

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Aug. 1881

The firm of Bertram & Parker made Homestead Entry No. 1, Contest No. 1 and Final Proof No. 1 at the Oberlin Land Office last Monday.

The first homestead entry made at the Oberlin Land Office which opened up for business last Monday was by M.P. Rhodes of Hebron, Nebr., on SE quarter of Sec. 13, Township 4, Range 28.

Thomas Cavanaugh, Register of the U. S. Land Office, and Charles E. Chandler, receiver, have engaged Ed Martin of Kirwin as chief clerk who has always been in the land office business and knows the route work perfectly.

Married: Thursday, July 28, 1881, Mr. Mark Wright of Oberlin and Miss Elize Olean Manhard of Independence, La.

100 YEARS AGO — Aug. 1906

The heavy machinery of the light plant was placed in position the past week. The engine and dynamo are fine pieces of mechanism.

W.O. Ater bought the dray business of Dan Roach last week.

A wagon load of carpenters consisting of Joe and Henry Meier, Jim Woolley, Preston Enes and "Stub" Hutcheon will start soon for Yellowstone Park and a general hike through the country.

Married July 28, 1906, Mr. Orville T. Register of Lenora and Miss Cora M. Baxter of Holbrook, Nebr.

The Oberlin third team went to Selden last Friday and played 16 innings before finally allowing the Selden bunch to get the winning tally; final score 3-2.

Oberlin team was composed of the following: Lars Bystrom, 1b; Lester Wylder, 2b; Walter Leaman, p; Cecil Marks, ss; Raymond Minter, cf; Sidney Arnold, c; Charley Street, 3b; Glen Gierhart, lf; Tudor Stevenson, rf.

75 YEARS AGO — Aug. 1931

The date of the four-county Old Settlers picnic has been set for Aug. 7 at Brookwood Park. John R. Connelly, ex-congressman of the Big Sixth district, will be present to make the address and he should be at home in a crowd of old settlers, as he knows firsthand some of the strenuous experiences early settlers in northwestern Kansas had to endure.

A real old-fashioned picnic will be held in the shade of the trees and Mr. Shaw promises to have the grounds in good shape. Leo Agan, one of the best horseshoe pitchers of Rawlins County, has consented to take charge of that phase of the entertainment and Jake Riley, who is a good horseshoe pitcher as well as one of the earliest settlers to come to Decatur County, will accept the challenge. There will also be bathing, boating and miniature golf available.

The Spanish Mission bungalow which has recently been completed on East Washington Street by its owner and designer, H. Ernest Nichols, will be open for public inspection Sunday afternoon.

President Lewis of Hays College was the speaker at Oberlin Rotary on Tuesday and discussed the present economic conditions in the U.S. "Never in the history of this country has there ever a greater abundance of wheat, foodstuffs and money, yet it is predicted 10 million people will go hungry this winter," he stated.

August Pollnow will celebrate his 90th birthday today. He has been a resident of Decatur County for the past 50 years and has lived three miles west of Oberlin.

With Pete Reeves pitching, the Oberlin baseball team defeated Herndon Sunday 7 to 0 on the home grounds.

Dresden: While Guy Sawyer was attending church Sunday evening, he left his car parked in front of the church as usual and when he went to go home his car had been stolen and as yet has heard nothing from it.

50 YEARS AGO — Aug. 1956

The Decatur County Fair exerted its traditional charm on old Jupe Pluvius and got back on schedule, doing it with an inch of rain falling on Tuesday evening. Coupled with a city power failure, the evening stage show had to be canceled.

Two Rawlins County men were arrested early Sunday morning after reportedly knocking over Selden Marshal John Gustin with an automobile. Gustin had arrested several drivers earlier for driving recklessly on the streets of Selden. He is a patient at Decatur County Hospital for treatment of injuries.

Jennings: Mrs. Bob Tacha and

her son, Roger, escaped injuries and Mrs. Earl Tacha suffered minor injuries and bruises when the car in which they were riding struck a slick place on the Kanona-Danbury road and rolled down an embankment as they were enroute home from Danbury, where they had gone for dental work.

