

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1897

John Neve has taken the census of the northern tier of townships in this county and reports 700 inhabitants. If the remaining townships have as large a population, there will be 3,500 inhabitants of Decatur County.

A mass meeting of the voters of Decatur County will be held in the Masonic Hall in Oberlin on Saturday, Nov. 1, 1879, for the purpose of selecting names of four persons to recommend to the Governor, three for temporary county commissioners and one as temporary county clerk.

Uncle Jack Langley, over on the Beaver, preaches every other week in the house on Harvey's ranch. It seems to us a great deal like bearding the lion in his den.

Money has been raised to build a bridge across the Sappa to the foot of Penn Avenue.

100 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1904

Election Results: The Republicans carried everything in the nation, state and even in Decatur County except the office of treasurer. For president, Theodore Roosevelt received 125 votes in Decatur County while Democrat Parker received 411; for Governor, Hoch received 1033 votes and Dale 736. County officers elected were: treasurer, Frank Smith; sheriff, J.W. Railsback; clerk, Fred Campbell; register of deeds, A.J. Brock; superintendent, A.C. Banta; probate judge, A.L. Patchin; clerk of court, Chas. Brewer; attorney, L.M. Parker; surveyor, G.W. Gilkison; coroner, J.J. Dallal; commissioner, 2nd district, H.S. Kennedy and 3rd district, J.R. Conquest.

It has been reported that Barney McCoy, a former resident of this county, has gotten rich down in Oklahoma.

Horse racing every Saturday afternoon.

School began last Monday morning.

75 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1929

Snow is falling as we go to press this morning and the wind is in the northeast. Oh boy!

Most of the Oberlin businesses will be closed for Armistice Day. An agreement was made last year with Atwood that if they closed and came to Oberlin for the football game in the afternoon, we would do the same the next year. Neither team has been defeated this year and more than likely the outcome of the game will decide the championship of the Northwest Kansas League.

Funeral services were held for Hubert Gillette, 62, who was found dead at his home 10 miles south of Oberlin. He came to Decatur County in 1880 and remained on the farm after the death of his parents. He was a regular attendant at the Shilboleth Church on the Dresden Charge. He is survived by three brothers.

Court House News: Frank Tolle, 27, and Miss Florence B. Crabill, 27, both of Norcatur, were married by Judge Kulp on Nov. 1; Mr. Otis L. Barker, 19 and Miss Wilma A. Johnston, 19, both of Oberlin, were married Nov. 2 by Judge Kulp.

Dresden: Mr. and Mrs. Ora Harold are the proud parents of a baby boy.

Custer: Faye Smick shipped in 2 carloads of sheep from Denver last week.

50 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1954

The usual gaiety of the first day of pheasant hunting season was dispelled here Saturday afternoon when news spread of the fatal shooting of a visiting hunter. The victim was Chief Petty Officer Elden Day, 34, of the Olathe Naval Air Station who was hunting with six companions near the Dale Barton farm. All the navy men were friends of Bob Ater who is also stationed at the Olathe Naval Base.

An accidental shotgun blast seriously wounded Herb McReynolds of Norton last Sunday as he was preparing to go hunting near Reager. He was flown to Kansas City by

Bob Fraker of Oberlin for surgery.

Dr. Rolla Harger, professor of biochemistry and toxicology at the Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis, Indiana, visited here this week while here he demonstrated his "Drunkometer" which is being used in 25 states to determine if drivers are under the influence of alcohol.

New Arrivals: Connie Sue came to make her home with Mr. and Mrs. William Fowler on Nov. 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Perry Macy are the new owners of a house recently completed on North Marks Avenue which was built of PermaStone by Edgar Simonson.

25 YEARS GO — Nov. 1979

Opening weekend of pheasant season was a whopping success according to reports filtering into the Herald office. According to local game protector Larry Dawson, hunters averaged two birds each on Saturday.

Jennings: Trains are moving on

the Rock Island Railroad again after a 10-car derailment early Sunday due to a broken rail.

Hospital News: Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Timm, Herndon, daughter, Melissa Ann, Nov. 10, 1979.

Practices have begun for winter sports at Decatur Community High School with Bill Brown as wrestling coach; Annette Sulzman as girls' basketball coach; and Jim Keller as boys' basketball coach.

Decatur Animal Hospital will host the Western District meeting of the Kansas Veterinary Medical Assn. Sunday. Some 25 veterinarians from the western half of Kansas are expected to attend the meeting to be held at Oberlin American Legion, according to Dr. Jay Anderson and Dr. John Rule.

Gary Anderson has joined the staff of Farmers National Bank. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elden Anderson, Sappa Township, and a spring graduate of Kansas State University in Manhattan with a degree in agriculture economics.

Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, director

The foundation for St. Mark's Lutheran Church was formed and concrete poured last week. The blocks will be set some time soon and will be ready for the building. We still have not heard when the mover will be down or even an estimated time for the move.

Decatur County Lutherans will join together to sponsor a Benefit Pancake and Sausage Supper for the move and restoration of St. Mark's Lutheran Church. The benefit supper will be held from 5-7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 19, at St. John's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 510 North Wilson Avenue, in Oberlin. This is a joint project of Faith Lutheran and St. John's Lutheran Thrivent members, along with help from the Decatur County Museum board members.

The supper is a freewill donation.

The Smoky Hill Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will match up to \$1,500 towards this Care Abounds in Communities project. The Museum board will recognize those who give donations of \$100 or more by including the donor's name on a plaque in the restored St. Mark's church.

Come and have supper with friends, support the Museum Benefit, and then attend the Decatur Community High School Musical, "Godspell," at the high school auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

The board and staff would once again like to thank everyone who has been so kind and already donated toward this project. The church will be a wonderful addition to the other 13 buildings.

Rexford News

By Sondra Barnett

Betty Nickols had as last weekend guests, Tim and Rosie Hughes of Denver. Rosie was involved with the Pioneer Girls for many years.

Marge Leh's shoulder is healing well.

The American Legion sponsored a pinocole tournament at the Legion hall on Saturday night. They will continue having monthly during the winter months, usually at 7 p.m. on the third Saturday night of the month. Snacks will be provided and everyone is welcome. Those needing a partner can find one at the event.

The high school dinner theater will be on Nov. 12 and only 100 tickets will be sold. Price is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children.

The high school and middle school youth groups helped the Operation Christmas Child project of the Rexford Church by packing some of the boxes.

The youth groups will go to Kearney, Neb., for a Josh McDowell youth rally and concert by the "Super Chicks" Nov. 10.

There were 10 Barnswallows at the monthly birthday party last week. Rex and Betty Carswell brought the cake. Present were Lawrence and Maryann Juenemann, Grace Cheney, Gene Rogers, Darlene Robbin, Fran Leach, Dick Sanford, Deb Stepper, and Rex and Betty Carswell. Those with October birthdays are Betty Nickols, Betty Carswell, Rhelda Dible, Maryann Juenemann, Ron Dible, Wes Bencken, and Fran Leach. Rosalee Seaman, Colby gave a report on the Kansas Silver Haired Legislature. Guests were Jodee Murray, Colby; Eunice Sanford, and Freda Ketchum.

Six members of the Ladies Missionary group met for a potluck dinner and each shared a thought from the Bible.

Hulda Wark and Sondra Barnett babysat in Pretty Prairie with Sondra's grandchildren, Gabriel and Kaleb while their parents, Shalom and Kevin Kruse, vacationed in Hawaii.

Delores and DeAnn Dible visited Hazel Richardson in Logan.

prise 50th birthday party for Cleda's niece, Ann (Minnick) Schmeidler.

Weekend guests of Nancy and Jay Dahl were their daughter, Linda Dunn, Jessica, Chris, and Craig of Beloit.

Koffee Klatch attendees on Friday were Margaret Arasmith, Deb Stepper, Eunice Sanford, Freda Ketchum, Fran Leach, Grace Cheney, Delores Dible, Darla Dible, Berneda Zoberst, Vesta Roth and Nancy Dahl. We'll miss seeing Nancy at Koffee, but we glad her broken wrist is healed and she has been released to return to work.

MAKIN' IT HAPPEN: Hats off to all my friends in Rexford who have helped me collect the news during my absence. I couldn't have done it without you. Thank you all so much.

Ruth Luna went to Milliken, Colo., to visit her daughter and grandchildren. The youngest grandchild, Brandon is only 9 months old and has had four surgeries since he was born. He's a "tuff" little guy.

While Ruth was in Milliken, she visited Letford Elementary School, where she was the head custodian for 12 years. She enjoyed visiting with all the teachers and staff and some of the children with whom she was acquainted. She also visited her friend, Annabell Gonzales, in Loveland, Colo., and her sister, Laura Hawkins, who lives in Waynoka, Okla., where she is the owner of Gooseberry Patch Cafe.

Social Hour Club was held on Wednesday with Cleda Moeder as hostess. Winners of the Bingo prizes were Lula Thieler, Grace Cheney, Ruth Luna, and Eileen Dible. Hostess prize winner was Deb Stepper. Others present were Zula Horinek, Fran Leach, Jean Hawkins, Vesta Roth, Marge Leh, Hulda Wark and Sondra Barnett.

Several members had fun wearing purple clothing with red hats. The next meeting will be the Christmas party on noon on Dec. 7 at the Colonial Steak House in Oakley.

