

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — April 1883

North Sappa: M. M. Griggs and George Boring were over to McKays' mill last week. They said it surprised them to see how much flour came from there.

The lumber for the Presbyterian Church arrived at Lenora and is being freighted over. Work has commenced and soon Oberlin can boast of one of the neatest churches in the northwest.

The boys of Vallonia have organized a baseball club and say they are now ready to play any club in this vicinity. They practice every Saturday afternoon at Chas. Johnson's place north of Vallonia school house.

S.J. Babcock moved his family and effects on to his claim on North Sappa last Monday.

J.H. VanBuren has returned from York County, Neb. He says that a number of people will come from that locality to Decatur County during the summer and fall.

The "gentleman" who took the canned goods from the Oberlin House is requested to return them and save exposure and costs.

The Oberlin lumber yard sent 18 teams after lumber Friday.

100 YEARS AGO — April 1908

Lawrence Fossler found part of the skeleton of a mastodon while plowing on his farm northwest of Lyle this week.

Rex Wilbur, the 12-year-old son of Art Wilbur, broke his arm Saturday in a fall from a delivery wagon.

The Norton High School baseball team came to Oberlin last Friday and beat our high school boys by a 7-4 score.

John Millen left for Germany Tuesday evening to manage an ostrich farm for a man by the name of Hagenback.

John Castello, an aged blacksmith and former resident of Oberlin, died at Jackson's barn last night.

Upton Fringer and wife, D.O. Banta and wife, Mrs. C.E. Bayes

and children and Charley Rector will leave for the State of Washington next Monday evening.

There was a disastrous fire at Norcat Monday morning which caused a loss of \$45,000 to Norcat Merchants, total insurance being \$18,700.

The estimated individual losses are as follows: John Sayles, building, \$5,000; Eicher Bros., hardware stock, \$7,000; J. I. Nesbit, restaurant, \$1,000; Mrs. Hoskins, Norcat News office, \$2,000; McKinzie, barber, \$800; Wesley Chapel, carpenter shop, \$2,500; Loper Garage, \$700; Nelson & Reid, lumber yard, \$25,000; Joe Tolle, livery barn, \$2,000; Warner and Keener, feed and grain, \$200; Darlington, granary, \$500; Harry Smith, barn, \$250.

75 YEARS AGO — April 1933

Local comments on the deficiency in rainfall caused the local observer to consult his records with this result; since July 1, 1932, to present the total rainfall amounted to 6.91 inches with normal for the same period amounting to 14.32 inches.

Detour signs, blockades and danger torches seem insufficient to prevent some car drivers from wrecking their cars by driving into new culvert ditches north of town. These accidents could have been avoided and everyone should realize that when traveling a closed road they are traveling at their own risk.

Meeting for the annual election of officers and other business, members of the Oberlin Country Club selected Roy Kiefer as president replacing Howard Anderson, president for the past two years. It was voted to lower annual dues from \$8 to \$6 with members donating a few hours of labor in course maintenance and plans were made to meet at 4 p.m. on Monday afternoon to replace the sand on the greens.

The Norton band placed first, Atwood second and Oberlin third at the Colby contest. One carload

of Oberlin band members was in an accident near Rexford when it struck loose gravel and turned over. Yvonne Raymond received cuts on her knee cap and has been unable to return to school and other passengers in the car had bruises.

Dresden: E.B. Wolfe, editor of the Dresden Beacon, made several business trips to Oberlin last week.

Northwest Sappa: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Euhus are the proud parents of a baby girl born April 5.

50 YEARS AGO — 1958

With ideal conditions for one of the biggest wheat crops in this county's history, directors of Decatur Co-op met to promote the construction of a half-million bushel concrete elevator to provide additional grain storage by fall.

Johnny Hopp, former major league baseball player, will be the featured speaker at the Chamber of Commerce sponsored athletic banquet replacing Bill Easton who was not available after the event was rescheduled.

For the fourth time in a 25-year period, Oberlin will have a home-grown football coach. Stanley Moore, 24, a graduate of DCHS '53, signed a contract to coach football and teach manual arts for the 1958-59 school year. Previously, Oberlin native Jack Hague, 1951-56; Alex Francis, 1937-40 and Dutch Anderson, 1930-37, coached football here.

