

# THE OBERLIN HERALD

## Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

### 125 YEARS AGO — March 1880

Seventy-seven guests were registered at the Oberlin House during the past week.

Our new job press is on the road. When it comes we will show you what good job work is like.

The new town started in the extreme southwestern part of the county has been called Blaine. A more popular or appropriate name could not be chosen. We wish it success, and no doubt when Blaine is elected president he will boom it up.

The Sappa Dramatic Troupe of local fame will honor Oberlin with one of their entertainments Thursday evening. "Ten Nights in a Bar Room" will be presented by the troupe.

### 100 YEARS AGO — March 1905

D.W. Morton of Bassettville was in town Saturday with three big loads of fat hogs. We presume when the new railroad is run through that country Dan will quit hauling hogs so far.

H.A. Griffith sold his commercial barn and residence last week to W.L. Acton. Mr. Griffith has been a very popular livery man and has made good money while he owned the barn. Mr. Acton is one of our most energetic business men and we believe will do well at the Commercial.

The following persons took the civil service examination on Saturday for rural mail carriers: C.B. Cook, Oberlin; A.C. Wilson and L.S. Carpenter, Jennings; Willis Walkey, Paul B. Noyes, A. Rhodes and J.A. Green, Dresden.

J.E. Plotts had a narrow escape

from being seriously injured by a vicious boar recently.

Double wedding: On Sunday, Feb. 26 at 2 p.m. at the home of Peter Johnson in Beaver Township, we had the pleasure of witnessing the marriage of their two daughters, Miss Florence to Mr. Alvina E. Johnson and Miss Lily to Mr. Jesse B. Wonderly.

### 75 YEARS AGO — March 1930

At the regular meeting of the board of education, considerable time was spent in the discussion of means whereby local school taxes might be reduced. As a result it was voted to discontinue the kindergarten and music at the grade school for the next year, saving approximately two thousand dollars. Discontinuing the music department and manual training at the high school was also discussed but decided against.

Vickers and Vicinity: A farewell surprise party was given last Tuesday evening in honor of Mr. and Mrs. W.E. Brainard, who expect to move to Selden soon to make their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Bobbitt of Atwood spent Sunday with Mrs. Julia Bobbitt. They drove to Norton in the afternoon to see Rell, who is in the hospital. He is getting along as well as can be expected and may be home soon.

Traer: Men of the community worked all day Thursday at the cemetery and got it cleaned off. Chas. Price was employed to mow the grass once each month and do other work. A well is to be dug and windmill erected and it is to be hoped our

city of the dead will have good care.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hess, girl, Feb. 27, Doris Irene; Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Hopkins, girl, Feb. 27, Joan Marguerite; Mr. and Mrs. Howard Koehler, girl, Feb. 26, Karen Dee.

Mrs. W.A. Wickersham of Filley, Neb., formerly Miss Kathryn Bremer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bremer of Dresden, was recently chosen one of the five Master Homemakers of the State of Nebraska.

### 50 YEARS AGO — March 1955

Oberlin High School ranked sixth in the State wrestling tournament held at Salina last weekend, with St. Francis winning first and Wichita North second. Taking points for Decatur Community High School were Votapka, 1st, 120-lb; Dick Kelley, 2nd, 145-lb and Guinn, 2nd, 165-lb.

Farmers are looking to March for rain, with only .44 of moisture received in February in several snows.

Selden: Lowell Smith has again taken over the Selden Advocate, which he will publish as well as the Lenora News.

The James Peter farm located just west of US-83 at the southern tip of Decatur County is the location of an egg production business with more than 1,000 chickens. Records show that the caged hen production method is more efficient.

Rex Morton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Abbott Morton, has arrived home after being stationed in Germany the past year. He received his discharge at Fort Knox.

### 25 YEARS AGO — March 1980

Just like a prisoner on the death row, the Rock Island railroad was given another reprieve Friday when the Interstate Commerce Commission voted to extend federally subsidized service for another three weeks on the bankrupt line. Darrel Bruggeman, Selden Garvey Elevator, said this week that he is happy about the extension to March 23 and especially happy to be receiving a good number of cars.

Members of the Philosophian Club of Oberlin observed their 60th anniversary recently and honored three charter members, Violet Roach and Ila Landau of Oberlin and Elva Bobbitt of Norton.

Joan Banowetz, soil conservationist in Decatur County since September 1978, has received an appointment to the soil conservation office at Lincoln, Kan., effective March 23.

The Red Devil wrestlers of Coach Bill Brown placed 7th in the state 3-2-1A wrestling tournament. Only Terry Urban placed in the top four, taking third in the heavyweight division.