Sondra Barnett went to Wichita on an overnight trip to help plan the Kansas State Aglow Conference to be held in April. Her daughter-in-law, Lori Barnett, and son, Joshua, came to take over her responsibilities here.

The Bible study group met on Tuesday morning at the Barn with

eight present.

There was a good voter turnout in Rexford on Tuesday, with 172 participating in the election from three townships.

Sondra Barnett's son, Cory and Tessa Barnett, Tabitha, Corban and Obadiah spent several nights at her house, while he was doing some roofing and gutter work.

Those present at Koffee Klatch last week were Freda Ketchum, Delores Dible, Fran Leach, Berneda Zoberst, Eunice Sanford, Darla Dible, Grace Cheney, Deb Stepper, Jean Hawkins, Vesta Roth, Hulda Wark, Sondra Barnett, Lori and Joshua Barnett, Tyrone, Okla.; and Tessa, Tabitha, Corban, and Obadiah Barnett, Liberal.

The Rexford Eastern Star participated in the 25- and 50-year pin presentations for Colby and Goodland. Worthy Grand Matron Lynn Hendrix, Leavenworth, and Worthy Grand Patron Robert Ott, Medicine Lodge, were both present. There were three recognized for their 50-year memberships and two for their 25-year milestones.

Vesta Roth went to Dodge City to a bridal shower for her granddaughter, Rebecca, daughter of Dan and Janice Roth.

The annual turkey and ham dinner will be held beginning at 11 a.m. at the community building on Saturday, the first day of pheasant season. The dinner is a joint effort of the Lions Club and the Royal Neighbors. Cost is \$6.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children.

There were 38 from the Rexford Community Church, who ate lunch together last Sunday and then packed 100 shoe boxes for the Operation Christmas Child project. They collect shoe boxes and items to put in them all year long, and would welcome items to be brought to the church any time.

The senior citizens group had their board meeting with nine present. They discussed their Christmas party which is to be held on Dec. 13. They will notify all the seniors in town of the details in a few weeks.

Peyton, daughter of Tim and Shelly Moeder, Colby, spent the weekend with her grandmother, Cleda Moeder, while her brother was at a wrestling tournament in Denver.

The Farm Management Association of Colby had their board meet-

ing at Rexford at the Shepherd Staff with 13 present.

Bill and Donna Sweeney, and Dick and Edna Coles of Arlington, Texas, spent the week at the Shepherd's Staff doing volunteer work. They come for a week each spring and fall to give of their time.

Saturday night will be movie night for the area Teens for Christ at the Shepherd's Staff. The movie is "Last Flight Out." After the movie, the Ranch House will be open and food will be served. There is no charge and all youth are welcome.

There will be a dinner theater at the Golden Plains High School on Friday evening. The play is a murder mystery and there will be audience participation. The cast will be serving the meal, along with clues to help solve the mystery. The charge is \$6 for the entire evening.

The Golden Plains Schools grades K-12 will be taking achievement tests all week in the morning.

There was a good showing for the first pinocle tournament of the season, held on Oct. 30 at the American Legion building. There were 20 in attendance, making five tables. Winners of first place were Dick and Ken Sanford. Second place was taken by Chuck Williams and Lane Purcell, with third-place winners Bob and Melody Leach.

MAKIN' IT HAPPEN: Hats off to the Rexford PRIDE Committee for the work they are presently doing to make a fitness center become a reality. We will appreciate having it and are looking forward to the finalization of the center.

McGraw News

By Quincy Scott

On Sunday, Nov. 7, Mrs. Roger Mauck visited Ray and Germaine Weis.

Mrs. Rose Hardman joined Dorothy Heim and family to attend church on Nov. 7, and to wish Quincy Scott a happy 17th birthday on Nov. 11.

Good Samaritan News

Jan Badsy led morning devotions last Monday. The message was marking the significance of All Saint's Day. Garrah Gaumer accompanied on the piano.

Children from Little Sam's Day Care shared stamp art with Hazel Flaska, Florence Fisher, Ruby McKenna, Leo Mooty, Agnes Chambers, Eryline Nichols and others on Monday. Folding Fellowship was held with Jan Conway, Fern Anderson, Garrah Gaumer, and Ivah Alexander participating.

Monday afternoon Fern Anderson, Muriel Ready, Eryline Nichols and Dena Gillespie gathered in a prayer circle and learned of the history and origin of All Hallows' Eve. Lisa Stacy served Social Hour.

Self-control was the final lesson in the Bible study series on "Fruit of the Spirit" for Fern Anderson, Ivah Alexander, LuVerne May, Garrah Gaumer, Neva Campbell, Ruth Laidig, Jeanette Conway, Ruby Shuler, Ruby McKenna, Muriel Ready and Marilyn St. Clair.