County schools which generally let out the middle part of April will be running into May this year due to bad roads and the severe storm of February and March. Betty Simonson, who teaches Lund, missed 8 days due to weather and had earlier missed more due to the flu epidemic, so will be teaching until May 9.

There are many area basketball coaching changes after the present school term. Jack Bell is leaving Selden to become an administrator at Almena; George Monty will leave Leoville to become an administrator at Menlo; Maurice Shields will

leave Herndon and will be replaced by Phil Nemeth, now teaching at Larned Junior High. Wallace Hawkins at Norcat will be replaced by Zane Shire of Emporia.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. John Rubendall, Norcat, son, Barry Earl, April 3; Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Overlease, Dresden, daughter, Sandra Kay, April 5.

25 YEARS AGO — April 1983

Oberlin city councilmen discussed the poor condition of Oberlin streets and were told by city superintendent Phyll Cramer that concrete paving is the only lasting permanent solution. "Concrete costs more but lasts longer," he told the council.

Decatur County Extension agent Allen Dinkel was pleased this week in reporting that 15 of the 20 bulls from this county entered in the Colby Bull Test Station had placed in the top two-thirds and will be selling this Friday. Local breeders receiving recognition with Polled Hereford entries were Sylvester Meitl and Kent Reinhardt. Also showing well were Simmental bulls entered by Richard and Elden Anderson, by Merlin and Brent Anderson and by Dennis Anderson.

Hospital News: Barbara and Jerold Holste, Ludell, daughter, Alyssa Beth.

Construction has begun on two concrete bridges over Beaver Creek in the northwest part of the county. The bridges are located two miles east of Traer and a half mile north. General superintendent for Reece Construction on this project will be Melvin Klima, Oberlin.

Robbie Henningson of DCHS was top medalist at the Atwood golf tournament with a 78 followed by Chad Wintz of Colby with a 79 and Chad Bowles of Atwood with an 80.

Seventy plus junior high students have checked out for track. Coaches will be Eric Austin, Becky Ayers, Dan Buchanan and Jeanie Loudon.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Tom and Michelle Zadow and Austin of Grapevine, Texas, spent a few days visiting her parents, Keith and Helen Muirhead. Austin had a good time fishing in a pond in Paul Zadow's pasture. Michelle helped her parents with their new cordless telephone and other equipment.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Naomi Carter. Her funeral was held on Friday at the United Methodist Church in Jennings with burial in the Jennings Cemetery.

Paul and Kathy Nauer joined her brother, Tony Ourada, for a trip to Bridgeport, Neb., to take part in the Gary Phillips Estate auction, billed as one of the world's largest auctions of antique tractors. They then journeyed on to Mitchell, Neb., to visit with Roger and Marilyn Held, Kathy's sister and brother-in-law. They returned home on Saturday.

Terri Hanke and her mother, Elda Hanke, of Phillipsburg, spent from Wednesday to Saturday in Columbus, Miss. They flew down to see Terri's niece, 2nd Lt. Monica Riggs, formerly of Glade, graduate from the Air Force Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Program.

Their first evening in Columbus, Monica took visiting family members and friends on a tour of the Columbus Air Force Base, which houses over 5,000 service people and their families. The next day

everyone attended the retirement ceremony for the T-37 "Tweet" Command Training jet. The T-37 has been used for 40 years to train pilots and Monica's class is the last to use this jet, known as the "Tweet" because of the shrill sound it makes when flying. It is known as the "6,000 pound dog whistle."

After the ceremony, they toured more of the base. On Friday, everyone was treated to an official visitors' breakfast on the base before the graduation, where 18 men and two women received their wings. In keeping with Air Force tradition, this first pair of wings was then broken by the graduates. They carry one half with them and the other half is entrusted to a relative.

2nd Lt. Riggs will fly the KC-135 Stratotanker refueling plane for the Air National Guard. Her commanding officer and special guest at the graduation, Col. Jeffery Zillinger, brought a KC-135 to Columbus base for Forbes Air Force Base at Topeka for tours.

