

THE OBERLIN HERALD

# Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

## 125 YEARS AGO — May 1882

The population of Kirwin has dwindled down to 550. Two years ago it was over 1,000.

On the 15th of June, 1857, there was a snowstorm in the neighborhood of Salina.

A band has been organized with the following members: Capt. J.W. Allen, E-flat cornet; Frank H. Smith, B-flat cornet; Ed Knowles, first alto; J.P. Greenwood, second alto; Frank Douglass, trombone; W.A. Hollowell, tuba; J.W. Short, snare drum; E.L. Beckwith, bass drum.

The cold wave the night of May 22nd was generally felt all over the country. Heavy frosts were the rule; three inches of snow fell at Davenport, Iowa.

## 100 YEARS AGO — May 1907

In the high school inter-class track meet held last week the seniors scored 28 points; juniors, 20; sophomores, 26; and freshmen, 3.

Harry Logan, Neil Rogers and Ray Yamell starred for the seniors.

At the Memorial day exercises 27 Civil War veterans were present.

Prof. E.W. Blackmar of Kansas University delivered the address to the DCHS graduating class at the annual commencement exercises.

Following are members of the class: College preparatory: Etta Acton, Gerald Benton, Grace Douglass, Edith Davis, Marie Geiger, Rolla Harger, Florence Leaman, Harry Logan, Donald Riste, Caleb Smick, Faye Wolfe.

## 75 YEARS AGO — May 1932

Miss Alice Anderson, county superintendent of schools, presented diplomas to 166 boys and girls who are graduates of Decatur County Common schools. This is just one less diploma given out than last year when there were 167 graduating from the 8th grade.

Two busloads of executives of Kansas-owned insurance companies are expected to be in Oberlin Friday for lunch and a two-hour stop as part of their week-long tour

of Kansas. While they are at the Hotel Oberlin for lunch there will be a concert by the DCHS band prior to the program.

Around 1500 persons attended the commencement exercises for the Class of 1932. Diplomas were presented to the 56 seniors by Elwood Brooks, chairman of the school board.

There was a record attendance of 252 persons at the DCHS Alumni Banquet. The record for attendance was given to Mrs. Mary Farris Brooks of Norton who has missed but one alumni meeting since graduating in 1915. Alumni president Ward Claar presided and new officers elected were: Howard Banta, president; Robert Geiger, vice president; Evelyn Mines, secretary and Lonnie Bates, treasurer.

Caroline Wiggins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wise Wiggins, Grant Township, is announcing for the office of county treasurer on the Democratic ticket.

Fairview-Summit: Little Keith Shaw stayed with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Shaw, while his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Shaw, attended Alumni banquet Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Eiler are the parents of a baby daughter born Tuesday evening.

one-half inches.

Not all glory at the State meet went to Vernon. Jerry Baker ended in a four-way tie for first in the pole vault with a vault of 11 feet, 6 inches.

Helen Jo Karls, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Karls of Leoville, and Mary Cathleen Karls, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F.J. Karls of Dresden will be two of the 93 young women to graduate from Marymount College in Salina. Helen has a major in mathematics with a minor in commerce and will teach in Leoville High School. Mary Cathleen will receive her degree in music and will teach music in both the grade and high schools in Winona.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Campbell, daughter, Corby Cae, May 16; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Powers, Milwaukee, Wis., son, Charles Stevenson Powers, May 20.

Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Chambers, Norcat, announce the engagement of their daughter, Barbara Sharon, to Don L. Temple, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Temple, Norcat.

30 YEARS AGO — May 1957

The Red Cross swimming program is awaiting the completion of the new swimming pool according to pool manager Don Leuszler. Contractor Ernie Nichols said that completion has been delayed by the spring rains. Most sidewalk superintendents are hazarding a July 1 opening date. Leuszler and life-guard Rusty Addleman will attend an Red Cross aquatic school in Ardmore, Okla., in June.

Bob Vernon, Oberlin's powerful young discus thrower who has been flinging the plate farther this season than any Kansas schoolboy in history, last Friday made it official. He spun the disc 169 feet, 10 inches in the state track meet at Wichita which broke the state class A mark of 158 feet, 5 and one-half inches.

There almost wasn't enough room at Wichita for the sturdy junior. His winning toss flew right out of the discus area onto the running track and some races had to hold off while the officials measured the attempt.

Vernon also placed fourth in the shot put with a cast of 47 feet, 9 and

concern regarding the satellite clinics now functioning in the communities of Norcat, Jennings and Herndon.

DCHS faculty member Jim Keller will leave this week to join four other young men from Kansas as a Rotary District 567 team member for six weeks in Rotary District 932 in South Africa.

