

# Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

## 125 YEARS AGO — July 1882

A few buffalo are seen occasionally along the K.P. west of Wallace. Antelope are plentiful on the head of the Sappa.

Miller's mansion on the hillside has new window shutters and they improve its appearance very much. Bliss has added screen doors to his barber shop. He doesn't intend to have flies nipping the pates of bald-headed customers that call to be shaved.

A post office has been established 14 miles west on the North Sappa, called Sheffield. W.L. Barr is postmaster. This office will be supplied by the Oberlin and Achilles route.

Allen's folks are having the rock hauled to make a crossing between their stores on Penn Avenue. This is a much needed improvement as it is almost impossible to cross the Avenue afoot during wet weather.

Chas. Bradberry had 1960 pounds of wool in town Friday sheared from his flock down the Sappa.

The Fourth of July in Oberlin was celebrated by the firing of anvils at sunrise, music by the band, speech by J.R. Burton of Abilene and two dances, one at the mill and one at the town hall.

## 100 YEARS AGO — July 1907

Gilbert & Caster got in a carload of headers this week and had them all sold before they were unloaded.

Ira Peck is closing up his affairs and will engage in the lumber business at Reedy, Calif., about the first of September.

Prof. Peters, Francis O'Grady and Ray Yarnell left for Wyoming Saturday evening.

Joe Young made the trip to Herndon on Saturday morning in one hour and 15 minutes in his large automobile.

Oberlin defeated Norton by an 8-6 score. Renne Barnes pitched for Oberlin and Murray for Norton.

Will Kellogg and wife started last evening for northern Iowa where he will spend the summer among the lakes trying to regain his health.

## 75 YEARS AGO — July 1932

Russell Anderson's decision to open the swimming pool this year under present adverse conditions seems to have been a popular move, as the pool has been crowded afternoons and evenings. Some parents have asked why the pool is not filled with fresh water every day and Mr. Anderson wishes to state there are two very good reasons: first, with the intake pipe running at full capacity it requires 18 hours to fill the pool; second, the cost for chemicals required at each fill is around \$20. The pool will be filled afresh every 10 days and every precaution taken to keep the water in as good condition as possible.

A few of the older boys have got-

ten into the pool late at night after closing hours and disturbed the residents of the neighborhood. This will not be allowed and such boys when caught will pay dearly for their fun.

Funeral services were held for Mose McKinzie, who came to Decatur County in 1873 and took a homestead at Traer before moving to Oberlin in 1900. He was among the pioneer settlers of Decatur County, having come here before there was a town known as Oberlin.

Thursday, July 7, is Circus Day in Oberlin. Many businesses have cooperated to give a reduction in price of circus tickets. Normal price is 75 cents but any of the businesses are selling tickets for 25.

Jennings: The Smith Brothers are opening up the sand pit on the Anthony Tacha farm, preparing to re-sand No. 83.

Little Johnnie O'Toole arrived from Kansas City Sunday night to visit his brother Billy, his grandparents and other relatives. He came all the way on the train by himself and expects to remain here for the summer.

Last Sunday, the three Sunday Schools comprising Rev. Frey's circuit of Olive Chapel, Prairie Chapel and Cedar Bluffs met in Elmer Bogart's grove for a union meeting and picnic dinner.

Employees of the Duckwall stores in Colby, Goodland, Norton and Oberlin held a picnic at Brookwood Park Sunday where the day was spent swimming and boating.

## 50 YEARS AGO — July 1957

Independence Days aren't like they used to be. No flaming orators. No community band concerts in the park. No public displays of night fireworks. No large public gatherings. Observance for the most part will be limited to family and neighborhood gatherings. Though Kansas is one of the few states in which fireworks are legal, local dealers report no great rush for firecrackers, sparklers and such. Folks who want to cool off in a swimming pool will have to wait until the Fourth to see if Oberlin's new pool will be open.

Leoville: Over 50 persons attended the annual school meeting. A school election is pending in the Leoville Rural High School District which will involve a proposed two mill levy for improving the building. Principal sum will be for a new furnace. Date for the election has not been set.

No strong opposition was presented last week in Phillipsburg at the Kansas Corporation Commission meeting toward dropping the two daily passenger trains from Topeka to Goodland, which in this area includes Jennings, Dresden and Selden. No final decision was made.

The Rural Telephone Co. of

Lenora has purchased the exchanges at Selden and Rexford for \$70,000.

Funeral services were held at the Lyle Church for Claude Wickham, 70, prominent farmer and cattleman of the Lyle community.

