

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — April 1881

Sunday will be a good day to swear off again. The saloons will not be open on Monday morning. Monday morning last, John Love and W.D. Street pulled out for Dakota. Bill has some cattle up there which he goes to look after and John goes to work on a ranch. May success go with them.

There will be a meeting of the farmers interested on Saturday, April 30, 1881, at 2 o'clock to effect an organization to prevent the Texas cattle drive through this county the coming season. A similar organization will be effected in the counties of Sheridan and Gove on the same day. It is suggested that a company be formed who will hold themselves in readiness to prevent, by force if necessary, the passage of cattle over the Old-Trail or to help the officers of the county in enforcing the law. Each county should elect two delegates to meet at Kenneth, Sheridan County, on Saturday, May 7, to effect a central organization. Let there be a general turnout.

D.P. Havens, a gentleman who has had considerable experience in the newspaper business, arrived last week and will assist us in publishing *The Herald*, and if our patronage keeps up as it has been this spring, we will try and furnish the people of Decatur County with as good a newspaper as is published in any county in Kansas.

100 YEARS AGO — April 1906

Ed Dean bought the large residence of M.R. Martin last week and will take possession at once.

County Attorney L.M. Parker went to Kansas City last week, where he had an operation performed for appendicitis, and will soon be at home again.

Deaths: Aldevarde J. Metcalf died at Kansas City on April 21, 1906, aged 50 years, 10 months and 4 days.

Mrs. Leroy C. Munger died April 20, at Humboldt.

W.L. Andrews of near Dresden left Tuesday for his new home in Wallace County, shipping his goods to Weskan by rail.

John Ellis finished hauling 15 cords of rock for Dr. Morrison this week.

75 YEARS AGO — April 1931

More than 400 persons attended funeral services at the M.E. Church in Dresden for David Muirhead. He was a prominent citizen of the south part of the county, and had been in-

strumental for the past 46 years in the upbuilding of the City of Dresden and surrounding community. Born in Wishaw, Scotland, in 1855, he came to the United States at the age of 14 to Pittsburgh, Pa., where his father worked in the coal mines. He later came to Nebraska and in 1885 to Decatur County. When the First State Bank was organized, he was engaged as cashier and had continued there until 1923 when his health began to fail. He leaves to mourn his death his wife, Mildred; four sons, Brian and Luther of Shreveport, La., and John and King of Dresden; and one daughter, Mrs. Marian Hague of Newton.

Supt. Caleb Smick had been offered a two-year contract as superintendent of the Hays schools at a salary of \$4,500 a year and turned it down. To Supt. Smick goes most of the credit for the remarkable growth and progress of the Oberlin schools, now ranked among the 10 best school systems in the state.

Dr. L.M. Ryan, beloved "country doctor" of Danbury, died Sunday night. He was 40 years old. Dr. Ryan had a very severe siege of pneumonia some weeks ago from which he had never fully recovered and his sudden death was caused by a heart complication following that illness.

Court House News: John Miller, 25, and Miss Pearl L. Broyles, 19, both of Dresden, were granted a marriage license.

Lyle: A bright baby girl came to the home of Vic Van Gundy and wife early Saturday morning, much to the delight of the other two little girls.

Mrs. A.C.T. Geiger has recently purchased a new General Electric refrigerator from G.B. Morrish. The W.K. Currys are also new owners of a General Electric.

Jennings: Mrs. C.E. Feely is in Kansas City this week buying a new stock of ladies ready-to-wear.

Fred Bremer came over to the county seat Monday, to attend the auction of the old R.D. Wilson farm in Prairie Dog Township and purchased one quarter of the land, paying \$20 per acre.

50 YEARS AGO — April 1956

The congregation of St. John's Lutheran Church will hold a double celebration Sunday when they dedicate their new church located in northeast Oberlin and observe the 70th anniversary of the founding of the church in 1886. The church was first organized in Cook Township

in the southwest part of Decatur County where services were held in a sod building until a frame church was built in 1904. By 1925 the congregation had so increased in membership that a larger building was required and it was built in Logan Township. Current pastor of St. John's is the Rev. Ed W. Licht.

The *Herald* publisher is pleased to announce an addition to its staff in the person of Dean Coughenour, Decatur Community High School English instructor, who is abandoning the teaching profession with the close of the current school term. After a trial run in newspaper work last summer, when he handled advertising for the *Herald* office, and his editing of sports events during the school year, Dean decided he found journalistic work very interesting.

Funeral services were held for Sam R. Willcox, 72, who spent his entire life in Decatur County. He was united in marriage to Bernice Barr in 1913 and the couple moved to their present farm south of Oberlin in 1916.

