

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — August 1882
Fourteen covered wagons, westward bound, passed our office one day last week.

A new school is being talked of and is much needed.

Knowles & Smith have moved their stock of hardware into the Chapman building temporarily, while they move and fix up in their new location.

Married: Wednesday, Aug. 9, 1882, Mr. William Ireland and Miss Ella A. Strever, Rev. John Wilson officiating.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Christian Graves, Aug. 13, a son.

Following are the tax levies for 1882: state, 4 and a half mills; county general, 10; county poor, 2; Beaver Township, 5; Bassettville, 7; Custer, 10; Center, 2; Grant, 2; Jennings, 5; Oberlin, 4; Olive, 8; and Prairie Dog, 10.

The following jurors have been drawn for the September term of District Court: C.E. Thomas, Frank D. VanPelt, John G. Hannah; John W. Bennett, James A. Smith, Samuel McCullough, N. Anderson, S.A. Beers, S.F. Colby, C.L. Bradbury, Lemuel Taylor and J.F. Vale.

100 YEARS AGO — August 1907
A fine rain of 1.78 fell Tuesday evening.

Homer Hitchcock is numbered among the sick. It is reported he injured his diaphragm handling baled hay.

Mr. David Brown and Miss Ellen Johnson were married Wednesday, Aug. 7th. A honeymoon trip to Salt Lake City will be made by the young couple.

Before another Chautauqua is held, we hope that a system of waterworks will be installed in the park and water along the way so that the intolerable dust can be allayed.

Sol Rees and two daughters of Jennings came up Sunday to hear the Kilties. Mr. Rees claims to be the oldest settler in this county, having settled on the farm he still owns in 1872.

Allison Items: Joe Shimek bought a new steel Challenge windmill of W.E. Winget Saturday. J.C. Ufford and wife left Monday evening for Washburn County, Wisconsin, where they will visit for a while.

75 YEARS AGO — August 1932

Some person, or persons, apparently without anything else to do but destroy and waste, broke heavy locks and opened drain cocks on a dozen or more gasoline and kerosene storage tanks located in southeast Oberlin with Kent Oil losing 36 to 37 thousand gallons; K.T., 19,000 gallons; and Home Oil, 9,000 gallons. Efforts had been made to open storage tanks at Sinclair and Standard but failed. Gasoline was 18 inches deep in the ditch 200 yards north of the tank area. The cutoff road leading past

the tanks was immediately closed to traffic in an effort to prevent the starting of a fire. No clues were found except fingerprints.

L.O. Garrett, 35, of Sappa Township, was fatally injured and Frank Garver severely injured when their car collided with a Chevrolet truck loaded with 5 tons of groceries 9 miles west of Hastings, Nebr., on U.S. Highway 6. Mr. Garrett was taking Frank to Hastings after he received a phone call that Mrs. Garver, who was recovering from a mastoid operation, was in very serious condition and that he should come. The cause of the accident will probably never be known but it was a very dark night and a storm was coming up when the car and truck met head-on. Mr. Garver was driving at the time of the accident. Mr. Garrett is survived by his wife, Gussie, and two children, a boy and a girl.

Dresden: Connie Cummings, 12, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cummings of Norton, drowned in the Norton swimming pool. The Cummings were longtime residents of Dresden, having moved to Norton only this spring.

Court House News: Verna Pierce is filling in at the office of treasurer while Miss McCartney is on her vacation. She accompanied her mother, Mrs. O.E. McCartney, Miss Relma McCartney and Nelda Lohofener, to Maryville, Mo., where they will visit relatives.

Jules Piller of Buffalo, N.Y., and his father, Prof. Julius Piller, were guests at Oberlin Rotary and Jules, a saxophonist in one of the leading orchestras in Buffalo, gave a very pleasing demonstration of what an artist can do with a saxophone. He was accompanied at the piano by Miss Mildred Nibert, also an artist in her line.

Dr. Reeves reports four recent births, all boys. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth VanPelt, a son, Aug. 6; to Mr. and Mrs. Joe Pachner, a son, same day; to Mr. and Mrs. Denzel Hayward, a son, Aug. 9; and to Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Walinder, a son, Aug. 10.

The Saturday evening programs broadcast over the public address system at the Gierhart Music Store are proving quite an attraction to Oberlin shoppers and visitors, with cars lining up just about as deep as will permit traffic to squeeze through the main drag.

A picnic and breakfast at the golf course grounds Sunday morning honored Mr. and Mrs. Howard Edwards of Kansas City. The breakfast was preceded by a swimming party and followed by golf. Others attending included Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Gehre, Dr. and Mrs. W.H. Fagerberg, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Nemeth and Mr. and Mrs. Ward Claar.