Alumnus faithful Bob Kelley, Class of '47, may not win the award for the graduate coming the greatest distance as among the reservations for the Saturday Alumni Banquet are some from Guam and Guatemala, but he's surely the one who put forth the greatest effort to come, walking at least 500 of the 700 miles between Oberlin and his suburban Chicago home. In real life Kelley is a United Airlines captain so the price of a ticket didn't influence his decision to walk — let's just say he's a physical fitness nut.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Brad DeKnight, daughter, Mariah Kathleen, May 6; Mr. and Mrs. David Koeperich, daughter, Adrian Mitchell, April 27; Greg and Mary Lohofener, Oberlin, son, Adam Gregory, May 26; Larry and Helen Barber, daughter, Lori Renee, May 11.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Sippel, Gypsum, announce the engagement of their daughter, Connie, to Larry Screen, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Screen, Oberlin. A July 31 wedding is planned.

Winners of the Arion Awards at DCHS were Shirley Schwab, Joyce Meitl and Patrick Luedders.

Commerce, organizations, and individuals, we have a great weekend planned for all.

Besides the Show and Shine of cars and motorcycles on Saturday, many activities will keep young and old entertained. Watch for next week's article giving times and activities for the day.

The weekend starts at 7 p.m. on Friday evening in front of the Museum office with hot dogs and sodas, prizes and early viewing of the cars. Bring that classic vehicle down and show it off, or bring your folding chairs and plan to meet your family and friends for an evening of fun and excitement!

Have a safe Memorial weekend.

Commercial Course: William Landau, Francis O'Grady, Neil Rogers, Ray Yamell;

General Course: Julius Lorig, Claude Wickham

## 25 YEARS AGO — May 1982

Keith Wilborn, who has served as a physician assistant in Oberlin the past seven years practicing under the supervision of Dr. Ren Whitaker has announced that he has resigned and his family will be moving back to the Barton County area.

The loss in June of the services of Keith Wilborn has caused local

Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson.

The new dining room tables and chairs arrived this week. We used them for the first time on Thursday afternoon to rave reviews from residents and staff. The redecorating project is nearly completed.

Father Henry brought Mass on the patio for the Catholic residents on Thursday morning.

Several residents and staff members teamed up for a special trivia game on Thursday morning. Prizes were to be awarded to the winning teams, but since everyone did so well it was decided to give all of the participants a small prize. Prizes will be presented next week.

Roger and Wanda Miller of McCook ate lunch with Claudine Bennett on Thursday to help her celebrate her birthday. The Millers and Karen Bennett hosted a birthday party in the afternoon. They served cake and ice cream to the residents and staff in honor of Claudine's birthday.

There were several winners at the dice game played on Friday afternoon. Refreshments were served following the game.

Recent visitors: Richard Samson, Ludell; Marj Law, Lakewood, Colo.; Jerry Temple, Judy Jackson, DeVonna New, Norcat; Frank Cox, Herndon; Doyle and Kay Brown, Jennings; Rick and Tammy Shaw, Selden; Lloyd Harden, Goodland; Margaret Stanley, Colby;

Phyll Cramer, Lyle Gamblin, Opal Huntley, Jan Matheny, Barb Solko, Sandra Young, Roxie Pomeroy, Charlie and Betsy Haag, Marguerite Bailey, Elvin Beneda, Orlin Beneda, Regina Stanley, Gary Bruggeman, Gary Matheny, Oberlin.

## Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, director

On Tuesday, seniors visited us from the American History Class at Decatur Community High School. It was good to have these young men and women. We wish the Class of 2007 health and happiness.

We are looking forward to seeing Alumni that will be town for reunions and the banquet. Now after five years of working at the museum, I look forward to seeing those familiar faces each year.

As the Cruise-In and Car Show weekend approaches, we keep checking our lists and making sure all is ready. I think this will be one of the best! With support and help from KFNF Radio, the business community, the area Chamber of

Commerce, organizations, and individuals, we have a great weekend planned for all.

Besides the Show and Shine of cars and motorcycles on Saturday, many activities will keep young and old entertained. Watch for next week's article giving times and activities for the day.

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Fort Hays State University Silver award, award for excellence in biology, Elsie Robinson 4-H scholarship, certificate of recognition by Kansas Board of Regents, was a Kansas State Scholar and was on the National Honor Society. He plans to attend Fort Hays State University.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Jennings attended the wedding of their great-niece, Kristina Harris and Shaun Kinney in Loveland, Colo., on Saturday. Her father, Brent Harris, and brother, D.J., hosted a breakfast Sunday for Mrs. Glenda Harris, Brian Harris, Christie Harris, Darcie Nielson and Brison, all of Grand Junction, Colo.; Bryan and Melissa Green, Rio, Codi, and Ashlee, Olathe, Colo.; Bud and Dorothy Johnston, Glenn Elder; and Lila and Lawrence Jennings. En route home, Lawrence and Lila visited with Steve and Vicki Cook in Fort Morgan, Colo.