Henry Beardsley Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Beardsley, has accepted an engineering position with the California Company.

A 1946 graduate of DCHS and of the School of Mines at Golden, Colo., he completed a master's degree at the University of Nebraska last spring. His office will be in Denver and he will work in an 8-state area.

Mrs. Carroll Miller, rural Oberlin, who is a director of the Kansas Home Demonstration Council, recently attended a workshop at Kansas State College designed to plan programs for the 45,000 home demonstration members in Kansas.

Norcatour: A large group of Norcatour folks spent Sunday at Harlan Dam and enjoyed a picnic and boat rides by Fay Hatcher in his motorboat.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Miller of Dresden announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Geraldine, to Donald Neff, son of Mr. and Mrs. Florentz Neff of Selden. The wedding will be an event of Aug. 21 in the Immaculate Conception Church at Leoville.

Juanita Purcell, who became the bride of Jesse Rummel of Atwood on Sunday morning, July 22, was honored with a bridal shower at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charley Purcell.

Marie Dean and Franklin Kester were married July 15 at the Oberlin Methodist Church. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dean of Cedar Bluffs and Mr. Kester is the son of Mr. and Mrs. G.E. Kester of Cañon City, Colo. They are now at home in Oakley.

25 YEARS AGO — Aug. 1981

The 45th annual Decatur County Fair opens Aug. 4. When the Decatur County home-owned carnival opens, the line may start to form at the new high striker amusement game that will test the strength of all ages. Ann Ooton also reported this week that a new baseball game

will challenge contestants who throw at break-away plates. In addition, a new snow-cone machine will be operating and a bigger popcorn machine.

Ricardo Enrique Avila Urrutia, whose home is in Talca, Chile, has arrived to attend DCHS and make his home with the Dave and Shirley Nichols family and attend school with Rick Michel, a junior, and Cindy, an eighth grader. He is sponsored by the American Field Service.

Denise Hooper, Bogue, was crowned 1982 Miss Frontier at the 15th annual pageant held at Norton. Paula Jo Wentz, Oberlin, was second runner-up and was voted Miss Congeniality by the 12 other contestants. Other Oberlin entrants were Lizann Davidson, Pam Gaines and Tammy Wendland.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gamblin, Oberlin, announce the engagement of their daughter, Sharon, to Charles Wurm, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Wurm. An Oct. 24 wedding is planned.

A bridal shower honoring Lisa Nelson of McCook was held the evening of July 20 at New Roads Art Center in Oberlin. Hostesses were Diane Hagen, Kim Carter, Karmel Chambers, Jill Reichert, Pat Stapp and Carol Witt. Miss Nelson and Daniel Votapka will be married Aug. 8 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in McCook.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. David Michael, daughter, Alicia Jo, July 28; Mr. and Mrs. Craig Larson, son, Carl Levi, July 23; Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Carter, Jennings, daughter, Rebecca Joy, July 26.

The Oberlin Swim Team wrapped up a busy season with a two-day trip to Burlington, Colo., last Friday and Saturday. In spite of having only 27 youngsters entered, the team came in fourth with the eight entered. Andy Matson won the high-point swimmer award in the age 11-12 division while his brother, Buck, was winner of the boy's 15-18 award. Coach Shannon Ross said she had enjoyed tremendously coaching the team and thanked parents for their support.

Cedar Living News

The bowling group met on Monday afternoon. Those joining in on the fun included Elsie Goodnight, Paul Sass, Kayo Sattler, Lowell Sebaugh, Don Shaw, Frank Ward, Bea Wolfram, and Lyle Gamblin.

Myrna Jones played the piano for the sing-along time on Monday afternoon.

Lowell Sebaugh attended the concert in the courtyard of the Good Samaritan Center on Monday.

Fern Moore hosted the reading group on Tuesday morning.

The dietary department served a buffet lunch at noon on Tuesday featuring chicken from the deli at Raye's Grocery, baked beans, and salad bar. The menu was selected by the Residents' Council at their last meeting.

