

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Sept. 1880

We have learned that W. H. Griggs and G. T. Butters, who went east to solicit aid, are doing very good work for the needy citizens of Decatur County. They have already been the means of shipping three car loads of provisions, etc., to this county, which will be here shortly.

It is reported that Daniel Bruce, the good natured contractor on the other end of Oberlin and Buffalo stage line, was married to a lady in the latter place not long since. If Dan can get a wife, we think there is a little show left for us.

Capt. Allen and family returned yesterday from a trip to Wisconsin.

A shooting affray between a Mr. Weston and a Mr. Farrant enlivened things a bit Friday morning of last week. Farrant was shot in the right thigh and Weston in the back; neither dangerously. No arrests.

The drums and fife, purchased by the citizens of this place, have arrived and are good ones. If anyone can be found to blow them we will have some martial music.

100 YEARS AGO — Sept. 1905

Hayes & Son are adding to their warehouse. They need more room to hold the new goods arriving on every train.

George McMullen, a brother of W. H., who has been visiting in this vicinity for the past two weeks, returned to his home in Illinois last week.

The wind Monday broke one of the large plate glass windows in the Douglas building. It is expected to cost \$150 to get another.

Prairie Temple Items: The contract has been let for a \$12,000 building on the lot now occupied by the People Store.

High School Gossip: A boys debating club has been organized with the following contestants: affirmative, Harry Logan, Caleb Smick; negative, Charlie Battin, Will Landau.

The Baptist Assoc. meeting at Norton last week was attended by Rev. D. O. Banta, Miss Grace Love and Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Coldren as delegates from the Oberlin church.

75 YEARS AGO — Sept. 1930

It was the privilege of the senior editor and wife to enjoy a trip to Green Mountain Falls last week in company with Mr. and Mrs. H.Q. Banta.

Work is progressing on the new Claude Paddock seed house build-

ing on South Penn Avenue. Mr. Paddock is superintending the construction himself, assisted by his father-in-law, Mr. W. A. Dale.

Court House News: Judge Kulp issued two licenses this week: John E. Railsback, Norcatcur and Mrs. Martha Scrivener of Wilsonville, Neb., and they were married by Rev. F. B. Walmer of Norcatcur; Gordon Brantley and Miss Lula Pilnacek, both of Oberlin, were married by Rev. Muluhill of Norton.

Funeral services were held at Shibleoth Church for Frank Wilson, 48, by Rev. F. J. Foster of Dresden. Burial in Shibleoth Cemetery by his parents, Robert D. and Nancy Wilson. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Anna Wilson and two daughters, Betty, age 6 and Thelma, age 4. Despondency caused by ill health prompted the act of taking his own life, according to the inquest.

Miss Theresa McKague is planning to move back to Oberlin and has purchased the lot north of the Baptist Church and plans to have the house which she recently built on one of her farms moved to Oberlin.

McGraw: The small son of Mr. and Mrs. Wes Bainter has been ill the past week.

50 YEARS AGO — Sept. 1955

Smiles dominated the countenance of farmers, businessmen, housewives and even the children over the weekend reflecting the happiness over the fine moisture that saturated the fields over the Midwest after endless months of dry weather. A total of 2.22 inches was received in Oberlin over a three-day period and although it is too late for the corn and feed, it will make the wheat fields ideal for fall seeding.

Coaches Jack Hague, Bob Rumble and Charley Lyons were guests of Oberlin Rotary Tuesday noon to give an oral preview of the Decatur Community High School football team. The Red Devils defeated Phillipsburg 28-0 last weekend and open league play against Hoxie Friday.

Funeral services were held at Sacred Heart Church in Oberlin for Miss Patricia O'Toole, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Emmett O'Toole of Cedar Bluffs, who died in her sleep as the result of a heart condition. She had been employed as a telephone operator in McCook since her graduation from Decatur

Community High School in 1953.

Faith Lutheran Church, A. L. C. of Oberlin, will lay the cornerstone for their new church on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 2. Rev. James P. Ullom will officiate at the brief service.

A bolt of lightning which accompanied the rain early Saturday morning struck the large barn on the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Harmon southeast of Oberlin completely destroying it in 30 minutes. Mrs. Harmon and their hired man, Neil Marshall, were the only ones at the farm when the lightning struck as Mr. Harmon had gone to Colorado Springs where he keeps more racing dogs. She and Marshall rushed into the barn where they freed over 30 racing dogs.