Pat McKenna was pictured with his large field sprayer on the front page of *The Hays Daily News* on Sunday, along with a story telling about him choosing to farm after earning a degree in aerospace engineering at Fort Hays State University.

Three of his four children have college degrees and the fourth is heading to Fort Hays State this fall. His wife, Shelley, is a nurse at the Decatur County Hospital.

We are enjoying some beautiful days here in western Kansas. Everyone is getting ready for the coming weekend.

On Saturday, the Alumni will gather at the Jennings Community Hall at 5 p.m. There will be a business meeting and social hour, followed by a barbecue. The Senior Center will be open all day Saturday and Sunday. The Czech Museum will open at 2 p.m.

Memorial Day service at Big Timber will begin at 10 a.m. on Sunday followed by a community potluck dinner at 12:30 p.m. at the Sunflower Senior Center.

Memorial Day services will be at 10 a.m. at the Jennings Cemetery.

Norton Correctional men will be working in town Thursday and Friday.

Reminder: water meters will be read this Friday.

Marcus McKenna, son of Pat and Shelley McKenna of Jennings, graduated on May 12 from Hoxie High School as an honor student. Awards he received included the Elks Most Valuable Student Scholarship for \$600, the Al and Isabelle Krannawitter Memorial Scholarship for \$1,000, the Mac Harris Scholarship for \$400 sponsored by the Jennings Lions Club, the Twelve Sports Award for participating in three sports each year of high school, and Athlete of the Year for 2006-2007. He also received the

grandson, Kane Ware, was a graduate. Kirk Ware and Rhonda White hosted a reception honoring him following graduation at his home.

Other guests were Ryan and Ashley Wheelbarger and Isaac, and Killian Coady, McCook; Jonathan Weiszt, Valerie Holthus, Sara Ware and Gabe Ware, Culbertson; Eric and Amanda Holthus and Jewell, Danbury; and Kelly Brown, Lakin, Kaitlin and Taylor, Maralyn Courage, Wiley Farr, Andy Richards, Andy Dempewolf, and Gage Reichert.

## Cedar Living News

The residents and staff had a good time celebrating National Nursing Home Week. We started with an ice cream float party on Monday afternoon. Everyone enjoyed floats made with lemon-lime soda and an extra large scoop of strawberry swirl or orange swirl ice cream.

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

The dietary department served a special lunch selected by the Residents' Council at noon on Tuesday. The menu included chicken from Raye's grocery, a salad bar, and pie for dessert.

Opal Huntley, Alice Shirley, Jerry Temple, and Jeanne Isbell assisted with a special afternoon of bingo on Tuesday. We played extra games in honor of Nursing Home Week with prizes awarded for special categories. Mildred Cochran won the first bingo and the blackout game ended in a tie between Nila Wesch and Don Shaw. Doughnuts were served.

A facility-wide potluck dinner was held at noon on Wednesday for residents and staff. Staff members from all of Decatur Health Systems provided the side dishes and the dietary department donated the hot dogs, with Dave Nichols in charge of grilling. There were plenty of salads, baked beans, deviled eggs, cakes, pies, and cookies to go around.

Juanita Williby hosted the pinochle players on Wednesday afternoon including Mildred Tacha, Don Shaw, Elsie Goodnight, Helena Bruggeman, and Frank and Velda Ward.

The last day of school at Golden Plains is today.

Until next time, make your week a memorable one.

## Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

The last day of school at Golden Plains is today.

Until next time, make your week a memorable one.

## Rexford News

By Sondra Barnett

I hope all the mothers received a blessing on Mother's Day and were able to enjoy the special recognition. All four of my children received their high school diplomas on Mother's Day at Golden Plains High School and at each graduation the students included a time for giving a flower to their mother, making the occasion unique and memorable.

At the McCurdy household on Mother's Day, an event that was planned four years ago took place. Brandy Bussen, daughter of Robert and Serena McCurdy, had made the decision to not cut her hair until she graduated from high school and then to donate the locks to "Locks of Love." Brandy was motivated after meeting a cancer patient. Her mother, her 7-year-old sister, Charlotte McCurdy; and her sister-in-law, Amelia Bussen, decided to do the same. They each donated 13 and 1/2 inches of hair.

Over Mother's Day weekend, Sondra Barnett made a round trip to visit several of her children. She went to Garden City to attend the graduation of her daughter-in-law, Linda Barnett, from the junior college. She also met Scott Barnett, Michael, Tiffany, Lacey and Megan. Then she went to Liberal for a short visit and supper out with Cory and Tessy Barnett, Tabitha, Corban and Obadiah. Bryan Barnett also joined them. She went on to Pretty Prairie to spend a few days with Shalom Barnett Kruse, Gabriel, Kaleb and Trinity. As of Sunday, the road through

Greensburg was still closed to through traffic.

