

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1879

Those selected for temporary county officers at the mass meeting are: County Clerk, Edward D. Stillson; County Commissioners: Beaver District, Frank Kimball; Sappa District, John B. Hitchcock; Prairie Dog District, George W. Shoemaker.

One year ago the Indians drove out all the settlers west of this place, and there was not 300 people in Decatur County. Now we have over 3,000 inhabitants, 600 voters and a town with a population of nearly 400. What county in this or any other state can beat it?

We are informed by Wm. F. Coulton that the timbers for the Penn Avenue bridge are now at Buffalo Station.

The social gathering in the parlors of the Tremont House on Saturday evening was a pleasant affair. Mr. Churchill and his estimable lady know how to make their guests enjoy themselves.

100 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1904

The Cooperative store near Achilles came near being destroyed by fire last Sunday evening.

P. W. Thorne of Prairie Dog was a caller Saturday. He is pretty sore over the defeat of Marcuson for commissioner; he feels that the Swedes are entitled to one county official, and to have as good a man as Marcuson defeated was hardly fair, but we explained that such is politics.

Miss Minnie Dees was baptized at the Baptist Church Sunday evening. The new baptistry is very convenient; the water is warmed by passing through a coil of hot pipe, making the service in no way unpleasant.

We hear that Charley Brown of Achilles was married to Miss Etta West at the home of his father, Wm. Brown, in this city last week, Rev. Miller officiating. Ministers that receive the HERALD complimentary are kindly asked to furnish notices of weddings, funerals, etc., that they may appear in proper time.

75 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1929

One of the best high school football games ever witnessed in western Kansas was played on the Atwood gridiron last Friday afternoon with Atwood winning 6-0. The field was in fair condition and

the crowd was large considering the kind of weather we have had the past couple of weeks but the road to Atwood was a fright and several cars had to be pulled out of the ditch.

Decatur exceeded in first and tens but Atwood excelled in passing by which they scored the only touchdown of the game. This is the first defeat Decatur has suffered since Atwood beat them 7-0 in 1927 — a string of 23 victories without a loss and a record of which the school and team should be justly proud.

Improvements are being made in the Oberlin Opera House including decorating on the main auditorium and partitioning off the upper level to limit the amount of air space to be heated in the winter.

LeW Wenger is starting the erection of a 25x40 brick building on Rodehaver Avenue to give him more room for his auto repair business.

Norcatour: The city was shocked and saddened when the news spread that Mrs. George B. Miller had been found dead in her rocking chair. She had been listening to a radio program and the radio was still turned on. She was 63 years of age and had come to Decatur County in 1887 with her husband and settled on a homestead 3 miles southwest of Norcatour where she continued to make her home after her husband's death until moving to Norcatour two years ago. She is survived by 10 children.

Jennings: Wilbur Chandler recently bought the Rhodes store at Dresden and Wanda and Arnold are attending the Dresden school.

50 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1954

The people of Decatur County are urged to have free chest X-rays courtesy of the mobile unit of the Kansas Tuberculosis Association which will be on Main Street in front of Corcoran Furniture Store next Wednesday and Thursday. It will also be at the city hall in Norcatour the next Monday.

Court House News: Probate Judge Nellans issued two marriage licenses last week: Gayle Dee Fortin and Elna Shaw Nov. 18, who will be married Nov. 26 at the Methodist Church and Charles D. Young and Barbara Jeffus on Nov. 18 who were married Nov. 21 at the Federated Church.

Lee Hoehner, senior Red Devil

halfback, was named to the all-league team chosen by a poll of league coaches. Two junior linemen, Larry Guinn and Joe Paddock, landed second-team positions and end Jack Carver and tackle Ray Corcoran received honorable mention. An odd fact of the poll was that Colby, Northwest Kansas League champ, did not place a single man on the first team.

Abbott Morton, Bassettville Township, was chosen as the new president of the Decatur County Fair Association at the annual meeting. He succeeds Bartos Brown who has served as president of the past seven years and asked to be relieved of the post.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Jorn entertained with a birthday party Sunday honoring their daughter Nancy on her fifth birthday.

A surprise potluck supper was held at the Traer schoolhouse Nov. 20 in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Wurm on their 40th wedding anniversary.

25 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1979

One hundred years ago this week area residents were awaiting word from Topeka on the official organization of the County of Decatur.

Decatur Co-op this week purchased a small tract of land from Neal Elwood which will be used as a bulk plant site in the near future. According to John Juenemann, the location along U.S. 83 outside the

city limits with access to the highway will improve operation of the business.