The lady employees at the court house ate lunch at the Green Lantern Monday in honor of Florence Vavroch's birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Simonson announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Betty, to Mr. Larry Sargent, son of Mr. and Mrs. G.D. Sargent of Loveland, Colo. The wedding will take place July 21 at the Covenant Church in Oberlin.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Samme Steinmetz, son, Terry Linn, June 25; Mr. and Mrs. Al J. Depperschmidt, Dresden, son, Mark Wayne, June 28; Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Bareiss, St. Louis, daughter, Sheri Lynn, June 28; Mr. and Mrs. Raye Brown, son, Kirk Kalvin, June 29.

## 25 YEARS AGO — July 1982

Showers and thunderstorms throughout Northwest Kansas apparently caused further delay of the 1982 harvest. Norcat M-G-M elevator operator Bob Rapp may have summed up the local situation in a few words this week, saying "It was the finest crop I'd ever seen but it is deteriorating every day."

Judy Shirley of rural Norcat filed declaration of intention last week to seek the office of state representative for the 120th district on

the Democratic ticket.

Funeral services were held from Corcoran-Bateman Funeral Home, Oberlin, for Dan Philip Canfield, 40, Garden Grove, Calif., who was fatally injured in a two-vehicle accident Thursday.

Canfield was in the area visiting with uncles Gary and Roger Orr, and is the grandson of Mrs. Myrtle Orr, a resident of Good Samaritan Center. The accident occurred four miles east of Oberlin on U.S. 36 when a pickup driven by Cecil Myers of Oberlin attempted a left-hand turn into the landfill and collided with the westbound 1981 Suzuki motorcycle. Canfield is survived by his wife, a son and three daughters.

Keith Adams began his duties July 1 as superintendent of schools for District 294, replacing Glenn Martin who retired.

Karen Jean Berndt and Thomas Anderson were united in marriage May 29 in a ceremony at First Assembly of God Church in McCook.

Charles Corcoran assumed the presidency of Oberlin Rotary Club for the 1982-83 year at a meeting held Tuesday noon at Oberlin American Legion. He replaces Randall Braden.

Danbury: Area historians are invited to view the remodeled Danbury depot, which will be open to the public July 4-5 according to Pat Redfern of Marion. The depot was purchased from the Burlington-Northern Railroad and moved to a new location, with renovation starting in May.

## Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, director

Here it is, July already! Can someone tell me where June went?

On Friday, Koerperich Construction finished putting on the new roofs on the main building and first annex. They also installed new tile, lowered the ceiling and put in more lighting in the Indian Room. This was all done because of the winter problems with the ice and snow and the flat roofs on the buildings. After a fresh coat of paint is added and some rearranging is done, you must stop in and take a look.

Historical tidbit taken from *The Oberlin Herald*, June 3, 1880:

"Militia Company"

"After the Indian raid of September, 1878, the inhabitants of Decatur County petitioned the Governor of the State to have some arms and ammunition sent here. Governor Anthony accordingly sent sixty-five stands of Sharps improved carbines and one thousand cartridges, which were distributed throughout the county.

"In September, 1879, Adjutant General Noble visited the counties

of Northwestern Kansas and organized a company in Rawlins County and while in Oberlin was promised a company in Decatur County if he would allow the arms to remain; there being yet no responsible organization for them.

"A.W. Bariteau was appointed mustering officer for the purpose of enlisting the men and the work began, but moved very slowly, only some twenty joining up to Saturday, the 29th.

"There being so little encouragement, it was thought best by the state authorities to order the guns shipped back to Topeka and the arrangement had been made to that affect when our citizens began to bestir themselves and succeeded in getting forty-four to join, and several have joined since, making more than the minimum number required by law.

"An election of officers and organization of the company will take place in Oberlin on Saturday, the 5th, and it is hoped that every member will be present."

## Rexford News

By Vicki Allison

The annual Fourth of July picnic at the Rexford City Park will begin serving grilled burgers and hot dogs for the community at 6 p.m. Wednesday. Bring a side dish and/or a dessert to share and a chair along, with your dinner service. A fireworks show is also planned for the evening.

The community congratulates Lonnie and Samantha Mohr who are the proud parents of a daughter, Sadie Autumn Mohr, born June 13, 2007, at Hays. Sadie weighed 6 pounds, 10 ounces, and was 19 inches in length. Grandparents are Steve and Teri Allen, Rexford, and Troy and Sue Anderson, Colorado Springs.

Jay and Nancy Dahl spent the weekend in Herington visiting a friend, Gordon Smith. Gordon had a leg amputated recently.

