

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — May 1881
F.A. Carnish, attorney, from Ludell, has been in town during the past week on professional business. We are now mailing nearly 200 papers weekly at the Oberlin post office weekly and occasionally one will be missed in writing the names at this office.

We have received notice from the postmaster at Cedar Bluffs that a Herald subscriber has folded his tent and silently stole away. He will be missed in that community only by those whom he has taken in as he has the HERALD. We can stand the loss of a few dollars on a subscription occasionally but we do hate to be beat out of it in that manner. If there is now anyone on the list who never intends to pay (we don't believe there is) come in and tell us so; curse us, tell us to go to hades, anything in preference to that kind of settlement.

The Misses Morrow announce to the public this week that they have opened a dressmaking and cutting establishment in Oberlin. Ladies, they will cut your garments to suit; if you have a neat and perfect form they will cut them to fit as neat as a glove, if not, they can cut it in such a shape that you can deceive the eye of any but an anatomist.

100 YEARS AGO — May 1906
Class Day exercises were held at the Rink Tuesday evening. The class is composed of 15 young women and two young men and is as fine a looking class as ever received diplomas from the Oberlin school. The entire class were dressed in the outlandish costume of the people of 2,000 years ago and the two young men that appeared with cloak and cotton drawers caused some of the audience to catch their breaths as they caught sight of their manly forms.

Norcatu News: Rev. A.C. Henry has accepted the pastoral work of the Christian Church here and will make his home at Norcatu, preaching half the time for the Oberlin Church.

Prairie Temple Items: Lola Chapin is visiting in the west part of the county this week with her aunts.

Allison Items: The sudden death of Samuel Pine was a great shock to our people. Mr. Pine was an old timer at Allison Township and we venture to say did not have an enemy. He left his farm about two years ago and had got comfortably located in Jennings.

75 YEARS AGO — May 1931
Highway 36 is now ready for tourist traffic with every foot across Kansas surfaced for all-weather conditions except for a short distance in Phillips County now under construction to eliminate extra

mileage and curves which will be ready by July 1.

The winning schools in the scholarship contest sponsored by Kansas State Teachers College of Emporia are: first, Salina; second, Hutchinson; third, Topeka Catholic; fourth, Emporia and fifth, Oberlin. The Decatur Dictator added further to its laurels by placing first in the contest for schools of 101 to 300 enrollment.

Sappa: The plate supper at District 49 was well attended and the proceeds were to be used to help finish paying for the piano.

The cornerstone for the new Lutheran Church was laid May 10 according to pastor F.A. Wegener. A program was given by the children of the school under the direction of Miss Alvina Fuhr, teacher. The German sermon was given by the Rev. Geo. Lehenbauer of Ludell and the English sermon by the Rev. Ed Kreutz of Norton.

The friends of Mr. Bartos Brown are very glad to hear of his recent marriage to Miss Hazel Wilson of Osborne. Mr. Brown is the son of David Brown, formerly a farmer in this community, now residing at Osborne, and a grandson of the late Gabriel Brown who was an early settler of Decatur County. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F.P. Wilson of Osborne and is a very attractive young lady and is popular among her friends. The couple will make their home on the old home place southeast of Kanona.

50 YEARS AGO — May 1956
Amos Glad of Pratt will deliver the commencement address for 41 seniors this evening. His topic will be "What Have You In Your Hand?" James Cederberg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Cederberg, has been named valedictorian and Arlene Jennings, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dolf Jennings, is salutatorian.

At the conclusion of the DCHS awards assembly, retiring Coach Jack Hague led the football team and students to the gymnasium entrance where the first place league plaque earned in football was hung.

Wesley Swanson, son of the Rev. and Mrs. Clarence Swanson, has received a \$245 award from the Order of Eastern Star to pursue religious training at North Park College in Chicago.

Funeral services were held at Cody Funeral home for Floyd L. Lotker, sr., who died of cancer at the age of 71. Interment will be in Oberlin Cemetery. Mr. Lotker was one of the few remaining pioneer salesmen in this part of the country having worked for Dutton Lainson Hardware Company of Hastings, Neb., for 35 years with his territory from Burlington, Colo., to Beloit. He is survived by his wife, Edna;

and one son, Floyd Lee Lotker, jr and daughter-in-law, Dorothea and three grandchildren. He was preceded in death in 1941 by another son, Billie Mix.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Chapin entertained Sunday at the Green Lantern with a family dinner honoring their son, Stanley Chapin, who is stationed in Groton, Conn., with the Coast Guard and Sonya Simmons of Larned who were married on May 18.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Richard Russ, daughter, Della Lea, May 11; Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Aschwege, Cedar Bluffs, daughter, Nancy Marie, May 12.