Freda Gamblin won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Paul Sass won the blackout game.

The Residents' Council met on Tuesday afternoon. Plans were made for attending the Decatur County Fair. Anyone who would be able to assist residents in attending the fair may contact Teresa Shaughnessy at (785) 475-2208.

Residents also heard about plans to use proceeds from the annual golf benefit to redecorate the dining

room at Cedar Living Center.

Juanita Williby hosted the pinocle players Wednesday afternoon. The group included Velda and Frank Ward, Elsie Goodnight, Don Shaw, and Mildred Tacha.

Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson on Wednesday afternoon.

Several residents assisted with cleaning fresh corn on the cob Thursday morning. It was served at lunch that day.

Mildred Tacha spent the day in Jennings on Thursday.

Father Henry said Mass Thursday morning.

There were several winners at the dice game played on Thursday afternoon. Residents enjoyed colas and potato chips following the game.

The baking group made zucchini cookies on Friday afternoon.

The Rev. Doug Hasty of the Oberlin United Methodist Church was in charge of Sunday services.

Recent visitors: Edwin Black, Vernon and Jeanette Diederich, Orlin Beneda, Elvin Beneda, Lyle Gamblin, Sandra Young, Eula Juenemann, Roxie Pomeroy, Don Stapp, Oberlin, and Jerry Temple, Judy Jackson, Janice O'Hare, Linda Hunt, Dorothy Ward, Norcatour.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Richard Reed, Palmer, Alaska; Albert Reed, Grand Junction, Colo.; and Bill Stringham, Wichita, spent several days visiting their brother-in-law, Norman Davis, and family and friends in the Jennings area.

Helen and Bud Rhodes went for a week's visit with her brother, Don Brainard, and two daughters, Christine and Larry MacKnickie, and Meg Brainard near Palmer, Alaska.

Michelle and Tom Zodrow and Austin of Grapevine, Texas, are visiting a week with her parents, Helen and Keith Muirhead. Tom is spending some time with his mother, Mary Ann Zodrow, who is in the hospital.

July 27 was the closing date on the sale of the schoolhouse in Jennings. The city deeded it to Bus and Coach International of Chino, Calif. Half of the money went to Heritage Associates and half to the

city of Jennings. The city council and mayor appreciated all the work the Decatur County Road Department did to the schoolyard in preparing it for paving. Also thanks to Vickie Bailey, Decatur County Abstract Company, for many hours of paperwork; Emery Hart; Lois Heilman; and numerous others who helped to make this possible.

City council meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday for the budget hearing and regular monthly meeting.

Sunflower Senior Center will have potluck supper at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 8. Bingo will be played. Bring a \$3 prize or \$3 cash.

A large crowd attended the Adrien Mowry family reunion Saturday at the Senior Center.

Do you know it is a federal crime to tamper with U.S. Post Office property? Make sure your children and grandchildren are aware of this.

Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, director

One of our guests this week was from Pleasant Plains, Ohio. She was bicycling her way through Kansas.

Her goal is to ride through all states and she only has a few more to visit.

History tidbits: Mrs. Tacha, an early resident of the Big Timber, wrote: "In the spring of 1894, father broke out 10 acres which was planted to corn all by hand, and when the corn got up a good height, the buffalo came along and ate it up."

"A huge fire, Jan. 9, 1884, hit 10

businesses on the east side of Penn Avenue."

A new item in the Seeds of Creation Gift Shop is a book written and compiled by Joyce Martin in loving tribute to her father, George W. Gardner. Mr. Gardner, a former Decatur County sheriff during the rough Prohibition years and a long-time Oberlin city marshal, was one of the few World War I soldiers awarded both the Distinguished Service Cross for gallant conduct and extraordinary heroism, and the

Croix de Guerre medal for acts of heroism involving combat with enemy forces.

This book was compiled from stories, articles, documents, and photographs gathered from family scrapbooks. Though he never wanted to talk much about the war during his lifetime, the Gardner family felt it was time for him to be honored.