Later in the day, Monica's guests were allowed to see and try their hand at the pilot's flight training simulators. Lt. Riggs will receive more training in Florida, Washington and Oklahoma and will be stationed at Forbes. She and her husband, Tim, live in Chanute.

United Methodist Women met

at the church study on Wednesday to clean and hold a meeting. Plans were made to serve lunch at the Harman Auction to be held Saturday, May 3, at the Community Hall. Methodist Women will be going to Cedar Living Center in Oberlin on Wednesday, May 7 instead of in June. Helen Rhodes gave devotions and Kay Brown served snacks. Those helping clean were: Kay Brown, Louise Cressler, Lila Jennings, Ruth Chance, Kathy Nauer and Helen Rhodes.

Everyone should stay out of the Community Hall the next two weeks while the Norton Correctional men refinish the floors and woodwork.

April 16 and 17 are the tentative dates set for B and H Paving to fill cracks in the streets. We ask all vehicles running, or not running, be removed from the streets prior to these dates.

Controlled burning within the city limits will be permitted through Monday.

The Heritage Associates of Jennings Czech Museum held its meeting Thursday at the Royal Neighbor Hall. President Neoma Tacha conducted the meeting with directors Roger Shimek, Bob Tacha, Lawrence and Lila Jennings, Larry Mizer, and Mary Wahlmeier present.

Oberlin Arts and Humanities

Commission will sponsor a tour of southern Decatur County on Sunday, April 27. They plan to leave Oberlin at 2 p.m. for Dresden, be at Clayton at 3 p.m. and in Jennings at 4 p.m. At each stop, the local history will be given. While at Jennings, they will tour the museum and finish up the tour with refreshments at the Senior Center. We will have a work day on Thursday, April 17, to prepare for this tour and visit.

N-TV News of Kearney, Neb., was filming in Jennings on March 24. They toured the city and museum, took pictures, and talked to local people. The mayor and the city council were not informed of this, so none of them had any part in the filming. The show was aired March 26 on Channel 13. The museum is purchasing a copy of this report made by Mike Nyffler.

The windmill's need for repair and painting was discussed. Hopefully, this will be done before Memorial weekend. Our next meeting will be Thursday, May 1. The public is invited to attend.

Sunday dinner guests of Lawrence and Lila Jennings were Brett Jennings, and Brent and Rhonda Jennings of Wichita. Saturday evening they and Pat Fringer were dinner guests of Lee and Judy Plossard of Oberlin, to visit with Bobbi Klingenstein, of Dayton, Wash.

Rexford News

By Vicki Allison

school and came back to visit family during her spring break.

Cleda Moeder and Buck Harper went to Colby, Sunday, April 30, to attend Cleda's granddaughter, Peyton Moeder's, First Communion. There were 29 boys and girls making their First Communion.

Those celebrating a birthday this week include Joan Dingwerth, April 7, and Brandy Gilbert, Marjorie and Darrell Leh, April 9.

Red Barn on-going activities: Monday, Barnswallows, 2 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m., Ladies Bible Study and 8 p.m., Men's Bible Study, led by Pastor Lane Purcell; Come on Down, Thursdays, 2 p.m.; and Friday's Koffee Klatch, 9:30 a.m. Bingo is the second Saturday of the month at 7 p.m.

Until next time, make your week memorable.

Cedar Living News

Sympathy is extended to the families of Naomi Carter, Berenece McKay, and Henrietta Bremer who passed away this past week.

There were several winners at the dice game played on Monday afternoon. Those playing the game included Helena Bruggeman, Elsie Goodnight, Mary Kolsky, Elwood Mines, Edie Pettera, John Schuhart, and Lyle Gamblin.

Volunteers Alice Shirley, Ila Ray, Opal Huntley, and Jeanne Isbell assisted with bingo on Tuesday afternoon. Darlene Fisher won the first bingo and Mildred Cochran won the blackout game.

Everyone enjoyed an ice cream social on Wednesday. Roberta Petracek donated the ice cream.