The Red Devil cagers of Coach Jim Keller downed Hoxie 78-56 to bring their league record to 8-5 and their overall record to 11-6. Leading scorers were Roger LaSalle, Kevin Unger and Ward Wurm.

Funeral services were held at Immaculate Conception Church in Leoville for August J. Karls, 85, who operated stores in Leoville and later Selden for many years.

## Rexford News

By Sondra Barnett

The City Pride had a meeting last week. Those present were Darrell, Delores and Deann Dible, Ann Colling, Evelyn Johnson, and Sondra Barnett. The city-wide clean-up day was set for April 22-23. Also in the plans is the city-wide garage sale for June 11.

Royal Neighbors met with Betty Carswell as hostess. Others present were Grace Cheney, Jean Hawkins, Darlene Robben, and Deb Stepper.

The Come-on-Down group last week included Fran Leach, Chuck Williams, Lawrence Horinek, Dick Sanford, and Rex Carswell. After the Royal Neighbors meeting, they were joined by Grace Cheney, Jean Hawkins, Deb Stepper, Betty Carswell and Darlene Robben.

Koffee Klatch last week was attended by Deb Stepper, Deborah Gamboa, Liz Rall, Delores Dible, Berneda Zoberst, Vesta Roth, Jean Hawkins, Cleda Moeder, Hulda Wark, Grace Cheney, Fran Leach, Hulda Wark, Eunice Sanford and Sondra Barnett.

Barnswallows last week included Grace Cheney, Fran Leach, Rex and Betty Carswell, Dick Sanford, Mary Ann and Lawrence Juenemann, Lawrence Horinek, Darlene Robben, Jean Hawkins, and Deb Stepper.

Sondra Barnett left on Friday to spend the night in Hays and then on Saturday, taking one of the area Aglow board members with her, went to Wichita. The two planned some of the decoration details for the upcoming state conference to be

held in Wichita in April. After returning to LaCrosse to take her friend to her mother's home, Sondra left for Garden City, where she spent the weekend visiting two of her sons and their families.

Chuck and Pat Williams just returned from nearly two months in Arizona. He has some sisters there.

David and Jacindra Taylor, Cheyenne, David, Briana, and Dakota, who will be moving to Nebraska in the near future.

I received a call from Lyle Gillispie, Colby, whom I've known for many years. He asked if I would like some information he came by from his children, through the Internet. Of course I was interested and so he mailed me a copy.

A.A. Gillispie, born in Pennsylvania in 1880, lived in western Kansas since childhood. He "succeeded in a certain and successful course on the sea of journalism and for a number of years, conducted one of the leading newspapers in Northwest Kansas." He was the proprietor and editor of the *Rexford News* and conducted it for more than 15 years. He learned the printer's trade in the office at Colby and also worked in the newspaper in Atwood for a year before he bought the *Rexford News* in 1904 (established the previous year). He gave his energies to building it up as the official paper of Thomas County. It was a Republican paper and had a circulation and influence all over Thomas and surrounding counties! In addition to his duties as editor and publisher, he

was postmaster of Rexford for eight and a half years under the administrations of Roosevelt and Taft. He was a straight-forward Republican in politics.

Thank you, Lyle, for this interesting information!

### SCOOP ON THE SCHOOL

The Thomas County Spelling Bee for the middle schools took place at Golden Plains last week. Eighth grader Nick Henry, son of Barbara Besser, won second and eighth grader Terry Lee Preston Jr.,

son of Terry and Michelle Preston, took fifth

The High School Regional Tournament was held last week and both the Golden Plains boys and girls took first. The girls won the final game over Western Plains (Ransom) and the boys beat out Healy. Substate is this week.

MAKIN' IT HAPPEN: Hats off to Jessica Vaughn for the work contributed to acquire the grant money for treadmills for our fitness center. Thanks, Jessica.

## Herndon News

By Carrol Ginther

Sympathy is extended to the families of Frances Jankovits, John Green, and Francis Escher, who died during the past week.

Guests of Jan Sattler last Sunday were Edith Pettera, Bob and Julie Hafner, Ron and Cindy Sattler, Jayme Sattler, Brian and Mary Clark, Katelyn and Collin, and Buford Clark. They helped Mary and Katelyn celebrate their birthdays.

Ray Coursey of Littleton, Colo., was a visitor of Helen Marintzer and Chris Wood last Thursday and Friday.

David Cox of Hays has been visiting his father, Frank, and his mother, Wynemah, who has been a patient in Decatur County Hospital.

Visitors last Monday of Bob and Julie Hafner were Alan and Ann

Solko, Esther Pennington and Greg and Edie Pettera. They celebrated Bob's birthday, and Ann and Alan's anniversary, with cake and ice cream.