Roger Wark and Sherri Bach, Topeka, visited his mother, Hulda Wark, a resident at the Long Term Care in Hoxie.

Max and Beverly Vaughn attended the funeral of his brother, Clarence (C.R.) Vaughn, 75, of Greeley, Colo., on Friday. He had harvested around the Monument area in the '80s and formerly had a car dealership in Colby.

Social Hour Club was held at the Barn with Clea Moeder as hostess. Bingo winners were Vesta Roth, Jean Hawkins, Margie Leh and Sondra Barnett. Ruth Luna was the hostess prize winner. Deb Stepper also attended.

The Dible family will hold a carry-in dinner at noon on Memorial Day at the Red Barn in Rexford. Guests are also invited to join for lunch and visiting.

The Community Hall will be open for the Bernetts and anyone else who would enjoy a potluck dinner at noon on Monday. The community is asked to join them. Coffee and tea will be provided. They hope to see you there.

A "happy birthday" to Berneda Zoberst who celebrated her birthday on May 18. Jay Dahl and Sharon Ketchum have birthdays on May 22; Clea Moeder and Eunice Sanford, May 23; and Gary Hibbs, May 26.

Dennis and Vicki Wark will celebrate their seventh anniversary on May 26.

At the Red Barn: Mondays and Thursdays are open for those who play pinochle and Koffee Klatch is on Fridays from 9 to 11 a.m.

The last day of school at Golden Plains is today.

Until next time, make your week a memorable one.

## Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Edla Olson was honored on her 92nd birthday and Thelma Spiers on her 90th with a birthday party last Monday at the Good Samaritan Center, hosted by Steve and Arian Arnold and the family of Mrs. Spierers. Mrs. Arnold and Joel Shaw provided musical entertainment.

Fran Holle was taken by air ambulance to Hays Medical Center on Saturday and underwent surgery for a heart pacemaker on Sunday.

Wesley and Eulaine Benda and Gerald and Patti Benda attended the high school graduation of Jenna Maresch, daughter of Daryl and Shirley Maresch of Nekoma, at Prairie Heights High School in Rozel on Saturday evening.

Among those who attended the graduation of Tyler Witt from Western Nebraska Community College in Scottsbluff, Neb., on Saturday were James and Kimberly Witt, Ashley and Whitney, Oberlin; Chris and Keely Wilson and Julie, Kearney, Neb.; Mr. and Mrs. Roger Robinson and Tiffany Robinson, Scottsbluff; Carolyn Schultz, St. Francis; and Keith and Mary Lou Olson, Herndon.

Becky (Payton) Henry and her three children have moved to Gar-

den City, where she has employment.

Larry Gilbert of Manhattan was a weekend guest of Dave and Sherry Bergling and they all enjoyed fishing at Norton Lake.

Relatives who attended the graduation of Kurt Olson on Sunday at Decatur Community High School were Losson and Leanne Pike, Ashland; Shirley Maresch, Jenna and Tim, Nekoma; Bev Messerly, Paul and Anna, Sublette; Mark and Barbara Olson, Sarah and Mary, Wesley and Eulaine Benda, Gerald and Patti Benda, and Keith and Mary Lou Olson. His parents honored him with a graduation party Saturday evening at their home.

Donna Kelley is spending this week with Kevin and Debbie Kelley and family in Topeka. Kirk Kelley of Davenport, Iowa, is also visiting at the Kevin Kelley home.

Barbara Olson helped her daughter, Sarah, move to Freonia, Texas, on Monday where she will be working as an intern for Cargill this summer. She plans to enroll at Kansas State University this fall to complete a master's degree in accounting.

## Traer News

By Maralyn Courage

Ryan and Ashley Wheelbarger of McCook are the parents of a son, Isaac Ray, born May 9, 2007, at the McCook Community Hospital. He weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces. Grandparents are Don Wheelbarger, McCook; Kelly Brown, Oberlin; and Doug and Mary Palmer, Wilsonville, Neb. Great-grandparents are Carolyn O'Brien, Cambridge, Neb.; Darrel and June Palmer, Wilsonville; and Maralyn Courage, Oberlin.

Maralyn Courage attended graduation at Decatur Community High School on Sunday where her

grandson, Kane Ware, was a graduate. Kirk Ware and Rhonda White hosted a reception honoring him following graduation at his home.

Other guests were Ryan and Ashley Wheelbarger and Isaac, and Killian Coady, McCook; Jonathan Weiszt, Valerie Holthus, Sara Ware and Gabe Ware, Culbertson; Eric and Amanda Holthus and Jewell, Danbury; and Kelly Brown, Lakin, Kaitlin and Taylor, Maralyn Courage, Wiley Farr, Andy Richards, Andy Dempewolf, and Gage Reichert.

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