Jennings: The low rent housing project is nearing completion and applications from persons wishing to move into the units are being accepted. At Herndon more applicants are needed to fill the units which were completed there last spring. A 17-unit section completed last winter in Oberlin is running near capacity, according to Ray Lohofener, chairman of the local housing authority. Mrs. Walt (Bonnie) Anderson, is executive secretary.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Claussen, son, Cale Cameron, Nov. 26; Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Kathka, Norton, daughter, Sabrina Rae, Nov. 23; Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Miller, Ulysses, daughter, Krysten Rene, Nov. 17; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cramer, Lyons, daughter, Mary Elizabeth, Nov. 14.

Selections for the All-Northwest Kansas football team included three from Oberlin: defensive lineman, Terry Urban; defensive back, Mike Neff and guard Kevin Unger. Honorable mention went to Ward Wurm, tackle; linebackers Kevin Unger and Dave Stapp and end, Roger LaSalle. Hoxie won the Northwest Kansas League with Oakley second and both teams went into the state play-offs and were defeated by Smith Center.

Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, director

The board and staff would like to express our gratitude to the Smoky Hills Thrivent Chapter for the matching funds from the fundraiser hosted by the St. John's Lutheran and Faith Lutheran groups.

We also want to thank all the members of both churches for the time and effort in holding the sausage and pancake benefit for the restoration of the St. Mark's Lutheran Church, which will be moved to the Museum grounds.

Over 200 people attended the benefit and we are thankful for you that supported this project. If you were unable to make the benefit, donations can still be made at the Museum or sent to the Decatur

County Museum, 258 S. Penn, Oberlin, Kan., 67749.

Having family and friends come for Thanksgiving? Remember the Museum for a wonderful place to spend some time. We will be open from 10 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Friday evening after the Parade of Lights we will open for the Museum Christmas Tree Tour. The board and staff will be serving free refreshments in the Second Annex. The craft shop, The Seeds of Creation, will be open with many Christmas decorations and gift ideas for your shopping pleasure.

Happy Thanksgiving from the board and staff of your Decatur County Museum.

Rexford News

By Sondra Barnett

I am back from Arizona and it sure feels good to be home, which reminds me of things that we need to be thankful for, like salvation, health and family. We are also thankful for the new moisture that we received.

Opening day of pheasant season was fairly successful around here. Shawn and Dennis Spresser had about 40 people at their home for dinner on Saturday. Among the guests were Tanner Gillum, Manhattan; Gary and Clara Gillum, Jennings; and Kelsey and Ben Rhodes, La Grange, Wyo. The hunters bagged 69 birds!

On the subject of hunting, Clara and Gary Gillum have had bow hunters as houseguests for the last three weekends. Clara said that she didn't realize how very serious these guys are... up at 5:30 a.m. and sitting in a tree, waiting patiently for just the right deer. Since there are plenty to choose from, they carefully select the biggest and perfect one.

Koffee Klatch attendees last week were Grace Cheney, Berneda Zoberst, Eunice Sanford, Freda Ketchum, Margaret Arasmith, Delores Dible, Vesta Roth, Darla Dible, Jean Hawkins, Deb Stepper, Liz Rall, Hulda Wark and Sondra Barnett.

November birthdays around town are Ray Zoberst and Lawrence Juenemann, Nov. 17; Gene Rogers, 23; Grace Cheney, 24; Eileen Dible, 26; Marguerite Black, 27; Jean Hawkins, 29; Rex Carswell, 30. Happy birthday to you all, and to anyone else that I missed.

Pat and Chuck Williams celebrated their 40th anniversary last week. Congratulations!

Joan Todd has been spending time in Colorado with her mother, who has had health problems. Joan reports that she is doing better at this time.

Pastor Lane Purcell and Patty went to Great Bend, where Lane officiated in the wedding of his friend's daughter. Liz Purcell, who is a nursing student at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee,

Okla., also attended the wedding and is spending some time at Rexford with her parents during Thanksgiving break.

Jami Wark and 19 other girls accompanied their instructor, Kolleen Barrett, to a dance conference/workshop at Denver over the weekend. Kolleen owns "The Dance Place" in Colby. The event was sponsored by L. A. Dance Magic of Los Angeles, Calif., and the students learned new moves and dances.

Berneda and Ray Zoberst celebrated his 85th birthday at their home with guests Kenneth, Teena and Scott Johnston.