50 YEARS AGO — August 1957

Wheat production in Decatur County in 1957 ranked 10th in total bushels in the state but fourth in yield per acre, with an estimated yield of 27 bushels per acre.

The winner in the baby beef grand championship at the Decatur County Fair was a Hereford owned by Billy Bennett of the Rock Island Rockets 4-H Club. The winning grand champion market pig was exhibited by John Shirley of the Happy Hustlers 4-H Club.

The Rev. Luther Kurtz will deliver his last sermon at the Oberlin Presbyterian Church Sunday and he and Mrs. Kurtz leave next week for Strasburg, Colo., where he has accepted a call from a church which he had twice previously turned down to stay in Oberlin.

Wedding vows were solemnized Aug. 4 for Dee Anna Rathbun and Bennie Krizek at the First Methodist Church in Oberlin with the Rev. O.G. Brown performing the ceremony. The bride is a graduate of DCHS and McCook Beauty Academy and has been associated with her mother at Hillside Kut and Kurl. The bridegroom is a graduate of Jennings Rural High School and served with the Army. They are making their home at Jennings, where he farms.

Marlene Berls of Oberlin was married to Duane D. Weigel, Hays, in Sacred Heart Church, Oberlin, on Aug. 6.

New Arrival: Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Nelson, McCook, son, Wayne Arthur, Aug. 11.

Mr. and Mrs. Lynne McNutt of Coos Bay, Oregon, are the parents of a son, William Stewart, born Aug. 1. Mr. and Mrs. F.E. McNutt, Colby, and Mr. and Mrs. Hugo Pollnow are the grandparents, and Mrs. Amanda Pollnow is a great-grandmother.

Mrs. Bob Russell entertained 29 guests to a birthday party which honored her daughter, Marcy, on

her third birthday.

25 YEARS AGO — August 1982

A record-breaking total was paid at the 4-H livestock auction at the Decatur County Fair. Extension Agent Allen Dinkel served as ring manager with the assistance of Skip Petersen while auctioneers were Dale Soderlund and Art Leitner. Top beef price went to John Kelley; top pork to Pattie Solko and top sheep to Christy Stanley.

Jean Ann Hess will attend an elementary music workshop at Rock Springs Ranch near Junction City this week and will be moving next week to St. Francis, where she will teach K-6 elementary music.

Larry Smith, vice-president of Farmers National Bank, is attending the Colorado School of Banking on the campus of the University of Colorado in Boulder, where he will be among those completing the three-year program.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Riepl of Cimarron visited relatives over the weekend and attended the wedding of their nephew, Dr. Mark Olson and Barbara Benda, on Saturday.

New Arrival: Mr. and Mrs. Mark Miller of Rexford are the parents of a son, Joshua Lee, born July 30 at Citizens Medical Center, Colby.

Three area persons recently received master's degrees from Fort Hays State University: Eric Austin, Oberlin, M.S. in physical science; Susan Anthony, Norton, and Margaret Lund, Oberlin, both received M.S. degrees in special education.

Bill Wilcox, area television newscaster at KOMC, has enrolled at the University of Kansas and will be replaced by Steve Edgerley, Overland Park, who graduated from KSU in May.

Decatur County runners placed second in the Northwest Kansas County Team competition at the Atwood Road Run. Members of the team were Pat Luedders, Brad DeKnight, Randall Braden and John Sauvage.

Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, director

We want to thank all of you who stopped by the Museum during fair week with family and friends. It was good to see so many. Our new DCHS Alumni section was the center of attraction. We also enjoyed visiting with so many that stopped by the Museum booth at the fair in the evenings.

As time marches on and Labor Day weekend is only three weeks away the Museum will be open from 9:30 am. to noon and 1 to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday. We will be closed Sunday and Monday.

Historical Tidbits: Here are some facts from about the 1500s. With school starting this week, whoever said history was boring!

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odor. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married. Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all were the babies. By then, the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Phil and Karen Shields, Justin and Anna, Salisbury, Md., arrived July 29 to spend a few days visiting his parents, Gaylord and Shirley Shields, and other family members. They returned home Aug. 4.

Connie Goslar, Mesa, Ariz., and Nancy Baumfalk, Aurora, Colo., arrived this past week for an extended visit with their parents, Elwood and Elaine Mines.

Bob and Rachel Gorrell and Logan, St. James, Mo., were guests of her parents, Ralph and Norma Unger, arriving Wednesday and returning home Sunday morning. They enjoyed visiting family and friends and attending the Decatur County Fair. Their son, Conner, who had been visiting his grandparents two weeks prior to their visit, returned home with them.