Last Monday evening Sondra Barnett attended the Stitches' Sisters meeting in Hill City and gave the program at the invitation of

Jolene Strutt. She demonstrated how to make glass block lamps and shared a wedding dress she made several years ago. After the demonstration, other members shared in the show-and-tell portion of the meeting.

On Wednesday evening Bryan Barnett, Liberal, spent the night at the home of his mother, Sondra Barnett. They were supper guests of Velma Barnett of Gem.

Birthdays celebrated last week were Tim Dahl on June 25, and Peggy Dible and Doug Todd, June 27. A "happy birthday" to Gail Williams on July 1, Nancy Dahlia on July 3, and Jesse Miller on July 5.

Cookies are needed for Vacation Bible School which will be Tuesday to Thursday, July 10-12, at the Rexford Community Church for children ages preschool through fifth grade. The classes will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and lunch provided for the children on July 10 and 11.

On July 12, classes will be from 1 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. with a dinner served and the program following.

Shepherd's Staff Creative Arts Camp will be from Sunday to Friday, July 15-20, for ages 8-15. Sponsored by Shepherd's Staff, this camp offers puppetry, clowning, drama, signing, ceramics, art,

leather craft and other fun activities, all led by highly qualified and caring staff. There will be a performance on Friday evening. For more information contact Ron Boller or Joan Dingwerth, (785) 687-2565. You can participate as either an overnight or "day only" camper.

## Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Jennings and Dresden United Methodist churches are finalizing plans to take a trailer-load of supplies to Greensburg in the near future. Small items can be left at the Jennings church. Arrangements should be made with someone from the church before bringing appliances and furniture to Jennings. Messages can be left with Louise Cressler, (785) 678-2233; Marge Hartzog, 678-2664 or 678-3010; Dalene Gawith, 475-3679; or Carrie Buhler, 627-3573.

Norton Correctional men were in Jennings Thursday and Friday. Have you looked at the city bulletin board at the Community Hall? It looks really sharp after the men

Painted it. They also worked on the city shop building and out at the sewer. We appreciate them coming to our town to help out with city work.

Kristy Gawith is in the Norton Hospital.

Arch Harman was to be dismissed from the hospital in Kearney, Neb., on Saturday then planned to accompany his son, Hank, to Manhattan.

Jennings City Council will not be meeting Thursday, July 5, but instead will meet Thursday evening, July 12.

Sunflower Senior potluck supper will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, July 10.

## Cedar Living News

The annual Volunteer Tea was held in the Cedar Living Center dining room on Friday morning. The volunteer recognition is usually held during National Volunteer Week in April, but was postponed this year due to the redecorating project in the dining room. The project is now nearly completed.

The guests enjoyed a buffet brunch prepared by the dietary department and served by Dietary Manager Lisa Votapka, Activities Director Teresa Shaughnessy, and Cedar Living Center Director Margee Wilson. We remain humbled by the dedication of those who volunteer their time and resources to make life brighter for everyone at Cedar Living.

The bowlers met in the dining room on Monday afternoon for a game. The group included Elmo Bailey, Naomi Carter, Mildred Cochran, Elsie Goodnight, Kayo Sattler, John Schuhart, Don Shaw, Frank Ward, and Hank and Bea Wolfram. Visitors Marguerite Bailey and Lyle Gamblin also attended. Snacks were served following the game.

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

Fern Moore hosted the reading group Tuesday morning.

Hank Wolfram won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon. The blackout game ended in a tie between Mildred Tacha and Naomi Carter.

Mildred Tacha, Elsie Goodnight, Helena Bruggeman, and Don Shaw met for pinochle on Wednesday afternoon.

Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson on Wednesday afternoon.

The dice players met for a game on Thursday afternoon. Many of the residents enjoy attending the weekly reading of *The Oberlin Herald* on Thursday afternoon.

Ice cream sundaes made with a cherry rhubarb sauce were on the menu for supper on Thursday evening. Edna Mott donated the rhubarb.

The baking group met on Friday afternoon to make sour cream cookies.

Recent visitors: Richard and Bernadine Samson, Ludell; Jerry Temple, Wava Reames, Judy Jackson, Norcatur; Doyle and Kay Brown, Jennings; Jerry Wolfram, Herndon; Lloyd Harden, Goodland; Margaret Stanley, Mike McVay, Colby; Paula Tadlock, Brush, Colo.;

Laurene VanOtterloo, Laurene Dempewolf, Janice Shobe, Opal Huntley, Orlin and Elvin Beneda, Barbara Solko, Marguerite Bailey, Eula Juenemann, Catherine Neal, Beth Sebaugh, Mary Noone, Mary Ann Amack, Ila Ray, Fern Moore, Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler, Earl Brown, Regina Stanley, Bob and Jo Ann Shuler, Jan Matheny, Dana Winstead, Betsy and Charlie Haag, Marilyn Gamblin, Darlene Fisher.