Ray and Berneda Zoberst were guests at the home of her son, Don and Sharrel Barnett, Forde and Bailey of Sharon Springs, to help celebrate the 14th birthday of Jessica Barnett, Belleville. Other guests were Greg and Tracy Bruggeman, Selden.

Cleda Moeder's grandson, Taylor Moeder, took first place for 12 and under, 70 pounds, in Tulsa at the Cliff Keen Athletic Kick-Off Classics Tournament over the weekend. There were 1300 wrestlers from 36 states present. Cleda recently acquired a copy of the Cliff Keen Athletic, Wrestling USA and World of Wrestling report for last year. Taylor has some impressive

accomplishments to his name, such as first in the Mid-America, second in Tulsa Nationals, and second in Reno. He was selected #1 wrestler in the nation for 64 pounds. He wrestles kids from all over the United States. He is the son of Shelly and Tim Moeder, Colby.

Jeannette Bencken and her sister, Carlene Bruggeman of Selden, flew to Boston for a five-day visit with Carlene's daughter Renee, who lives in that area. They toured into New Hampshire and Maine and visited many historical sites in the area, as well as the ocean. It was a very enjoyable vacation for them.

Rex and Betty Carswell attended the Carswell reunion at Alton.

Four members of The Worthwhile Club met at the barn with Betty Carswell as hostess. Others present were Grace Cheney, Edna Colson, and Glendora Bastin. Their Christmas meeting will be a noon potluck on Dec. 8 with Edna Colson as hostess.

Darrel and Darla Dible, and Jolene Hansen delivered 107 shoe boxes filled with goodies from the Rexford Church to Colorado Springs to be distributed by Operation Christmas Child. They also took 14 boxes from a Bird City group and two boxes from Gem.

Ellis Walker, Fort Collins, Colo., was here for a brief visit with his

sister, Nancy and Jay Dahl.

Timmy Dahl and Jake Gould went to Denver to visit Jake's brother, Matt Gould, for the weekend. Jake is to leave for boot camp at Great Lakes, Ill., this coming week.

The Shepherd's Staff served the noon meal to 103 people on Saturday for the League of Ministries at The Gateway in Oberlin.

NEW ARRIVALS

Twin sons were born to Tony and Lisa Bice on Friday at Presbyterian Hospital in Denver. Dalton Anthony weighed 5 pounds and his brother, Dylan Michael, weighed 4 pounds, 9 ounces. They will remain in the hospital in Denver for a while. Grandparents are Mike and Kay Peterson and Candy Emery, and Jeff and Jill Emery, all of Stockton. Anyone wanting to send a note to Tony and Lisa can contact them at Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center, 1719 E. 19th Ave., Denver, Colo., 80218.

Hats off to the National Honor Society of Golden Plains. The nine members entertained the elementary school children for an hour and a half with story time, crafts and snacks. Members are Kristin Wark, Niki Spresser, Darcy Spresser, Jesse Miller, Valerie Broeckelman, Ashley Albers, Scott Johnston, Jennifer Eatherly, and Jessica Shaw.

Jennings News

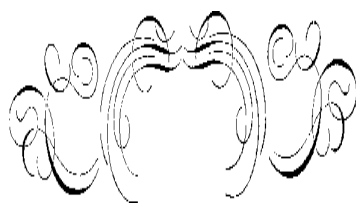
By Laurie Long

recognized at the annual membership meeting on Oct. 25 in Kansas City.

At the Sunflower Senior Center on Nov. 9, 22 senior citizens and seven guests enjoyed a potluck supper. Guessing prize, furnished by Louise Cressler, was won by Eleanor Morel. Happy birthday was sung to Arch Harman and Keith Muirhead.

Musical entertainment provided by Ila Virgil, Norton; Dwight and Teresa Wood, McCook; Anita

Hirsch, Oberlin; Dewayne Jackson, and Jim and Carolyn Plotts, was enjoyed. The next meeting will be a supper at 6 p.m. on Dec. 14 at the Jennings Cafe.



Good Samaritan News

On Monday morning, Jan Badsky led devotions with a message entitled, "Ducks, Ducks, Everywhere." Little Sam's Daycare gathered in the Town Square to make turkey ornaments. Daycare children assisted Eryline Nichols, Hazel Flaska, Leo Mooty, Eva Cuthbertson, Fern Anderson, and Mami Unger.

Ivah Alexander, Garrah Gaumer, Jeanette Conway and Fern Anderson tackled a mountain of clothing protectors during Folding Fellowship. Don Farr led residents in morning exercises.

Heart's Creation craft time brought Christmas remembrances for residents while they were stringing popcorn and cranberries for the Christmas tree at the Decatur County Museum.