Looking forward to seeing many of you during the upcoming fair week.

Rexford News

By Vicki Allison

The City of Rexford, along with the City of Brewster, will be donating watermelon for the free barbecue sponsored by Dillons of Colby and Cornerstone Ag during the Thomas County Fair at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, prior to the second night of the rodeo.

Sunday overnight guests of Clea Moeder were her niece, Ann (Minnick) Schmeidler and husband, Bob, of Wichita. They left Monday morning for Breckenridge, Colo.

Deb Stepper guest during the week was her late husband, Cy's, nephew, Tim Watchers, California.

Edna Colson spent Friday through Monday visiting Roberta Colson in Goodland. The children at Roberta's Day Care always enjoy seeing Grandma Colson. Roberta came and picked up Edna on Friday and brought her home Monday.

Sandra Barnett, Hulda Wark and Debra Gamboa attended the Rall reunion held at Osage Beach, Mo., the weekend of July 22.

Happy birthday to Josh Miller, who celebrated Sunday.

Chad Wark; his uncle, Marty Anderson; and friend, Chris Miller of Manhattan, helped another of Chad's uncles, Shawn Anderson, tin the roof of the house of Shawn's in-laws, Terry and Kathleen Feldt of rural Hoxie, on Saturday.

Red Barn events: Those attending Come on Down on Thursday were Rex and Betty Carswell, Jean Hawkins, Deb Stepper, Grace Cheney, and Dick Sanford.

The Barnswallows who met during the week were Betty and Rex Carswell, Lawrence and Mary Anne Juenemann, Chuck Williams, Lawrence Horinek,

Grace Cheney, Jean Hawkins and Deb Stepper.

Those at Koffee Klatch Friday were Eunice Sanford, Berneda Zoberst, Liz Rall, Delores Dible, Deb Stepper, Grace Cheney, Doris Jean Oliver, Jean Hawkins, and Vesta Roth.

Until next time, make your week a memorable one!

"Kids First" Learning Center

Preschool Openings!

Call Becky Ayers at 475-3311 or 475-2577 to enroll your preschooler for the fall session.

Openings for both 3 yr. olds (TTH) and 4/5 yr. olds (MWF) sessions available

Your Future Reads... You Will Own A New Quality Vehicle from Deveny Motors in McCook

PREOWNED ZONE

2007 Dodge Caliber SXT
2.0 4 Cyl., CVT Automatic, Keyless Entry, Up to 40 MPG
\$17,995

2006 Dodge Ram 1500
NEW!! Long Box 4x4, V-8, CD, A/C, Tilt & Cruise
MSRP \$27,370
Only \$17,995

'04 Chevy 2500 HD
\$21,995

'02 Dodge Ram 1500
Crew Cab, Short Box LS, 4x4, 1-Owner, 6.0L V-8
\$13,995

'05 PT Cruiser
\$11,995

'05 Chevy Suburban LS
4-Dr., L.S., 4.3L V-6, 89,000 mi., Locally owned, Very Clean
\$4,680

'93 Chevy Blazer
\$4,680

'04 Jeep Gr. Cherokee Laredo
4x4, New Tires, 1-Owner, Like new inline 6 Cyl.
\$14,995

'99 GMC Suburban SLT
Leather, 4x4, New tires, Local 1-Owner
\$8,995

'98 Chevy Venture LS
4-Dr., Rear A/C, Locally Owned
Only \$3,995

'00 Dodge Gr. Caravan ES
Leather, Quad Seats, Local Van, every option, Nice!
\$6,995

'05 Chevy Suburban LS
4x4, 5.3L V-8, 1-Owner
\$23,995

'95 Ford F-150 Ext. Cab
Long Box, 4x4, V-8, XLT, Run great, Locally owned, No Rust
\$3,995

DEVENY
CHRYSLER - JEEP - DODGE

401 East B Street - McCook, NE 69001
(308) 345-5200 - 1-800-345-0031
devenymotors@yahoo.com