Many residents took a turn playing baseball and bowling on the Wii after the ice cream.

Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson on Wednesday afternoon.

Sam Mack met with the poker players on Wednesday evening.

Father Henry Saw Lone gave a Catholic Mass on the Cedar Living Center patio on Thursday morning.

Several residents met for a game of bowling on Thursday afternoon. Snacks were served after the game.

The baking group made chocolate cookies on Friday afternoon.

Recent visitors: Rick and Tammy Shaw, Selden; Helen Muirhead, Dresden; Ann Martin, Herndon; John Tacha, Lawrence; Gary and Judy Vaughn, Henderson, Colo.; Doyle and Kay Brown, Jennings; Wava Reames, Norcat; Les and Myrna Pettera, Loveland.

Jody Betts, Ana and Spencer Wisnon, Orlin Beneda, Elvin Beneda, Marguerite Bailey, Lyle Gamblin, Jon and Karina Fisher, Bob and Jo Ann Shuler, Paula Tadlock, Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler, Regina Stanley, Ira Kolsky, Charlotte Meints, Sandy Counter, Tom Fisher, Oberlin.

Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, director

Spring house cleaning? Need a place to take those unwanted things? The museum is taking items for the seventh Annual Rummage Sale to be held Saturday and Sunday, April 19 and 20. You can bring those treasures Tuesday thru Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. until Friday, April 18. All proceeds from the rummage sale go to the museum for maintenance and operational expenses. This event is sponsored by KFN Radio to support the Museum.

We have been open for just a week now and have had a nice turnout of guests. The Chamber-sponsored coffee hour was well attended and we thank them for the help and their support.

From *The Oberlin Herald*, April 10, 1958: County-Wide Meeting. The Decatur County Historical Society will organize tomorrow night at a county-wide meeting at the Oberlin American Legion Hall, starting at 8 p.m.

"The men who sparked the cam-

paign which has thus far raised \$29,550 to establish a Decatur County Museum, say that the purpose of the meeting is to elect officers, adopt bylaws and to found an official organization for use as an archive for pioneer relics and as a tourist attraction.

The newly-elected officers will take over an organization already incorporated that has purchased the former site of the Redman-Paddock Lumber Company from the Foster Lumber Company, Kansas City, to be used for the Decatur County Museum.

The property has been bought with a \$2,750 down payment, the balance of \$12,000 to be paid over a five-year period at four percent interest.

Already, donations of labor to get the museum ready for display have been pledged, and many people have indicated they have the pioneer records and relics which may be used in the museum."

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Sympathy is extended to the family of Blaine and Erin Ginter of Atwood following the death of their infant daughter, Ava Grace, on Thursday. She was a granddaughter of J.R. and Carrol Ginter of Achilles. Among other survivors are two brothers, Cameron and Will, and a sister, Sophia. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10 a.m. today at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Atwood, followed by private burial at the Achilles Cemetery. A memorial was established in her name. Contributions may be sent to Williams Funeral Home, 109 N. 2nd, Atwood, Kan., 67730.

The community also extends sympathy to Jennie Anderson following the death of her mother, Rachel Owens, 46, of Hammond, La., on March 17. Memorial services will be held at a later date in Arizona.

Covenant Women will hold a potluck dinner for the congregation following morning worship services Sunday.

Dinner guests of Elden and Detta Anderson on Sunday, March 30, to honor Elden, Richard, Maureen and Gary Anderson on their birthdays were Richard and Maureen Ander-

son, Samantha, Chris and Gabe, and Gary Anderson.

Josiah Jones, son of Greg and Gwen Jones, started working this week at Covenant Heights Bible Camp south of Estes Park, Colo.

Dolores Benda has returned home after visiting her daughter, Maryanne and Dale Bishop, in Montana.

Roger and Tracy Doty and family brought pizza to the home of Francis and Florine Hurst for supper on Saturday. They were joined by Sylvester and Lynda Hurst and Daniel.