25 YEARS AGO — May 1981
The area wheat crop, which in the past has proven to have more lives than a cat, may have met its death blow the past weekend. Having battled greenbugs and wheat streak mosaic in recent weeks, it appeared the crop was faring well with all the moisture we have received the past few weeks but when skies cleared late Saturday farmers anxiously watched as temperatures dropped during the evening. In Oberlin, official weather observer Janet Farr recorded 26 degrees with other area reports dropping to 24 degrees.

Kim Kerchal, Servi-Tech representative, said that earlier varieties are more likely to be damaged but that it appears the majority of fields in the county were in the critical stage. Assessment cannot be made for several days but Decatur County Extension Agent Allen Dinkel said it was cold for a long period of time and that scares him.

The stained glass window, which was the gift of the Class of 1906 to DCHS and which was rescued by Agnes Dowling when the old high school was demolished, has been

recently restored by her niece, Jane Dowling James, and may be viewed at the Wood Shed in downtown Oberlin along with the 1906 class picture and other memorabilia.

Gerald Fencil, superintendent of Jennings USD 295, will present diplomas to the following high school graduates: Lee Juenemann, valedictorian; Jeannette Gawith, salutatorian; Theresa Campbell, Marsha Cressler, James Gallentine, Pamela Gilgenbach, Kevin Hickert, Todd Jacobs, Max Mizer, Mark Shaw, Thomas Vacura and William Vacura.

At Herndon USD #317, valedictorian of the Class of 1981 is Denise Pettera and salutatorian is Robin Berger. Other graduates are Connie Green, Catherine Leitner, Chrissy Marintzer, Pamela Reiter, Robert Sattler, Mary Ellen Stoney and Patrick Unger.

Senior class officers at USD 316 Golden Plains for the 1980-81 school year were Rod Bencken, president; Russ Aumiller, vice president; Anita Dible, secretary and Brenda Phillips, treasurer. Other graduates are Louis Bastin, Debra Erickson, John Finney, May-Britt Gunderson, Allen Juenemann, Susan Kaus, Steve Kruse, Lori Rall, Lynette Tucker, Orba Wolf and Larry Zoberst.

The Colby girls and the Oakley girls were winners in the rain-delayed NWKL track meet held in Oberlin on Monday rather than Saturday due to a torrential downpour. Sandy Nichols took first in the high jump and Jody Elwood took first in the discus and second in the shot. Kenny Black used a strong kick in the final 100 yards to capture the gold medal in the two-mile run and Phil Shields placed third in the mile. The league golf meet was postponed until Friday due to the rain.

Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, director

Now is the time to mark your calendar for the fifth annual Museum Summerfest Car Show on Friday and Saturday, June 2 and 3. New activities and events are being planned which will make it a great weekend to spend in Oberlin.

To start the Summerfest off is the Cruise-In on Friday evening from 7 to 9 p.m. in front of the Museum office at 258 S. Penn. The evening will be filled with live broadcasts from our sponsor, KFNF radio, 50s and 60s music, prizes, socializing, and seeing all the antiques and classic cars cruise the brick streets of downtown Oberlin. The all-American hot dog and sodas will be served so bring your lawn chairs and make it an evening.

Then for the top of the morning

on Saturday is the free-will donation pancake breakfast in the Bohemian Hall starting at 7 a.m. with pancakes, ham, coffee, and juice being served until 9 a.m.

Registration for antique cars, classics, special interest and motorcycles will be in the drive-through at The Bank. You can pre-register until the day of the show for \$20. The day of the show registration fees are \$25.

Watch for the next two weeks' articles for more of the day's activities or stop by the museum for a schedule.

With Memorial and Alumni weekend quickly approaching, be sure to find time to bring family and friends to the Museum. We're open Saturdays 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Scott Johnston, salutatorian; Mark Juenemann; Joshua Lahnanen; Sean McCurdy; Jessica Shaw, co-valedictorian; Christopher Springer; Linda Trevino; Joshua Vahling; Sabrina Wallersheim, foreign exchange student from Germany; John Michael Wilson; and Aaron Woods. Kenneth Kinkade, high school science teacher, delivered the address. Honor guards were Katelyn Spresser and Brett Spresser, Stephanie Juenemann and Cody Bieker.