Nancy Shields, Omaha, Neb., and her nieces, Ashlyn and Justine Fisk, Kansas City, arrived Wednesday and Mike Shields and Corinne, Omaha, and Brett and Ali Shields, Gretna, Neb., arrived Thursday at

the Gaylord Shields home to visit and enjoy the Decatur County Fair. They returned home on Sunday.

Karen Larson hosted a baby shower for Laura Bryan Saturday morning at the Oberlin Gateway Center.

Saturday visitors of Lois Carlson were Stanley and Beverly Swisher, Golden, Colo.; Roger Holmdahl and granddaughter, Emily, Herndon; Edith and John Tate, Jay and Becky Tate, Dakota, Mollie, and Grace, Esther Noren, and Connie Noren, Britta, Michael, and David, Stanley, Roger, and Edith are first cousins; Clara Swisher and Maude Holmdahl were sisters of Elder Carlson.

Rhonda May, Dan Nedland, and Cameron attended the new member/parent orientation at Cameron's fraternity, Phi Gamma Delta, on Saturday on the K-State campus in Manhattan where Cameron will be a freshman this fall.

Lyn and Linda Tomasch, Lori Taylor and Rielly Frasure, Olathe,

houseguests of the John Bremer family, and Larry and Lisa Sonsthagen, Matthew and Emily, Olathe, houseguests of Mildred Holmdahl, arrived Thursday afternoon to enjoy the Decatur County Fair, returning home Saturday morning.

Thursday evening dinner guests of Mildred Holmdahl were Janeil Jensen, Lyn and Linda Tomasch, Lori Taylor, Rielly Frasure, Larry and Lisa Sonsthagen Matthew and Emily, and John and Dianne

Bremer and Jessica. The dinner was a planned surprise for Lyn and Linda to celebrate their 44th wedding anniversary. Later, everyone enjoyed the fair.

Before going to the fair Friday evening, dinner guests of the John Bremer family were Lyn and Linda Tomasch, Lori Taylor, Rielly Frasure, and Larry and Lisa Sonsthagen, Matthew and Emily.

Erin May placed second in the pedal pull at the Hoxie Fun Day last week.

Cedar Living News

Many activities of the week centered around the fair.

On Monday afternoon we finished up our craft display. This was taken to the fair on Tuesday morning.

A group of residents went to the fair on Wednesday evening. Those helping with the trip included Varlan and Catherine Neal, Shirley Ward, Betsy and Charley Haag, Margee Wilson, and Teresa Shaughnessy.

We had an afternoon of carnival-type games including the soda can toss on Thursday. Candy prizes were given out and refreshments were served.

Residents traveled to the fairgrounds on Friday morning to ride the train. Those going on the train trip included Paul Sass, Delores Wheeler, Elsie Goodnight, Ray Kircher, and Nadeane Haag. Rose Rifler assisted Margee and Teresa with the trip. Dan Votapka served as the train engineer and made sure everyone had a box of popcorn for the trip.

Helena Bruggeman and Mildred Tacha tied for the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon. The blackout game ended in a tie between Don Shaw and Lora Linn Leichliter.

The dietary department served a special menu, chosen by the residents' council, at noon on Thursday. The meal included chicken from Raye's Grocery, fresh corn on the cob, and assorted salads. The meal was a big hit with everyone.

The baking group took a day off from cooking on Friday and enjoyed ice cream cones instead.

Mildred Cochran's family shared an early birthday party with her on Saturday evening. They brought in pizza and birthday cake.

We enjoyed lots of extra visitors during the fair week. They included: Kent, Robin, Jordan, and McKenzie Brown, Estes Park, Colo.; Doyle and Kay Brown, Elwood and Norine Bailey, Jennings; Nancy and Terry Kruse, Clay, Kayla, Mason, Josie, and Hallee Stewart, Russellville, Mo.; Kyle, Dena, Hannah, and Brady Kruse, New Haven, Mo.; Larry and Cel Kruse, Lawton, Okla.; Shawna Crum, Shawnda Hall, James Reames, Dover, Okla.; Wava Reames, Dorothy Ward, Norcatia Leanna and Bill Roberts, Abilene; Phillip Winstead, Margaret Lund, Hays; Marie and Mike McVay, Colby; Jerry Wolfram, Wayne and Linda Bosler, Frank Cox, Herndon; Diana and Dave Tacha, Denver; Richard and Bernadine Samson, Ludell; Deanna Brown, Geraldine Packer, Norton; Sandra Richards, Denton, Texas; Lloyd Harden, Goodland; Rose and Shakiya Domsch, Kyle Lanning and Meredith Hrnchir, Atwood; Phyllis McKay, Tulsa; Ian Hays and Amanda Winstead, Salina; Rick and Tammy Shaw, Selden; Paula Tadlock, Brush, Colo.; Ron and Patty Uehlin, Danbury;

Bob and Jo Ann Shuler, Orlin; Beneda, Elvin Beneda, Dolores Koeperich, Lyle Gamblin, Barbara Solko, Don Claussen, Alice Shirley, Ila Ray, Marguerite Bailey, Jan Matheny, Roxie Pomeroy, Ira Kolsky, Oberlin.

