooting Stars, including Eva Bryan, Erma Holt, LuVerne May, Garrah Gaumer, Dena Gillespie, Eva Cuthbertson, Bernice Brown, Mamie Unger, Hazel Flaska, Lorna Bishop, Leo Mooty, Ruby Shuler, Fern Anderson, Eleanore Demmer and Ivah Alexander, listened to the story, "The Lost Kite." Carol Duncan read *The Oberlin Herald* for our Current Events gathering. Attending were Dena Gillespie, Eva Bryan, Garrah Gaumer, Mamie Unger, Lorna Bishop, Leo Mooty, Ruby Shuler, Fern Anderson, Ruth Laidig, Irene Wagoner and Ivah Alexander. Bethany Smith served Social Hour.

Saturday devotions were shared by Dennis Brown.

Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler represented Faith Lutheran Church by leading Sunday church services. Florence Vavroch served Social Hour.

Sunday evening was a special time for dads, as they enjoyed the company of their spouses and families. Grilled rib eye steaks were served, with baked potatoes, green beans and homemade pie. Enjoying the evening were Harold and Eleanore Demmer, Everett and Florence Fisher, Lee and Lora Arnold, and Leo Mooty. Guests attending were Coleen Geihlsler, Connie Grafel, Greg Grafel and Kel, and Kade Grafel, John Arnold, Mark and Julianna Baker, Marissa, Nathan and Jordan, and Ken and Regan Badsy.

## Jennings News

By Sonya Gillespie

Leona Kaspar, a former Jennings resident, is making her home in Victoria. She would en-

joy mail and it may be sent to St. John's Rest Home, 70197th Street, Victoria, Kan., 67671.

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