25 YEARS AGO — Sept. 1980

A sidewalk sale, swap meet, art show and sale, fashion show brunch, benefit softball game and open house at the museum are all scheduled for the observance of Mini-Sapa weekend in Oberlin.

Construction crews on U. S. Highway 36 east of Oberlin are scurrying to beat the winter weather with the 18-mile stretch of asphalt overlay. Meanwhile bridge crews are hard at work at widening the

three bridges east of Oberlin.

Some \$2,000 has been collected in the fund drive for the local Golden Age Center on North Penn. The committee consists of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Gaines, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ploussard, Mr. and Mrs. Denzel Townsend and Mr. and Mrs. Leo Zodrow.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Stan Miller, Norcatcur, son, Joel Stanley, Sept. 17, 1980; Mr. and Mrs. Greg Lohofener, daughter, Leigh Ann, Sept. 23, 1980.

Baptismal services were held Sept. 21 at the Oberlin United Methodist Church for Tyler Eugene Roe, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Roe. The Rev. Dale Clare officiated.

Herndon: Ivan Lippold has been appointed rural mail carrier on Route 2 out of Oberlin. He replaces Jack Knudson, who transferred to the Selden rural route. Lippold has worked as a substitute carrier for the past two years, mainly for Charles Adams.

A memorial plaque will be dedicated on Sunday, Oct. 23, at Big Timber Cemetery. It will contain the date of origin of the Czech settlement in the Big Timber area of Decatur County and a memorial tribute in both English and Czech.

Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, director

In the article from last week's *Oberlin Herald* about the move of the St. Mark's Lutheran Church making global news, I would like to share the one from the tabloid called the *Sun*.

"Holy Roller! Abandoned church keeps on trucking to museum. Modern chariots rolled high and low over the hills of America's heartland to carry an historic church home."

"Built in 1888, St. Mark's Lutheran Church had stood in Norcatcur, Kansas for 117 years, but its pews hadn't welcomed worshippers since 1984.

"Rather than watch the classic wooden church rot away, preservationists organized a pilgrimage of biblical proportions.

"In an engineering feat worthy of the ancient temple builders, workers lowered the steeple onto one flatbed trailer and hoisted what was left aboard another flatbed.

"Then the holy caravan set out on

a 20-mile ride down U.S. Highway 36 to Decatur County's Last Indian Raid Museum in Oberlin, where the church joined 14 other historic buildings.

"Fortunately, the procession didn't have to wander in the wilderness for 40 years, but they still had some mighty obstacles in the form of high-voltage power lines to overcome or should we say under-come.

"Over two days, experts cut power to hundreds of people at a time and carefully raised the power lines pole-by-pole to allow the mighty-high house of worship to pass underneath each electrifying stretch. The reclining steeple followed behind.

"It wasn't exactly as cool as parting the Red Sea, but we bet Moses would probably still consider it a minor miracle."

Come see this miracle at its first viewing on Saturday in conjunction with the museum's 47th annual Mini Sapa celebration.

Rexford News

By Sondra Barnett

Our sincere sympathy goes out to the family of Joel McIntyre died last week.

I received an encouraging phone call from a man in Durango, Colorado telling me that he enjoyed reading the Rexford news in the *Oberlin Herald*. His family comes from this area and although he doesn't know a lot of people here, he still likes to read what's going on in Northwest Kansas. Thanks for your encouraging words, Bob Miller.

Social Hour Club was held at the Barn with Ruth Luna as hostess. Others present were Vesta Roth, Jean Hawkins, Deb Stepper, Sondra Barnett, Clea Moeder, Hulda Wark, Deb Gamboa and Grace Cheney. Bingo winners were Vesta, Grace, Hulda and Clea. The hostess prize went to Jean.

Clea Moeder is pleased that her grandson, Christopher Moeder was accepted at Yale University to do cancer research for 18 months. He is the son of Robert and Marsha Moeder of Hutchinson and graduated from Kansas University last May.

Vesta Roth and Jean Hawkins took their aunt, Marie Adams, out for lunch for her 91st birthday. Marie lives at the Prairie

Senior Living Complex in Colby. Vesta and Jean also visited Lula Thieler, who is living there now.

Barnswallows on Monday were Darlene Robben, Grace Cheney, Rex and Betty Carswell, Mary Ann and Lawrence Juenemann, Jean Hawkins, Dick Sanford and Deb Stepper.