Sean McCurdy, a senior at Golden Plains School, has accepted a \$500 Award of Excellence in history at Fort Hays State University. He is involved in track, student council, forensics, all-school plays and journalism. He is the son of Rob and Serena McCurdy of Rexford and plans to major in history.

Lyle News

By Deanna Sumner

Monday, May 8, Kathy Van Meter and Joyce Sumner played pinocle with the residents at the Good Samaritan Center in Oberlin.

On Wednesday, the Lyle ladies sewed with the help of Eleanor Jensen of Norton. That evening some of the women went to Oberlin for supper and cards with Juanita Eckhart.

Kathy Van Meter and June Jolly played cards in Norcatu on Friday evening.

Sixteen attended the potluck luncheon at Lyle on Sunday.

Toots Magers returned home after traveling with Charlie and Judy

Good Samaritan Center

Have you ever driven by, looked at our sign and wondered why we aren't named The Decatur County Good Samaritan Rest Home?

The answer is, we don't rest (unless we want to)! Our name is very appropriate. The Decatur County Good Samaritan Center is the hub - the center - of a lot of lively living. Where else can you attend a First Hand Friend's teddy bear picnic, a hat parade, vocal concert and a mother/daughter luncheon all in one week? Not to mention Bible studies, gardening, art class and going out for lunch on the hill.

Oh yes, there are also our independent leisure pursuits. David McGee loves to do woodwork. Jeanette Conway enjoys the company of her dog, Casey. Dorothy Bryan talks to her parakeets, Pat and Mike. June Saum watches her soaps, and Eva Bryan can usually be found with her nose in a book. Walt Mosier loves a checker game.

Doris Miller clicks away on the computer keys and Dorothy Pryor works 1,000-piece puzzles, while Harlan Geihlsler's favorite pastime is a good ol' nap, unless his grandkids are visiting. The point is there are endless choices, something for everyone, allowing each resident to make this their home.

For Mother's Day, we celebrated with a mother/daughter luncheon and program entitled "Lavender and Lace...a stroll down Memory Lane." Thirty-one daughters and granddaughters joined us as we reminisced about memories and family ties that bind us together, leaving a legacy of love that will last for generations.

Our first memory was portrayed by Kasey May as a mother holding a baby adorned in her first special white dress, an antique christening gown.

The second memory was little girls in fancy white dresses. Kasey's daughters, Kaylee and Kelsey, were first on stage followed by Lisa Davies' daughters, Meagan and Cerys, and then Jamie Geihlsler's twins, Monica and Maria.

As the program progressed, I was struck by the family unity that was represented. My own dear mother, Marte Ganzel, had written this program for her church many years ago. At that time, I was one of the girls on the stage modeling a pretty white dress, but today my own daughter, Serena, was portraying the third stop along Memory Lane,

wearing my wedding dress as the graduation dress in this scene.

Then the final dress, a wedding gown, was worn by Anita Hirsch's daughter, Jennifer. This was a pretty fancy production put on for the residents and their families by the staff and their families.

A special thank you to all the staff who helped to make this a wonderful celebration of love: aides Kelley Black, Kellie Morris, Rhonda Scibbe and Carla Britton who helped the residents get all dolled up for the occasion and saw to their needs during the program; the kitchen staff, Mary Sramek, Linetta Kettrel, Lucy Townsend, Joan Evans and Duane Carman, who prepared and served a delicious luncheon and to my invaluable assistant, Anita Hirsch, for the music and photography, etc., etc.

Plan to join us this Wednesday for coffee and donuts, 9-11 a.m., in recognition of National Nursing Home Week. We'd love to see you!