They were the parents of four children, John, Doris, Avis and Sam. Their oldest son, John, preceded him in death in 1943 during World War II.

Harold Thornton, Pratt, has been transferred here as the new caretaker of Sappa State Park.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Vacura announce the engagement of their daughter, Cleta, to Sp-3 Claude Herrin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Onnie Herrin of Colby. Miss Vacura is a 1953 graduate of Decatur Community High School, and is employed at Rocky Mountain Telephone Company in Denver. Her fiance is presently serving with the U.S. Army at Fort Carson, Colo.

25 YEARS AGO — April 1981

Widespread moisture over the weekend ranging 2-4 inches ap-

pears to have rescued crops, but spraying continues due to a green bug infestation in wheat.

Ray Lohofener, administrator of the estate of Lillie Johnson, distributed checks in the amount of \$21,659 to Decatur County Commissioner Jack Noone on behalf of Decatur County Good Samaritan Center and to R.J. Metcalf, chairman of the hospital board, on behalf of the Decatur County Hospital.

A truck from Western Distributing Co. will be in Oberlin Saturday at the aluminum can recycling center located near Lohofener Grain to pick up cans accumulated during the winter. Proceeds from the project go to the PRIDE recreation fund. Last year's check amounted to a little over \$267.

Nearly 50 persons attended a meeting at Golden Age Center to discuss procedure for compiling a history of the families of Decatur County, prior to the observance of the 100th anniversary of the City of Oberlin in 1985.

A story in the *Denver Post* reads Max G. Brooks, chairman of the board of Central Bank of Denver, will retire May 31. The son of Elwood Brooks, a former Oberlin resident, he has accumulated countless civic and professional honors during his distinguished banking career.

Deanell Reece Tacha, a member of the KU law faculty, has been named vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Kansas. She is married to John Tacha, son of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Tacha, Jennings, and the couple has three children, David, John Reece and Sarah.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. David Schissler, daughter, Emily Rebecca, April 10; Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Myers, daughter, Tyra Marie, April 14; Mr. and Mrs. James Sullivan, son, Jordan Wade, April 18.

Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm

What a success the fifth annual rummage and bake sale was. The Museum board and staff thank all of you who donated items, and those who came and found treasures.

A special thank you goes to Bernice Martin and Joyce Hartzog for their time and work in running the Saturday bake sale.

The Museum has many small projects that need to be done around

the grounds. We are holding a Community Work Day on Sunday, May 7, and need help. If you or your organization could volunteer Sunday afternoon from 1 to 5 p.m. it would be greatly appreciated. An evening meal will be served to those who take time to help out. For more information call the Museum at (785) 475-2712, Tuesday through Saturday.

Selden News

By Jacque Boultinghouse

Birthdays and anniversaries: April 15 - Carl Mumm, Steve Shaw, Greg and Stephanie Ritter; April 16 - Gail Mumm; April 17 - Vicky Ray, Dan Benoit, Danielle Spresser, Brown, Mike and Linda Spresser, Jacki Shaben; April 19 - John Paulson; April 20 - Sandy Koerperich, Rob Schiltz, Bingston Rogers; April 21 - Mike Peter, Heath Sauvage; April 22 - Linda Spresser, Neal Wahl, Layn Bruggeman; April 23 - MeKayla Bainter; April 25 - Leroy Wessel, Robert and Laura Ritter, Lance and Lisa Stoll; April 26 - Roger Emigh, Dena Dellere, Jerry and Paula Schiltz, Traci Bruggeman; April 27 - Tricia Bullock Carney; April 28 - Erin Rogers, Betty Hickert; April 29 - Ken Mumm, Russ Aumiller, Bernita Aumiller, Mindy Goeken; April 30 - Fritz and Gail Mumm, Don Pratt, John Geisinger, Dennis Spresser; May 1 - Ron Shaw, Deanna Schmidtenberger, Juanita Kaus; May 2 - Cody Shaw, Rudy Lechtenberger, Sharon Pickering; May 3 - Harold and Eileen Murphy, April Hunziker, Lance Stoll, Nicole Moore.

On April 20 at Senior Citizens, Shirley Emigh won high and had the most jacks, Cecelia Ottley took second, and Julie Pope got low. Other members present included Lola Cook, Leone Porsch, Carol Shaw, Betty James and Edna Schiltz.

The Selden Community Center is coming along very nicely. Volunteers have been installing the suspended ceiling. The kitchen and clinic areas have been completed. This week volunteers will be working on the ceiling and laying tile on the floors. Anyone wanting to help should contact Darrel Bruggeman. Several items have been donated for the fund-raiser including a queen-sized quilt made by Helen Karls, a La-Z-Boy recliner from Paults Furniture, two \$25 gift certi-

ificates from Southwind Steak House, a \$25 gift certificate from Midway Café, a weed eater from Selden Lumber, a gift certificate from Hi-Plains Co-op, and a savings bond from The Bank.

