

* Alum returns for 75th

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high school, my sisters, Mearl and Mary, and my brother Harold all stayed together and batched in a house owned by our aunt, Sarah Woolley.

"In high school, I went out for football and won the state title in wrestling in the 108 pound class as a freshman. Lemoine Landau and I wrestled in exhibition at McCook, since other league and area schools did not participate in wrestling at the time. We had some great football players, especially the Hackneys and the Chilson. Evelyn Mines Bauer was valedictorian of our class and Caleb Smick was school superintendent. He was 'all business' but was very highly respected.

"A fond high school memory of mine was when John Willcoxon, who drove back and forth to high school in an old car, came in early and picked me up and we drove around town before school started in the morning. What a wonderful guy John was."

After Mr. Brown graduated, he said he started farming right away with his father and brothers Harry and Floyd. They also milked cows and sold the cream.

"When Harry and Floyd left for military service, my brother Ralph quit at the Farmers National Bank for a while to help us on the farm," he said. "I also helped my dad after he bought an elevator in Oberlin, which was called C.C. Brown and Sons."

He said he met his wife, the former Zola Maggard, at the Sweet Shop in Oberlin. She worked at the Farmers National after graduating from high school, and he said they dated for several years before they were married on Nov. 17, 1945.

Always a sports enthusiast, Mr. Brown played center field for the Swede softball team for many years.

"Most of the team were area farmers," he said, "and in those days, we stopped everything to be at the ballfield when a game was scheduled. The whole family joined them for an enjoyable evening with neighbors and friends."

Mr. Brown was an active member of the Decatur Saddle Club and accompanied them to Washington when they rode in the inaugural parade for President Eisenhower.

"Steve was just 2 years old at the time," he said, "and Zola brought me to town to join the others on the bus. It was 10 below when she and our son headed back to the farm."

The Browns have attended the alumni banquet faithfully for many years and this year, their two sons also had anniversary class reunions: Steve, with the 1966 class, and Ward, 1976. His wife, Zola, graduated in 1940.

Steve and his wife Barbara live on a farm near his parents' farmstead, and Ward and his wife Sarah, and their daughters, Elizabeth and twins Katherine and Jennifer, live in Leawood, near Kansas City, where he is a veterinarian.

* Rain helps thirsty crops

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area agronomist with Kansas State University Research and Extension. "Most of the wheat is past flowering, so the moisture will help the test weight," he said.

However, he added, the high temperatures may have caused a lot of tillers to die, reducing wheat yields.

What this means, he said, is that the kernels will plump up better due to the moisture but there won't be as many of them since the plants have lost a lot of stalks.

"If we'd had that moisture when we had the cool temperature, we'd be sitting pretty," Mr. Olson said, "but that didn't happen."

The wheat crop is variable, he said. Spot checking fields has shown those that were summer fallowed are looking pretty good but where there is continuous cropping, the plants look stressed.

He said his best guess is that the crop will be down from last year.

Out south of Oberlin, farmer and rancher Monte Moore said that his pastures are greening up since the rain. He figured by Tuesday afternoon there had been about 1 1/2 inches out his way.

"The corn and soybeans are still young enough that they're OK," he said, adding that although he summer fallows, he hasn't been out to check his wheat yet.

The rains have helped, Mr. Moore said, but farmers need more: "At least it's a good start."



DR. RICHARD MAY ADMIRER a certificate given to his mother, Betty May, (above) for 26 years of service to the Oberlin schools. Elementary Principal Duane Dorshorst (below) hung plaques in the grade school after a ceremony honoring retired teachers.
— Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis

School honors retired teachers

Support Our Schools and Oberlin Elementary School honored teachers who have retired from the school with plaques and certificates recently.

Principal Duane Dorshorst said they were trying to come up with something for Teacher Appreciation Week and wanted to honor former faculty who have retired from the grade school at the same time. He said they realized there are quite a few retired teachers who still live in the area.

For those who have died since retirement, their spouses or families received their plaques.