Laverne Nemeth returned home Saturday from Denver, where she has been hospitalized. Her daughter, Cindy Bergling, remains hospitalized at Colorado Acute Care Center in Denver.

Senior Citizens held a potluck on Feb. 16 at the Senior Center. Shari Horinek took blood pressures. Edie Pettera won blackout in Bingo and Ann Martin won the door prize.

Amy Portschy, Misty Hartner and Sandra Ketterl were named to the Fort Hays State University Honor Roll for the fall semester. Students must earn a 3.60 for the semester.

Mark and Barbara Olson, Kurt and Mary, visited Sarah Olson in Manhattan over the weekend and attended the basketball game.

Gordon and Norma Anderson returned home from Phoenix last Tuesday after vacationing there several weeks.

Roy Delsaver and Dave O'Neill of Brighton, Colo., were weekend guests of Dave and Sherry Bergling. On Saturday the men were joined by Clay Anderson for European pheasant hunting at Beaver Creek Game Birds southwest of Atwood.

## Wheat Ridge Terrace

Residents played bingo the evening of Feb. 10. Prizes were candy and nuts in keeping with the theme of Valentine's Day.

Bible study is held every Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. The leader is Richard Russ. A new study, "The Purpose Driven Life," will begin today. Anyone is welcome to join us.

The Forget-Me-Nots entertained with a Valentine's pizza lunch on Monday, Feb. 14. Guests present were Richard and Clara Russ, Max Carman, Veanna Orr, Hertha Kelley of St. Francis, Nila Hafner, and Karen Scott.

Other out-of-town guests have been: Wayne, Phyllis, and Amy Zwickle of Grant, Neb.; Nola

## Cedar Living News

Sympathy is extended to the family of John Green who died last Monday.

Phyllis Wingfield of McDonald donated party favors for all Cedar Living Center residents. She was a recent visitor of Myrtle Hazuka.

Residents celebrated Presidents' Day with a game of presidential trivia. Joining in the game were Nettie Britton, Mildred Cochran, Alice Fiala, Harold Frickey, Don Shaw, Eva Marie Vacura, Lowell Sebaugh, and Hank and Bea Wolfram.

Mary Ann Amack assisted with the sing-along on Monday afternoon.

Lowell Sebaugh won the first bingo Tuesday afternoon and Nettie Britton won the blackout game.

Several residents and guests met on Wednesday afternoon for bowling.

Barb Solko played pinochle with Don Shaw Wednesday afternoon, and Stuart gave the Bible study lesson.

Deacon Stan Chapin of Sacred Heart Catholic Church led Communion Service on the patio Thursday morning.

Freida Matheny was the big winner at the dice game played on Thursday afternoon. That evening Jennifer Shaw hosted a game night for residents.

The baking group made peanut butter oatmeal cookies Friday afternoon.

The Lund Covenant Church was in charge of the Sunday worship service.

We are looking for some substitute piano players to fill in for us while our always faithful volunteer, Myrna Jones, is recovering from an injury. For additional information about this or any other volunteer opportunities, contact Teresa Shaughnessy.

Recent visitors: Stan and Ramona Shaw, Elwood Bailey, Jennings; Carol Young, Dean Giehler, McCook; Richard and Bernadine Samson, Ludell; Jerry Temple, Linda Hunt, Janice O'Hare, Norcatur; Carol Shaw, Rick Shaw, Steve and Barb Brown, Carl Mumm, Don Ashley, Selden; Julie Harold, Hays; Chris Stanley, Mitchell, S.D., Rex and Max Diederich, Cedar Bluffs; Alice Barnett, Clayton; Frank Cox, Herndon; Al Schmaderer, Manhattan; Dale Hazuka, McDonald;

Paul Sass, Juanita Williby, Lyle Gamblin, Butch Stanley, Dana Winstead, Jeanette and Vernon Diederich, Catherine Neal, Earl Brown, Elvin Beneda, Orlin Beneda, Elaine Bryan, Eula Juenemann, June Harold, Marie Jean Vavroch, Oberlin.

## Good Samaritan News

On Monday, Feb. 21, Jan Badsy brought morning devotions in honor of Presidents' Day. Children from Little Sam's Day Care came to play kickball with Agnes Chambers, Florence Fisher, Leo Mooty, Hazel Alaska, Ruth Laidig, Phil Erickson, Genevieve Erickson and Edla Olson, who "had a ball" with them.

Lisa Stacy shared some facts about our presidents. Fern Anderson, Neva Camp The ladies card party met in Angel Lane, with Hildegard Euhus, Jeanette Conway and Garrah Gaumer joining volunteer Mildred Holmdahl for canasta.