Some of the items that will need to be purchased for the building include tables and chairs and kitchen utensils. Anyone wanting to make a donation or purchase tickets for the fund-raiser should contact Jacque Boultinghouse or Jackie

Schulte.

New books at the Selden Public Library include: in large print, "Gone" by Jonathan Kellerman and "Dark Tort" by Diane Mott Davidson; and in children's fiction, "There's a Cow in the Cabbage Patch" by Clare Beaton (board book). Selden Library is open every Monday and Saturday, 9 to 11 a.m., and Wednesday evenings, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., as volunteers are available. Anyone wanting to volunteer

Rexford News

By Vicki Allison

A friend of the family of Jami Wark spent one of his last evenings in the United States in their home Monday evening, April 17. Jonathan Miller of Stratton, Colo., was in Maine on April 23 waiting to fly from the United States to Hungary. From Hungary he flew to Kuwait for some additional training before being shipped to Mosul, Iraq.

The community was saddened to learn of the death of former Rexford resident, Madeline Kirkendall, last week. A graveside service was held at the Rexford Cemetery with a service following at the College Drive Assembly of God Church in Colby on Friday. She was a sister to Eileen Dible and Andy Black.

Edna Colson was a guest of Kathryn and Floyd Richard, Norton, April 15-17. She spent time getting acquainted with her granddaughter, Jennifer and Jason Suddoth, Montana, Shane and Devlon of Nixa, Mo.

Sondra Barnett and Hulda Wark spent Easter week with Gloria and Dave Dible in Rogers, Ark. They accompanied Gloria to Branson, Mo., and visited the "Titanic Museum" and "Celebrate America."

Ruth and Lee Luna attended the

funeral of Ruth's niece in Colorado.

Deb Stepper was hostess for Social Hour Club at the Red Barn. Bingo winners were Grace Cheney, Hulda Wark, Vesta Roth and Sondra Barnett. The hostess prize went to Clea Moeder. The only other member present was Jean Hawkins.

At the Red Barn: In for Barnswallows on Monday were Lawrence Horinek, Dick Sanford, Betty and Rex Carswell, Jean Hawkins, Grace Cheney and Deb Stepper.

There were 12 ladies at Koffee Klatch on Friday: Doris Jean Oliver, Margaret Arasmith, Delores Dible, Darla Dible, Deb Stepper, Grace Cheney, Eunice Sanford, Berneda Zoberst, Deborah Gamboa, Hulda Wark, Jean Hawkins and Vesta Roth.

Happenings at Golden Plains: The middle and high school vocal and band students presented a spring concert Thursday evening, under the direction of Janell Antholz. An ice cream social was offered by the sophomore class and sponsor, Judy Rogers, prior to the concert, and a sophomore worker's auction was held after the concert, as class fundraisers.

Cedar Living News

Decatur Health Systems hosted a Volunteer Tea Friday morning in honor of National Volunteer Week. Guests included volunteers from Meals-on-Wheels and Cedar Living Center.

Those attending included Myrna Jones, Jerry Temple, Juanita Williby, Marie Jean Vavroch, Nadean Stoney, Eula Juenemann, Mary Noone, Fern Moore, Barbara Solko, Beth Sebaugh, Ann Martin, Ila Ray, Mary Ann Amack, Fern Moore, Barbara Solko, Beth Sebaugh, Ann Martin, Ila Ray, Mary Ann Amack, Jody Betts, and Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler. Several volunteers were unable to attend.

Dennis Brown of the Forget-Me-Nots hosted a party on Monday afternoon. He served cherry cheesecake to residents, staff and guests.

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

Bea Wolfram won the first bingo Tuesday afternoon and Paul Sass won the blackout game.

Don Sulzman, Don Shaw, Paul Sass, Nettie Britton, Elsie Goodnight, and Frank and Velda Ward played pinochle with Juanita Williby serving as hostess Wednesday afternoon.

Father George brought communion for the Catholic residents Thursday morning.

Residents who met for an afternoon of bowling on Thursday included Nettie Britton, Mildred

Cochran, Freda Gamblin, Elsie Goodnight, Paul Sass, Lowell Sebaugh, Frank Ward, and Bea Wolfram.

Barb Solko played Scrabble with Wynemah Cox Thursday afternoon.

The baking group met Friday afternoon to make cookies. Residents and staff enjoyed eating them fresh from the oven.