Recent guests: **Eva Bryan** - Elden and Della Anderson; **Hazel Flaska** - Gerald and Charlene Karnes of Salina; **Dorothy Pryor** - Linda Smith and Bethany; **Mary Lemman** - Dona Van Pelt; **Irene Wagoner** - Elda Youngs of McCook; **June Saum** - Mary Ann Erickson; **Louise Pollnow** - Sharon Addleman; **Edla Olson** - Ariana Arnold of Herndon; **Ruth Laidig** - Glenva Nichols; **Fern Mapes** - Donna Warren; **Marie McClesney** - Mary Bourquom of Alliance, Neb.; **Harlan Geihlsler** - Meredith, Monica, Maria, and Wesley Geihlsler, Deb, Deana and Dean Geihlsler, Deb Geihlsler of Chicago, Donna Geihlsler of Wichita, Dean Geihlsler, Oberlin; **Everett Fisher** - Meredith, Monica, Maria and Wesley Geihlsler, Colleen Geihlsler; **Bonnie Weskamp** - Jennifer Fortkamp of Palisade, Neb.; Sue Black; **Fern Anderson** - Vickie Lippelmann; **Dorothy Bryan** - Debra McConnell of McCook, Carol Baratta, Krom of Great Bend, Carol Barra; **Jeanette Conway** - Torre Conway of St. Francis; **Marilyn St. Clair** - Judy Reed and Abbie of Colby; **Eulaine Benda** - Barbara Olson; **Mary Davies** of Wales, Doris Aufer of Norcatu; **Irel Lohoefer** - Marcia Lohoefer; **Lucy Schissler** - Mert McEvoy, Margaret Fikan of Atwood; **Walt Mosier** - Priscilla Merrimack of Lenora, Frances Mosier of Norton. Also visiting was Meghan Davies.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Approximately 75 people attended the last school program for Unified School District No. 295, "Whacky Spring Fever," on Thursday, May 11. Children participating were Brecken Rowh, Trevor Buhn, Stephani Noone, Drake Rowh, Andrew Noone, Tyson Baker, Taryn Rogers, Malilah Green and Candace Taylor. Following the program the American Legion Education Award was presented to Mary Wahlmeier for her outstanding work in projects for the school and community. Kenneth Krizek presented the award and medal on behalf of the American Legion.

The Sunflower Senior potluck was held at the senior center on May 9. Bingo was played afterwards. Those attending were: Agnes Wahlmeier, Vendla Tacha, June Vavroch, Elmoin Bailey, Marguerite Bailey, Imogene Keenan, Rachel Carter, William Carter, Keith Muirhead, Helen Muirhead, Emma Sanford, Eleanor Morel, Jay Kump, Arch Harman, Mary Votapka, Stan Shaw, Ramona Shaw and Louise Cressler. A short business meeting was held. Mary Votapka, secretary, and Louise Cressler, president, were nominated for a second two-year term. The next meeting will be June 13.

Mrs. Glenda Harris, Grand Junction, Colo., was an overnight guest of Lawrence and Lila Jennings on

May 8. She had attended the college graduation of her granddaughter, Kristina Harris at Greeley, Colo., on Saturday. She then went to visit her mother, Daisy Stratton, and her brother, the Bud Johnstons, on Tuesday in Glen Elder.

Mother's Day weekend company of Lawrence and Lila Jennings were Marcia Casey, Derek Cook and Jackie Standage, Denver; Vicki Cook, Fort Morgan, Colo.; Brent Jennings, Junction City; Brian Jennings, Wray, Colo.; and Brett Jennings.

Jennings Housing Board meeting will be Thursday, May 18, at the Jennings Housing Day Room.

Water meters will be read Saturday, May 20. If your meter is inside and you won't be home, please post reading on your front door.

NEW ARRIVAL

Trent Carter Fenner, son of Jennifer and Brandon Fenner of Hoxie, was born May 11, 2006 at the Decatur County Hospital. He weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces. He has a sister, Jayden. Grandparents are David and Diane Carter, Jennings, and Brian and Joey Fenner, Hoxie. Great-grandparents are Eleanor Morel, Jennings, and the late Cleo Morel; Naomi Carter, Jennings, and the late Willard Carter; Vola Fenner, Goodland, and the late Albert Fenner; and Herb and Doris Weed, Wray, Colo.

Traer News

By Maralyn Courange

Maralyn Courange attended the wedding of her grandson, Ryan Wheelbarger, and Ashley Palmer, April 28, at St. John's Catholic Church in Cambridge, Neb.

Other family members attending were Dan and Kelly Brown, Lakin, Kaitlin and Taylor; Rocky Courange, and Kane Ware, all of Oberlin; Sara and Gabe Ware, Culbertson, Neb.; and Shawn Wheelbarger and Dominic, and Des Morgan, McCook.