Ivah Alexander, Hildegard Euhus, Edla Olson, Garrah Gaumer, Neva Campbell, and Everett Fisher were guests of the Atwood Good Samaritan Center on Monday afternoon. Volunteer Roxie Erickson helped activities staff make sure everyone enjoyed the afternoon of Bingo, with pizza for supper.

Janice Shobe led Tuesday morning devotions. Norma Carter from Country Quilting and Keepsakes brought a wonderful presentation on quilts.

Leading Wednesday morning devotions entitled, "Pain is not pointless", was Jan Badsky. Mert McEvoy led morning Bible study.

Several residents went to Oberlin Elementary School on Wednesday to eat turkey dinner with their First Hand Friends, including Ruth Laidig, Neva Campbell, Ivah Alexander, Fern Anderson, Hildegard Euhus, Marilyn St. Clair, and Harold Demmer.

Dorothy Alstrom and Roxie Erickson provided nail care after lunch and Bingo concluded the day's events.

Dennis Brown led morning devotions on Thursday. Catholic ser-

VICES were held for Lois Buchholz, Ruby McKenna, and Bonnie Weskamp. During Hearts Creation, residents strung cranberry and popcorn for the Christmas tree, which will go up soon.

During Social Hour Thursday, ice cream and toppings were served in honor of Muriel Ready and Veda Pingetzer, who had birthdays. A Thanksgiving movie featuring Bugs Bunny was enjoyed by the children from Little Sam's Day Care and residents, who shared popcorn and M&Ms.

The Friday morning devotion message was brought by Janice Shobe, with the message focusing on reaching out to share God's word with others.

Merry Mums gathered for hoop toss and ball games. Enjoying some quiet time to visit during Folding Fellowship were Jan Conway, Fern Anderson, and Ivah Alexander. Carol Duncan shared news from *The Oberlin Herald*.

Neva Townsend enjoyed a game of rummy with Jan Badsky. Bethany Smith served Social Hour. The men gathered for a good ol' western movie, complete with popcorn and sodas, attended by Harold Demmer, Alan Addleman, and Everett Fisher.

Dennis Brown led Saturday devotions.

The Oberlin Covenant Church and Pastor Heidi Wiebe held Sunday church services. Phil Erickson served Social Hour.

Recent guests: **Eva Bryan** - Detta Anderson, Samantha, Chris, Gabe, and Maureen Anderson; **Garrah Gaumer** - Pastor Glenn and Betty Krebs; **Dena Gillespie** - Pat Hartzog, Pastor Glenn and Betty Krebs; **Iris Wurm** - Beverly Witt; **Ruby McKenna** - Pat Hartzog; **Hazel Flaska** - Jon Smith, Chuck and Cleta Morgan; **Fern Mapes, Marguerite Fullerton** - Jerry Temple, Norcatour; **Ruth Laidig** - Janice and Ernie Mehl, Theresa and Gerry Tally.

Herndon News

By Carrol Ginther

Congratulations to Anikka Martin, who won the local Voice of Democracy speech contest. She presented it at the Veterans Day ceremony held at the Rawlins County High School, where she is a senior.

The contest is sponsored by the auxiliary of the Rawlins County Boys Post 1368 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Herndon.

She received a plaque from Karen Bruning on behalf of the auxiliary and a savings bond from the post.

Her taped speech will be submitted for district judging. She is the daughter of Bob and Liane Martin of Herndon and granddaughter of Ann Martin of Herndon, and Ray and Eleanor Kircher of Oberlin.

Bonnie Franke, who served as school secretary for 18 years, received a plaque from Andy Green, a member of the Rawlins County

School board, in honor of her retirement at a reception held recently. She was secretary at the Atwood Grade School before transferring to Herndon School. She and her husband, David, plan to travel.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Dick Hafner of Redding, Calif., who died recently. He was a brother of Bob Hafner of Herndon.

Ron and Rodney Solko of Oberlin were last Sunday visitors of Monica Solko. Judy Solko, Larned, was a weekend guest and she and her mother were guests of Mildred Kleidosty at the St. Mary's Church bazaar.

Visitors last Sunday of Ann Martin were Julie and John Geisinger, Selden, and Dick and Betty Martin, Wilsonville, Neb.

Edie Pettera is recuperating at her home with the help of her children, Les and Myrna Pettera of Colorado, and Don Pettera.

—NOTICE—

The Decatur County Courthouse and the Decatur County Landfill will be closed Thursday and Friday November 25 and 26 for Thanksgiving

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