Bea Wolfram celebrated her birthday with family members on Sunday.

The Lund Covenant Church led Sunday worship service.

Recent visitors: Earl Brown, Carol Shaw, Selden; Richard Samson, Ludell; Sara Bishop, Jamie Samson, Lindsborg; Doyle and Kay Brown, Elwood Bailey, Emma Sanford, Jennings; John and Deanell Tacha, Lawrence; Max and Norma Ward, Clayton; Frank Cox, Jerry Wolfram, Herndon; Randy Matheny, Karen Matheny, Roger Boehm, George Wurm, McCook; Jerry Temple, Janice O'Hare, Linda Hunt, Norcatu; Julie Harold, Hays; Rose Domsch, Atwood; Lloyd Harden, Goodland; Lillian Sulzman, Dresden; Susan McKain, McDonald; Mike and Marie McVay, Colby; Larry and Sandy Wolfram, Liberal; Wava Reames, Norcatu;

Laurene Van Otterloo, Jeanette Diederich, Lyle Gamblin, Marie Jean Vavroch, Carolyn Muirhead, Elvin Beneda, Orlin Beneda, Roxie Pomeroy, Sandra Young, Oberlin.

Good Samaritan News

This week we want to say a special thank you to our faithful volunteers.

Each week they come, "planting seeds of kindness" into the hearts and lives of our residents. They help to make real our motto, "In Christ's Love, Everyone Is Someone."

Each Good Samaritan volunteer brings with them something priceless: their helping hands and loving hearts. By their involvement, each day blossoms with a variety of activity, bringing pleasure and purpose to living life to the fullest.

On Saturday, 33 volunteers joined us for an appreciation luncheon.

Our theme was "Volunteers — planting seeds of kindness." They were greeted with cheerful tables set with colorful striped tablecloths, seed packet thank you notes, flowers and bright orange helium balloons.

We served delicious box lunches all tied up with ribbons, which were prepared and donated by the Forget-Me-Not ministry of Dennis Brown.

The program included the history of the Good Samaritan Society, as well as our own Decatur County Good Sam, presented by Laurene Bryan-Van Otterloo; a poem entitled "Please Come;" a bouquet demonstration to illustrate the beauty added to the life of a resident when volunteers come to visit; and some "biz-nessy stuff" including an overview of upcoming events.

No amount of planning or prizes could ever truly express our gratitude for all our volunteers do.

Again, thank you!

Tuesday was fun when 16 residents turned out to play "The Price is Right." Our contestants were Fern Anderson, Doris Marintzer, Pooch Portschy, Dorothy Pryor and Eva Bryan.

We played four games and had a lot of laughs.

Hazel Flaska celebrated her 96th birthday on Tuesday with several friends and family members. Congratulations, Hazel.

On Wednesday, Dennis Brown brought strawberry shortcake for our Social Hour time.

On Thursday, Father George and about 10 parishioners came to celebrate mass with Doris Marintzer, Pooch Portschy and Bonnie Weskamp. Eva Bryan, Fern Anderson, Nadine Anderson, Lucy Schissler, Jeanette Conway, Irel Lohofener and Ruth Laidig met to learn about the spiritual gift of giving.

On Friday morning, putt-putt golf entertained Walt Mosier, Jeanette Conway, Fern Anderson and Pooch Portschy, while the afternoon was spent watercolor painting.

Artists included Fern Anderson, Walt Mosier, Eva Bryan, Ruth Laidig and Jan Conway.

Visitors included: **Hazel Flaska** - Jan Collins, Randy Matheny of McCook; Arden and LaJean Flaska of San Diego, Jon Smith and Joe of Clayton; **Lucy Schissler** - Mert McEvoy, Sally Olson, Atwood; **Dena Gillespie** - June Vavroch.

Herndon News

By Carol Ginther

Hafner, Edith Pettera, Ron and Cindy Sattler and Dana, Chase Juenemann, Jason Hafner and Raquel Friericks, Joe and Shannon Hafner, Keleigh, Noah and Abraham, Shirley Williams, Rob Sattler, Isaiah and Cody, Brian and Mary Clark, Katelyn and Collin, Jayme Sattler, Rodney Rippe, Jan

Sattler and Buford Clark.

Tom and Marlene Cook spent a recent weekend visiting Bob and Julie Hafner and Edith Pettera in Herndon and Jan Sattler and Jayme Sattler in Atwood. Julie, Marlene and Jan also visited Shirley Williams and their great-aunt, Hattie Toth.

Sappa Valley Youth Ranch is being reopened by King's Camp of Goddard, KS.

Applications are being taken for all positions.

Call 316-794-2913 for details.

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