## Good Samaritan News

*Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!* John 4:35b

Harvest has created quite a stir around here. Our week has been filled with activities surrounding it. Our prayers have centered on safety for the harvesters, yield of the crops and that the weather would cooperate.

On Tuesday during Living History we loaded up two vans full of old farmers and old farmer's wives, to head out to the fields so they could see the beautiful wheat for themselves.

For a city girl, it was quite a thrill to listen to the chatter, the laughter and the stories while we rolled along the bumpy roads.

Watching the combines cut and then dump the wheat was a sight to behold, and the oohs and aahs made me smile. I never knew I would find such joy on an ol' dusty country road.

Anita Hirsch gathered a handful of wheat from the roadside; it was thoroughly inspected and found to be quite adequate.

The tables in the dining room are adorned with wheat and sunflowers, bringing the harvest home to be savored just a little bit longer.

The game Hillbilly Horseshoes has taken Good Sam by storm. Opal Bryan was this week's winner. We will play every Tuesday in July and have a tournament come August.

On Friday for Social Hour we enjoyed a harvest lunch, bologna and butter sandwiches with homemade lemonade served from Mason jars. What a nice ending to a wonderful week.

Faye Miller's daughter and son-in-law from Larned entertained the residents with music after Social Hour on Sunday.

Visitors this week were: **Doris Marintzer** - Bud and Vicki Mumm, Gem; **Thelma Spiers** - Joan Grafel of Herndon, Nanette Philbrick of Casper, Wyo.; **Opal Bryan** - Jeanne and Kerri Britton of Thornton, Colo., Brian and Pam Simonson, Sharon Slabaugh; **John and Muriel Ready** - Jan Badsky; **Harlan Geihlsler** and **David McGee** - Jamie, Mercedes, Maria, Monica, Wesley and Jim Geihlsler Jr.; **Ethel Nemeth** - Betty Heisel; **Mildred Black** - Reva Marshall, Dorothy Hunt; **Edla Olson** - Norma Anderson; **Hazel Flaska** - Charlene Karnes of Salina; **Faye Miller** - Rita and Maurice Schaller of Larned, Rhonda Wildeman of Jennings.

## Herndon News

By Carrol Ginther

Sympathy is extended to the family of Patrick and Diane Allen following the death of their son, Jason, in a motorcycle accident.

Nanette Philbrick of Casper, Wyo., has been visiting Don and Joan Grafel and family. Sunday dinner guests at their home were Steve, Susan and MaKenzie Nelson, Oberlin, and Mrs. Philbrick.

Sharon Marintzer Ecker and Marlene Barenberg Novak cel-

brated the 45th anniversary of their class at the Herndon Alumni Banquet.

Christina Wood of Herndon is recuperating from injuries received in a one-vehicle accident west of Herndon on June 22.

She was traveling west of Herndon and lost control of her car when she tried to avoid hitting a tree branch in the road.

She was transported to Decatur County Hospital.

## PRICE REDUCED...102 S. CASS ST.



Price Reduced....102 S. Cass St. Reduced to \$18,500, this 3 bedroom 2 bath home offers all the charm and character of an era gone by...with original wood work throughout and beautiful built in shelves and bookcases. The large open rooms offer plenty of space for your family plus all bedrooms are on same floor. Includes large corner lot close to downtown and double car garage. Contact Cynthia Butts at 785-821-1811, Richardson's Homestead Realty.

## Selden News

By Jacque Boultinhouse

There will be a fireworks display on Saturday at the ball park in Selden. As long as the weather is nice, the display should get started around dark.

Birthdays and anniversaries: July 5 - Jesse Miller, Cathy Broeckelman; July 6 - Carol Hill, Jason Rogers; July 7 - Joey Lobato; July 8 - Danielle Spresser Brown, Gabrielle Schiltz; July 10 - Jerry and Paula Schiltz, Landee McKenna; July 11 - Kayla Wurm, Delores Juenemann, Luke

Juenemann, Chris Koerperich. On Thursday at Senior Citizens, Mary Jane Goalden won high, Edna Schiltz took second, Carol Shaw got low and Shirley Emigh had the most kings. Other members present included Lois Neff, Anna Albers, Alfred Albers, Helen Karls, Leone Porsch, Ann Hazlitt, Betty James, Jeanie Spresser and Gail Mumm.



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