Koffee Klatch last week was attended by Marla Rogers, B. J. Rogers, Doris Jean Oliver, Margaret AraSmith, Freda Ketchum, Liz Rall, Jean Hawkins, Vesta Roth, Hulda Wark, Eunice Sanford, Berneda Zoberst, Velma Barnett, Deb Stepper, Clea Moeder, Grace Cheney and Sondra Barnett.

Dennis Allison went to Hutchinson for the funeral of his aunt, Lona Edwards.

Pastor Lane and Patty Purcell went to Camdenton, Mo., for the funeral of a very dear friend, who grew up with him in Nebraska. En route home, they visited their son, David, who attends school at John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Ark.

Darrell Leh has been moved out of intensive care at Hays Medical Center.

Doris Jean Oliver watched her granddaughter, Adrian Lambing, in a cross country track meet at

McCook spent the weekend with her daughter, Mary and Tom Lambing, Andy, Austin, and Adrian.

Family members and friends helped Delores Dible celebrate her 75th birthday last week.

Don't forget that the kids program will be each Wednesday from the time school is dismissed until 5:30 p.m. at the Rexford Church. All children from grades 1 through 5 are welcome.

The Rexford Community Church will again prepare and send shoe boxes for the Samaritans Purse, the ministry of Franklin Graham.

All are encouraged to participate by providing boxes, toothbrushes and paste, soap, small toys, books, wash cloths, pencils and sharpeners, erasers and clothing items. Items may be left at the church at any time.

The date for packing will be announced later.

Scoop on the School

The High School girls volleyball team went to Bird City for a triangle meet. The varsity won all their matches. The junior varsity beat Bird City, but lost to Brewster.

The Middle School volleyball and football teams played against

Brewster here on Thursday and Golden Plains won all of the games.

Golden Plains had their homecoming festivities last week. The football team lost 34 to 36. Homecoming King was Josh Vahling, son of Russ and Marcia Aumiller, New Alamo, and the Queen was Jessica Shaw, daughter of Steve and Joni Shaw, Selden.

Other royalty members were: senior candidates, Chris Springer and Valerie Broeckelman; junior candidates, Kyle Spresser and Brandi Bussen; sophomore candidates, Yu-Wei (Wayne) Chen and Britany Ritter; freshman candidates, Kelton Jones and Kayla Wagner; crown bearers, Dawson Spresser and Gabrielle Schiltz.

The dance was held on Saturday evening.

The High School Junior varsity volleyball team participated in a tournament at Brewster, but lost all their games.

Makin' it Happen: Hats off to Bob and Melody Leach for their contribution to the community. There was a covered dish dinner at the church after the morning service to say "farewell" to them. The Leaches are moving to Springdale, Ark. God bless you in your new endeavor.

Cedar Living News

A group of residents met on Monday afternoon to play penny cards. Joining in on the fun were Nettie Britton, Alice Fiala, Freda Gamblin, June Harold, Tressie Samson, Don Shaw, Charley Vavroch, and Hank Wolfram.

Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack led the sing-along time on Monday afternoon.

Hank Wolfram won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Darlene Stanley won the blackout game.

Don Thomas hosted a birthday party in honor of Marie Thomas at noon on Wednesday. Residents and staff enjoyed cake and ice cream with Marie.

Several residents won during the game of dice on Wednesday afternoon.

Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson on Wednesday.

Stan Chapin of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church gave a communion service on Thursday morning.

Barb Solko played Scrabble with Wynemah Cox on Thursday afternoon and pinochle with Don Shaw.

The craft group met on Thursday

afternoon to transplant several house plants that had outgrown their pots.

The baking group made sour cream chocolate cookies on Friday afternoon.

The Lund Covenant Church hosted the Sunday worship service on the patio.

Recent visitors: Merlin and Lola Diederich, Ray and Patt Tuller, Carol Young, McCook; Nola Carlson, Fort Morgan, Colo.; Ann Martin, Frank Cox, Herndon; Jerry Temple, Norcatcur; Rose Domsch, Atwood; Earl Brown, Selden; Mike and Marie McVay, Colby; Dale, Avis and Diana Hazuka, McDonald; Richard and Bernadine Samson, Ludell;

Butch Stanley, Lyle Gamblin, Marie Jean Vavroch, Ella Betts, Elaine Bryan, Dana Winstead, Roxie Pomeroy, Joy Votapka, Dan Votapka, Dale and Cheryl Votapka, Janette Votapka, Karolyn Muirhead, Bernie and Othelia Vacura, Elvin Beneda, Orlin Beneda, Butch Diederich, Dolores Koerperich, Carrie and Teague Morford, Oberlin.