Parents of the couple are Don Wheelbarger, McCook, and Kelly Brown, and Mr. and Mrs. Doug Palmer of Wilsonville, Neb.

Rexford News

By Vicki Allison

May is the month for flaunting and displaying beautiful bouquets, vase arrangements, or single stem flowers. There are proms, Mother's Day celebrations, graduation events and family reunions that are festooned with the beauty and fragrance of flowers to make a celebration special. The red rose continues to be the dominant flower in the celebrations.

Doc and Joan Dingwerth attended the graduation ceremony of their granddaughter, Kelly Donnelly, who graduated cum laude from Letourneau University in Longview, Texas, on May 6. She is pursuing the field of psychology. Amanda Rall and Jami Wark were dates of Jacob Unger and Andy Leitner for the Oberlin prom Saturday night. The girls said it was lots of fun and they enjoyed swing dancing.

On Saturday evening, Dennis and Vicki Allison attended a college graduation reception at the home of Rick and Kathy Vaughn for Beverly Vaughn who graduated from Fort Hays State University with an accounting degree. Thirty mothers were recognized and each given a rose in honor of Mother's Day during the church service Sunday morning. Also Scott Johnston and Josiah Allen received a personalized Bible in recognition of their high school graduation.

A "Happy Birthday" to Bill Arasmith who will celebrate on May 16, and to Berneda Zoberst on May 18. Gail Williams spent several days last week in Mount Vernon, Wash., with college friends for an annual reunion. On the return trip she stayed with friends, Sharon and Joe Heim, in Overland Park. (Dave and Gail were married March 18.) Sondra Barnett went to Hays last weekend for an Area Aglow board meeting and then went to Holcomb to visit her son, Scott and Linda Barnett, Michael, Tiffany, Lacey and Megan. The next day, she went on to Liberal to visit Cory and Tessy Barnett, Tabitha, Corban and Obadiah, and Lori Barnett, Elijah and Joshua, and several friends.

The Colby Country Club was the scene of a surprise birthday party for Cleda Moeder, hosted by her children, Robert and Marsha Moeder, Hutchinson, and Tim and Shelly Moeder, Colby. Her son Greg Moeder, Houston, was unable to attend. More than 100 friends and relatives from Wichita, Hays, Dodge City, Garden City, Oakley, Hutchinson, Hoxie, Colby, Rexford, Pratt, Brewster and Colorado gathered before the guest of honor arrived. To say that Cleda was surprised is a vast understatement.

Nathan Sultze, 17, Bakersfield, Calif., the grandson of Doc and Joan Dingwerth, received his Boy Scout Eagle Award. Nathan is Doc and Joan's second grandson to receive this highest Boy Scout award.

Patty Purcell spent a week in Faribault, Minn., visiting her parents.

Ron and Janette Dible spent several days at the 3-I show in Great Bend. Cleda Moeder and Buck Harper went to LaCrosse to attend the funeral of her cousin, William Moeder, on May 5. Steve and Teri Allen received

word last week from their son, Steven Allen, a med-tech for his division in Iraq, that his leg was injured in an explosion. We are all thankful that his injuries were not severe, and for his safety. C.P. and Alma Tarkington will be in Rexford for a brief visit the weekend of May 27 and 28.

Berneda Zoberst and Opal Moss would like to announce that a Barnett get-together will be held at the Community Hall on May 29. Coffee and tea will be furnished. Everyone is welcome to join and visit with the family. A potluck dinner will be served at noon. Bring your own service.

At the Red Barn on Friday for Koffee Klatch were Grace Cheney, Hulda Wark, Berneda Zoberst, Cleda Moeder, Eunice Sanford, Sondra Barnett, Velma Barnett, Darla Dible, Delores Dible, Doris Jean Shaw, Jean Hawkins, Vesta Roth and Margaret Arasmith.

Golden Plains happenings: The seniors returned from their senior trip to San Antonio, Texas, on Wednesday. They had an excellent time and discovered that Texas would be a great place to live. Thursday evening was the very first Golden Plains Talent Show. There were students who shared song, dance, instrumental and comedy pieces. There was a good response and Mrs. Janell Antholz, music instructor, hopes to make the talent show an annual event.

The graduation ceremony for 15 seniors was held Sunday afternoon. The students graduating were Ashley Albers; Valerie Broeckelman, co-valedictorian; Jennifer Eatherly; Daniel Johnson;