Mr. Dorshorst said they plan to honor retired teachers each year. He said they already discovered one teacher whom they missed this year, so they will honor that person next year.

The retired teachers were named with their years of service at the school and total years teaching:

- Maye Banta, 1927 to 1951 with 24 years.
- "Prof." Ira Laidig, 1929 to



- 1961 with 32 years.
- Nellie Gallentine, 1948 to 1961 with 13 years.
- Anna Lee Kemper, 1958 to 1971 with 13 years here, 49 total.
- Lula Thieler, 1952 to 1971 with 19 years here and 26 total.

- Leora Carman, 1966 to 1971 with five years here and 19 total.
- Inez Johnson, 1966 to 1973 with 13 years here and 19 total.
- John Bearley, 1948 to 1979 with 31 years.
- Hazel Guinn, 1948 to 1979 with 31 years.
- Marie Allen, 1965 to 1979 with 14 years here and 29 total.
- Sue Pollnow, 1965 to 1982 with 17 here and 23 total.
- LaVern Milner, 1977 to 1982 with five years here and 47 total.
- Nathalie Badsky, 1968 to 1984 with 16 years.
- Betty Jones, 1961 to 1988 with 27 years.
- Fern Moore, 1959 to 1991 with 32 years.
- Betty May, 1966 to 1992 with 26 years here and 40 total.
- Patricia Wright, 1971 to 1995 with 24 years here and 26 total.
- Janette Votapka, 1963 to 1995 with 32 years here and 36 total.
- Darrell Jones, 1978 to 1996 with 18 years.
- Audrey Pavlicek, 1986 to 2004 with 18 years here and 26 total.

* Firm looks to use Oberlin airport for travel

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Mr. Shike said he would guess around two years, of which the actual construction would be the smallest segment.

Mr. Oldridge said that he could get permission to get a helicopter for two years to ferry people and parts from the McCook airport to the Jennings site if there won't be a noise, nuisance or zoning problem.

Jennings Mayor Bob Jones assured him that there would be no problem, noting that Jennings has no zoning.

Mr. Oldridge said that as long as the runway is being dealt with, his company could go ahead and get a dealership license to operate in Kansas, buy the Jennings property and start renovation.

"We're under the gun (from the

board of directors) to get that place buttoned up by Dec. 31 of this year," he told the group.

Mr. Shike pointed out that while everyone in the room agreed on what needs to be done, there were no Oberlin City Council members at the meeting and the next council meeting is two weeks away.

* Leak dries up Oberlin for day

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had to be drained to get to the crack. The main couldn't be shut off with a valve, said Mr. Shike. The main that was broken was on the east side of a four way joint and the city would have needed good valves in four directions to shut the water off.

Most houses and businesses around town were without water, but most people seemed to get by.

The main was in part of the old section of the water system. It is to be replaced in phase 2 of a plan to update the water system, but there isn't a date set for that phase of the project.

Since the leak was in a low part of town and the crew couldn't shut the line off, they had to shut the valve at the water tower and drain the whole town. Mr. Shike said they drained the lines by opening fire hydrants.

One valve at the tower would not close completely, he said, and some houses still had water, but most did not. The city didn't have to drain the water tower, Mr. Shike said, so there was a reserve in case of a fire.

With some water still flowing through the main, he said, it took the crew about two hours to cut through the cast iron pipe. That doesn't include the time it took to uncover the leak.

Mr. Shike said they cut out a 4 1/2-foot section and replaced it with new plastic pipe, made of polyvinyl chloride, the material used in new lines the city has installed. After the patch was in place, workers found that the crack in the main extended farther west. They shut the water off

again and bolted a repair collar on that leak.

By 10:30 p.m. that night, the crew had everything back in place and started to close the hydrants and turn the wells back on.

The crew did an excellent job, said Mr. Shike. The men on the crew included city Foreman Dan Castle, Willard Perrin and David Sporn from the water crew, Ron Solko, Rocky Diederich and Jonathan Counter. They took turns sawing through the pipe and did a wonderful job in getting the problem fixed, the administrator said.