Good Samaritan News

Do you remember the children's nursery rhyme, "Here We Go 'Round the Mulberry Bush?" All week long we celebrated that little ditty, stirring up some lively conversations and reminiscing about daily chores.

Every day Linda Smith brought her children, Bethany, Nathan, Caleb, Sara and Johanna, to sing the appropriate verse while going 'round the mulberry bush. They delighted the residents, dressed in aprons and kerchiefs. It was quite a commitment to be here each morning, but hopefully the smiles and hugs the children received made it worthwhile.

Monday was Wash Day, of course. The dining room boasted an antique washtub and washboard. The tub was filled with embroidered linens and "bubbles" spilling over the sides. Kelley Black read the story "The Trouble With Bubbles," and Marilyn St. Clair, Leo Mooty, Nadine Anderson, Eva Cuthbertson and others blew their own soap bubbles.

Next, we made soap. I was informed that this technique was quite different from the good ol' lye soap they used to make, but everyone caught on and had a good time smelling the different scents, choosing colors and pouring soap into molds. Thank you to Jeanette Diederich, for the washtub; Anita Hirsch for the washboard and linens; and Lori Seaman and Kem Bryan for the soap-making supplies.

Tuesday was Ironing Day. An old wooden ironing board appeared next to the washtub, with two irons. One was a cast-iron type that sat on the wood stove to heat. The other was a Westinghouse electric iron, probably from the 1940s. An embroidered apron lay across the board waiting for a sprinkle from the authentic sprinkling bottle and a good pressing. The ladies got a workout lifting the irons. Later, Resident's Council met with Coleen to "iron-out" any concerns.

After lunch Tuesday, Hildegard Euhus, Ruth Laidig, Jeanette Conway, Fern Anderson, Virginia Ike, Lucy Schissler and Nathan Smith gathered around the pool table, but not for pool, for Iron-Art. They created a birthday tablecloth using iron transfers and crayons. Their handiwork is on display at the office window, and will be used for all the birthday celebrations.

We finished Ironing day with "Wrinkled-up Word Game." The ladies had to guess eight things that are wrinkled and eight things that need to be ironed. Thank you to Cabin Antiques for the ironing board, Nora Bearley for the iron and Coleen Rippe for the sprinkling bottle.

Wednesday was Scrub the Floor Day, and a galvanized bucket and

mop were added to the scene. The residents were worried about what they might have to scrub today, so we just had an ordinary Wednesday, with an extraordinary Social Hour. The Modern Woodmen ladies, and one gentleman, came bearing gifts! They brought two delicious cakes, and donated a variety of greeting cards along with the stamps to mail them. We had a nice afternoon visiting with Ella Betts, Shirley Hayward, Rita Garver, Beth Sebaugh, Doris Fringer, Martha Fringer, Don and Goldie Stapp, Vera Lindemann, and Marie McKisson.

Thursday was Mending Day. A trundle Singer sewing machine with a star quilt block under the presser foot added a warm cozy feel to our array of daily chores. Activities included working on sewing cards and stringing buttons.

In Bible Study, we managed to warm up our soldier with the Breastplate of Righteousness. Dorothy Pryor, Hilda McGee, Edla Olson, Ruth Laidig, Jeanette Conway, Fern Anderson, Eva Bryan, and Lucy Schissler attended.

Friday was Sweep the Floor Day. To finish off the week, we decided to make this Apron Day as well. There were aprons of gingham with rick-rack, embroidered, crocheted...some had chickens and some had cows!

Janice Shobe gave an interesting devotion comparing the characteristics of an apron to the characteristics of God. And yes, a broom was added to our display. Marguerite Fullerton baked macaroon brownies for Social Hour. Then, to top it off we played "broom ball."

As I looked at the display before I dismantled it, I thought...it's enough to make you tired. But at the same time, the routine and memories of it all are homey and pleasing and tug at your heart-strings. It was a fun, full, busy, very good week!

Recent guests: **Eva Bryan**, **Detta Anderson**, **Donna Kelley**; **Iris Wurm** - Jeanette Diederich; **Dena Gillespie** - June Vavroch; **Hazel Flaska** - Gerald and Charlene Karnes; **Marie McChesney** - Helen McChesney of Cambridge, Neb. Also visiting were Joyce and Rex Remington, Danbury, Neb., and Judy Menges of Colby.

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