Devotions were led by Janice Shobe on Tuesday. Patriotic tunes were chosen in honor of Election Day.

Lisa Stacy led a game of patriotic trivia about the First Ladies. Leading services later was Pastor Charlotte of Faith Lutheran Church, assisted by Bertha Schwisow, Ann Mines, and Leona Helmkamp.

A silly puppet show was enjoyed on Tuesday, "If the White House Walls Could Talk," starring a Republican elephant named Ralph and a Democratic donkey named Dan. Later residents exercised their right to vote, assisted by Lisa Stacy and Coleen Rippe.

Children from Little Sam's and residents waved "good luck" to the Oberlin football team as they passed by Tuesday on their way to Smith Center for playoffs.

On Wednesday, Jan Badsy led devotional singing with Edla Olson accompanying on the piano. Mert McEvoy led morning Bible study

for Fern Anderson, Dena Gillespie, Agnes Chambers, Mamie Unger, Ella Peterson, Eva Bryan, Jan Conway, and Hazel Flaska.

Speaking about love for devotions on Thursday was Lisa Stacy. Catholic services were attended by Ruby McKenna and Lois Buchholz. During Reminiscence Corner, the ladies talked about family Thanksgiving traditions. Edla Olson raised 100 turkeys, and told about some turkey behaviors that added laughter to the time together.

Heart's Creation met Thursday to make fall tree centerpieces and spin-art turkey decorations. Enjoying it were Hildegard Euhus, Fern Anderson, Ivah Alexander, Elsie Macy and Jeanette Conway. A new program called "Just the Two of Us," has been started for those who do not participate in activities.

Administrator Janice Shobe led devotions Friday morning. Folding Fellowship brought Ivah Alexander, Fern Anderson and Jeanette Conway together. Carol Duncan read *The Oberlin Herald*.

On Friday, the men had fun with a remote control Ford F150 car. Alan Adleman, Everett Fisher, Leo Mooty, Elsie Macy and "Pooch" Portschy took the car out for a spin. They were all quick learners, and gave the car a work-out. Social Hour was served by Bethany Smith while her mother, Linda, played the piano. An impromptu game of Bingo followed with LuVerne May, Eryline Nichols, Leo Mooty and Fern Anderson playing.

Saturday devotions were led by Dennis Brown.

Sunday church services were led by the Assembly of God church. Social Hour was served by Shirley Nichols.

Recent guests: **Eva Bryan** - Delta Anderson; **Garrah Gaumer** - Pastor Glenn and Betty Krebs; **Dena Gillespie** - Pastor Glenn and Betty Krebs, Pat Hartzog; **Ruby McKenna** - Pat Hartzog.

Jennings News

By Lauri Long

Donna Hampton and Marilyn Linn of Wichita were houseguests from Tuesday to Friday of their cousin, Vendla Tacha. The women joined Marianna Bendon, Cecil Hess and Mary Lou Olson for lunch in Oberlin on Wednesday.

Sunflower Senior Center members winning at cards during the month of October were Eleanor Morel on Oct. 29; Agnes Wahlmeier, Oct. 23 and Oct. 16;

and Louise Cressler, Oct. 9.

The Jennings Cafe will sponsor a benefit oyster fry/baked ham supper from 5 to 9 p.m. fry on Friday with part of the proceeds going for the community hall.

Dennis Bader is hospitalized at Hays Medical Center for surgery. Mail will reach him at Hays Medical Center, 2220 Canterbury Drive, Hays, Kan., 67601.

Lyle News

By Deanna Sumner

June Jolly and Kathy Van Meter went in to vote on Tuesday.

On Thursday Kathy Van Meter's bank held a party. Fun was had by all playing Turkey Bingo and the winner had to "gobble, gobble".

Brooke Sumner was in the Hays Medical Center on Thursday and had her tonsils and adenoids removed. Grandma Yvonne Sumner met them there for support. That evening Brooke's aunts, Michelle Sumner of Ellsworth and Amy Archer, and cousins Andrew and Gracie of McPherson came for a short visit. She loved all the gifts

and attention. "Grandma Von" left to return to Holdrege, Neb., where Greg is working, and to get ready for staying this week with Mark, Amy, Andrew and Gracie Archer while Amy undergoes a hysterectomy.

Kathy Van Meter and Toots Magers went to Norcatur on Friday for the potluck dinner and cards.

There were 20 present on Sunday for the Lyle community dinner and the weather was beautiful!

Don't forget the Lyle Bazaar at 2 p.m. on Sunday at the Lyle Community Building.



Thanks for your support!

Your votes and support in the November 2 election were appreciated. — John Faber

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