Keith and Mary Lou Olson attended the second birthday party which honored their great-granddaughter, Julie Beth Wilson, at the home of her parents, Chris and Keely Wilson, and Harmony Ann in Kearney, Neb., on Saturday. Other relatives present were Gene and Beverly Witt, Danbury; Charley and Sandy Kincaid, Norton; and James and Kimberly Witt, Ashley and Whitney, and Tyler Witt and Tiffany Robinson, Oberlin.

Brandon White of Leawood and Sarah Olson of Manhattan spent the weekend with Mark and Barbara Olson and Mary.

Good Samaritan News

We welcomed three new residents: Myrtle Ross, Evelyn Olson and Shirley Hayward.

On Tuesday, the new performing group the "Golden Ringers" rehearsed for their first performance. Members are Emma Sanford, Eva Bryan, Opal Bryan, Dorothy Pryor, Fern Anderson, Ruth Laidig, Shirley Hayward, Amy Rehm, Kathryn Post and Faye Miller.

April Fool's Day was fun. During Social Hour the diabetic residents got cupcakes and the regular diet residents, grilled cheese sandwiches made by Anita Hirsch. Imagine the fun of biting into a cupcake of meatloaf frosted with tinted mashed potatoes or grilled cheese that is toasted angel food cake filled with orange frosting.

On Wednesday, the United Methodist Women held their monthly meeting with residents Ruth Laidig, Edla Olson, Mae Guy and Eva Bryan attending. Afterwards, everyone gathered to enjoy treats brought by the ladies and the music of Chante'.

Bingo was played Wednesday by

Myrtle Ross, Hubert Mumm, Mae Guy, Mary Lemman, Ruth Laidig, Fern Anderson, Helen Marintzer, Shirley Hayward, Amy Rehm, Faye Miller, Lora Zwickle, Opal Bryan, Emma Sanford, Elsie Macy, R.D. Thornton, Doris Marintzer, Earl Brown, Dorothy Pryor and Pooch Portschy.

On Friday, 30 family members came to enjoy the first "Family Potluck." We will be having these every other month.

The "Golden Ringers" made their debut on Friday with "The Lord's Prayer" sung by Anita Hirsch.

On Saturday, the 180 Boys came to play kick ball. Then we played a name game. Opal Bryan, Amy Rehm, Leo Mooty, Earl Brown, Shirley Hayward, Evelyn Olson, Dorothy Pryor, Dorothy Hunt, Fern Anderson and Ruth Laidig enjoyed spending time with the boys.

Sunday, residents came to hear Pastor John Paulson of Ten Cent Evangelism. Pastor Charlotte from Faith Lutheran Church brought the afternoon services. Thank you to both pastors.

Selden News

By Jacque Boultinghouse

On Sunday, Greg Bruggeman sponsored a trap shoot in Selden. He said he would like to hold a one a month. The turnout was good with over 20 people bringing their shotguns and 12 to 15 spectators.

No rifles are allowed.

He also said he would like to see more young people attend so they can learn the proper way of handling a gun. Parental permission is needed to attend.

Greg, Pat Koerperich and Chris Bainter will be instructing the shoot each month. They encourage anyone wanting to participate or be a spectator to please come by and bring a lawn chair.

Once they have set the date for next month's shoot, I will put it in the Selden News. If anyone has any questions, give any of the guys a call. They will be happy to assist. Just a reminder, the Antique

Tractor and Car Show is coming up in June. Everyone mark the first Sunday on your calendar.

On Thursday at Senior Citizens, Lola Cook won high, Carol Shaw took second, Gail Mumm got low and Edna Schiltz had the most Kings. Other members present included: Lois Neff, Paulie Neff, Jeanie Spesser, Leone Porsch, Shirley Emigh, Mary Galden, Ann Hazlitt and Betty James.

Birthdays and anniversaries: April 10, Joe and Carol Lobato; April 11, Gary Emigh; April 12, Wayne Brantley, Kelvin and Vicki Sulzmann; April 15, Carl Mumm, Steve Shaw, Greg and Stephanie Ritter; April 16, Gail Mumm, Angie Albers; April 17, Vicky Ray, Dan Benoit, Danielle Spesser, Jaci Shaben, Shelly Nordyke, Mike and Linda Spesser, Mindy Kennedy.