On Tuesday, Coleen Rippe had devotions and a tribute to President Washington. Phil Erickson led singing. Mrs. Steinmetz's first-graders read to Jarilyn St. Clair and Phil Erickson.

Volunteer Gladys Geis spent time Tuesday visiting with Marguerite Fullerton and Ruby Shuler. Leo Mooty came out for Pool Shark. The evening Bible study group gathered, with Edla Olson, Garrah Gaumer, Fern Anderson, Ruth Laidig, Dena Gillespie, Eva Bryan, Neva Campbell, Genevieve Erickson and LuVerne May studying the "Until I Return" series.

Anita Hirsch led Songs of Worship Wednesday morning. . Mert McEvoy led the Bible study.

Volunteers Pat Whetzel and Dorothy Alstrom did manicures. Pi Alpha furnishes delicious homemade pie to celebrate our February birthday. . Bonnie Weskamp, Elsie Macy, Jeanette Conway and Wilbur May were honored with song and flowers. Bingo followed.

Dennis Brown was back Thursday. Several parishioners from Sacred Heart Catholic Church came to celebrate Mass with Lois Buchholz and Bonnie Weskamp.

Thursday afternoon began with an armchair "barn tour," led by Lisa Stacy. led Garrah Gaumer, Neva Campb

Afternoon Social Hour was served in the Angel Lane dining room Thursday by the STARS Committee. Everyone had ice cream sandwiches. Fern Anderson, Lisa Stacy and Garrah Gaumer played Chinese checkers afterwards.

Friday devotions were led by Lisa Stacy. Phil Erickson led singing while Cheryl Miller played the piano. The Merry Mums group, including Leo Mooty, Eva Cuthbertson, Bernice Brown, Hazel Alaska, and Bonnie Weskamp, enjoyed table ball.

Ruby Shuler baked date cookies with Jeanette Diederich and Doyle Richardson Friday.

Carol Duncan read *The Oberlin Herald* on Friday afternoon to Ruth Laidig, Neva Campbell, LuVerne May and Dena Gillespie. Social Hour was served by Bethany Smith and her tsisters, Sarah and Joanne.

The family of Fern Mapes transplanted one of the peony bushes from her home to our courtyard.

Church services were presented by the Lund Covenant Church Sunday afternoon.

Recent guests: **Dena Gillespie** - Martin and Darlene LaRue, June Vavroch; **Lucy Schissler, Muriel and John Ready** - Jerald and Elaine Leitner.

## Lyle News

By Deanna Sumner

Toots Magers visited Pat Schwab at her home last Thursday.

Last Wednesday Sylvia Lovin, Wichita, and Tim Nejd, Quinter, came to stay with Kathy VanMeter, then took her to Kearney, Neb., on Friday, Feb. 11, where she had shoulder surgery at Heartland Surgery Center. Steve VanMeter of Gibbon, Neb., came to visit while she was there.

Toots Magers, June Jolly and Kathy VanMeter went to Norcatur and played cards last Friday evening.

On Sunday Toots Magers, June

Jolly, Kathy VanMeter and Veda Wood went to Lebanon, Neb., for a pancake supper at the American Legion.

Joyce Sumner accompanied Kathy VanMeter to Kearney, Neb., on Monday for a check-up on her shoulder. She started physical therapy in Norton on Thursday.

Toots Magers had dinner with Richard and Jane Engelhardt in Norton on Friday.

Toots Magers, June Jolly and Kathy VanMeter played party pitch in Norton at the American Legion on Sunday evening.

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## Selden News

By Jacque Boultinghouse

On Feb. 24 at Senior Citizens, Ramona Shaw won high, Carol Shaw took second, Don Smith got low and Irene Kruse had "all" the minines. Other members present included Lola Cook, Royce Cook, Cecelia Ottley, Dorothy Lovin, Shirley Emigh, Edna Schiltz, Anna Albers, Leone Porsch, Gay McGuire, Paulie Neff, Leland McGuire, Stan Shaw, Clara

Schieferecke, Annabelle M. Heim, Gene Rogers and Betty James.

Birthdays and anniversaries: March 4 - Rodney Johnson; March 5 - Bernadine Spesser; March 6 - Jennifer Eatherly, Sheila Ritter; March 7 - Bud and Tressie Rogers; March 8 - Vala Mosier, David Weis; March 9 - Evelyn Brainard. National Severe Weather Awareness Week for Kansas is March 13-

19. The annual tornado drill will be at 1:30 p.m. on March 15, with March 17 as the alternate date. Sirens will be tested and residents of Sheridan County should think about their plan in case of a tornado.

Weather spotters meeting for Sheridan County will be at 7 p.m. on March 22 at the Bowen Scout House in Hoxie. Everyone is welcome to attend.