Good Samaritan News

He did it... Saturday night, David McGee rode the Octopus for his 80th birthday! Pledges are still coming in, and it looks like he made well over \$500. He rode with Celianna and Evan Shobe. Upon exiting the ride, friends and family sang "Happy Birthday" to him. What a wonderful ending to a week of fun at the fair!

We had a great time this week. The ladies were so excited to see what the judges thought of their crafts. In total, we brought home 27 blue ribbons and 4 red ribbons. I'll post who got what next week.

Faye Miller, Opal Bryan, Dorothy Pryor and Earl Brown loved the fair; they went three times, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. They enjoyed the funnel cakes, the train, and Hillbilly Horseshoes, but most of all the friends and family they saw. When asked if they were ready to go home Saturday night they all said, "No," in unison, so we stayed an hour longer. They have more energy than I do.

On Friday, Elsie Macy, Doris Miller, Kathryn Post, Hazel Flaska, Dorothy Hunt and Ruth Laidig all piled into the new van for a chartered train ride. Thank you, Danny Votapka, for engineering our ride and for the popcorn. Ruth Laidig told me she has ridden the train for as long as she can remember; it is her "pride and glory." Her smile surely confirmed it.

On Thursday, we had our own version of fair games for those who didn't venture out, Ring the Elephant's Trunk, Floating Bowl Ball Toss, Rubberband Shoot, and

Balloon Darts. Everyone won prizes. Lora Zwickle, Elaine Thomas and Opal Bryan modeled their nose and glasses for the camera. What a hoot!

Friday was the best. During Social Hour we gathered for Addeleman's famous limeades and our third annual "Rooster Crowing Contest." Janice Shobe emceed as "Minnie Pearl."

You could hardly tell the difference between the cackle of the laughter going on and the crowing! Opal Bryan took first place and Earl Brown second. Each received a unique rooster trophy to commemorate the occasion. Jennifer Ploussard was our distinguished judge. Who would have thought living and working at a nursing home could be so much fun! It's a wonderful life!

Residents who had company this week were: **Ruth McQuiston** - Gene and Helen Gee; **Opal Bryan** - the Brian Simonson family, Sharon Slabaugh; **Hazel Flaska** - Myrna Lacina of Westminster, Colo.; **Hubert Mumm** - Clem Mumm of Colby, Ken Mumm of Selden, Bud and Vicky Mumm of Gem; **Doris and Helen Marintzer** - Bud and Vicky Mumm of Gem; **Thelma Spiers** - Donna, Cody and Katie DeBusk of Colorado Springs, Joan and Don Grafel of Herndon;

John and Muriel Ready, and **Edla Olson** - Linda Tomasch, Lori and Riley of Olathe; **Jeanette Conway** - Daisy Rhein; **David McGee** - Kristen and Sam McGee of Dallas, Mike and Sharon McGee, Houston.

Just Updated!!! A Great Gift Idea!
 Decatur, Graham, Sheridan,
Maps & Norton Co. Kansas Maps
 Platmaps
 By Western Cartographers
 Available at: Graham County Abstract,
 Sheridan Co. Clerk & Decatur Co. Abstract
 or by Calling 1-800-752-3402
 Also available Counties in KS, CO, WY, SD, and OK

H&M Seeker Transport has an opening for a long-haul truck driver to pull flatbed in all 48 states. Earn up to 45 cents per mile. Late model Peterbilt equipment. Must have a Class A CDL with 2 years experience. Call 308-334-5152 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. or 308-340-0669 for more details.



Internet tonight! Call 475-2206

Hiring Laborers
 for Rawlins, Decatur, Sheridan
 and Cheyenne County Projects
\$9.50/Hour
Time + 1/2 Overtime
Full Benefit Package
 Contact Nancy @ 620-792-5921
 Equal Employment Opportunity
 Women & Minorities are encouraged to apply

stonewater cove
 Resort & Residence Club

LAKE PLEASURES. FAMILY TREASURES.
 800.792.3956 www.stonewatercove.com