Mr. Shike said he really appreciates his crew and hopes the rest of the city does, too. He said several city council members and Mayor Ken Shobe spent time at the site watching the work. All three police officers stopped by, and two held flashlights on the pipe when needed.

The next day, said Mr. Shike, city officials started talking about the city's emergency policies. If something like this happens again, he said, they need to know who should be notified. He said when the leak was discovered and the crew turned the water off, for instance, they didn't notify the hospital.

Mr. Shike said he talked with Administrator Lynn Doeden later, and she said if the hospital would have had an emergency surgery, it could have been a problem.

Mr. Shike said he and City Clerk Deanna Castle made a list of everyone who needs to be notified when there is a problem in the future.

Rains help lower use, but break hurts figures

With a water main leak last week, the city pumped over a million gallons one day, dropped to 815,000 gallons the next, and after rains Thursday, stayed under 620,000 gallons the rest of the time.

Last Tuesday, a leak was discovered at Hall and Griffith, which meant the city had to drain the water out of its lines. In that 24 hours, the city used 1,025,000 gallons of water.

Other than that day, though, city water users kept the demand between 400,000 to 815,000 gallons.

Oberlin has been on outside water restrictions since May 18 after usage passed the 700,000-gallons-per-day trigger level for a "water warning."

This is the fifth summer the town has had to restrict water use, despite having drilled a new well this year to replace one that was failing.

- The city pumped:
- 670,000 gallons on Monday, May 22.
 - 593,000 gallons on Tuesday, May 23.
 - 1,025,000 last Wednesday.
 - 815,000 on Thursday.
 - 349,000 on Friday.
 - 476,000 on Saturday.
 - 613,000 on Sunday.
 - 445,000 on Monday.

The amount pumped is for the 24 hours before the day. For example, the 1,025,000 gallons reported last Wednesday was for the 24 hours starting about 7 a.m. last Tuesday.

The city is still on watering restrictions. Outdoor water can be used between midnight and 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. to midnight on the homeowner's respective days. People with even addresses can water Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

Odd addresses can water Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. No outdoor water use is allowed on Mondays.

* Show has fun for all

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and \$1.50 for kids.

The car show will offer many new activities, including racing for all ages. Kem Bryan, with the Oberlin-Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce, said they will sponsor remote-control vehicle races starting at 10:30 a.m. just south of Farmers Bank and Trust on Main. Remote-control vehicles will race through a course set up on the street.

Age ranges include kindergarten to third grade, fourth through sixth grades and seventh grade to adults. The Chamber will give prizes. Mrs. Bryan said the Chamber

board thought it would be fun and a way for everyone to get involved.

Lunch will be served in front of Farmers Bank and Trust from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Other activities include:

- A poker run at 1 p.m.
- A starter throw at 2 p.m. sponsored by Oberlin Automotive.
- A tire relay at 2:30 p.m. sponsored by Terrace Gardens RV Park.
- A burn out at 3 p.m. sponsored by Fidele Electric, Woodcrafting and Building Supply.

A barbecued beef supper will be served at 7 p.m. in the Bohemian Hall.

* Jeeps bring back memories

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That was in 2000 when he found an Army Model M-38 made by Willys in 1950. He spent a year restoring it with the help of Terry Ream, who did some minor engine repair.

Since then, he has purchased and restored an Army 1/4-ton two-wheel trailer, Model M-416, made in 1967, which was designed to be

towed behind an M-151 Jeep; a 1942 Navy 1/4-ton Jeep Model GPW, made by Ford in 1941; and the 1955 Marine Corps Jeep.

He said he enjoys working with and driving the old vehicles and showing the younger generation a piece of military history, as well as bringing back memories for older veterans.

Field day planned in Colby

K-State Research and Extension will sponsor the 2006 Spring Field Day, beginning with registration at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, at the Northwest Research-Extension Center at Colby.

Gillen who will speak on the topic, "If and When it Rains."

It will also include: wheat varieties and history, wheat pest management, no-till and continuous wheat studies, canola varieties and management, and breakout sessions.

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