

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1883

It will soon be two years since we purchased the Herald. — W.D. Street

Cold snap last week and water wore a hardened expression.

Receiver Chandler has enclosed this lots with a substantial wire fence.

C.W. Burger has moved on D.B. Stone's place that he may be nearer this work. He will continue with E.D. Babcock in the harness shop.

C.C. Reynolds brought to our office one day last week a meteoric stone that fell recently on his place in Custer Township. It weighs about 20 pounds.

A mock legislature was organized Nov. 16th with the following membership: J.E. Kulp, George W. Keys, L.G. Parker, N.G. Stever, G. Webb Bertram, J.E. Bebb, John Hayward, R. Kindig, W.A. Wilson, H.D. Colvin, J.B. Colt, F.A. Douglas, C.C. Reynolds, A.L. Patchin, C.S. Maddox, George H. Hand, G.F. Bogue.

100 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1908

Scarlet fever is prevalent in the city.

A number of railroad officials were in town this morning to consider a petition by a delegation of Oberlin business men who asked that the departure of the passenger train be changed back to 4 a.m. instead of in the evening as it now is.

W.E. Wilson and a Mr. Heatherington of Allison have traded their land for farms in the eastern part of Kansas.

It is also reported that H.F. Leib is making arrangements to move to Topeka.

News has been received of the recent death of Amos Peck, formerly manager of the Oberlin Mill at his home in California. Pneumonia was the cause of his death.

75 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1933

The Decatur County Red Cross membership quota is set at 400 members. Annual membership is one dollar and 50 cents of that remains in the county for local relief work.

A simple ceremony at the Methodist Episcopal parsonage Sunday morning united in marriage two of the county's most popular young people, Miss Thelma Geisinger and Mr. Glenn T. Anthony. They will make their home on the farm located seven miles east and one-half mile north of Oberlin.

By the narrow margin of a single point Oberlin's white-jerseyed grid players defeated Atwood's red-clad warriors at Atwood on Armistice Day. Gill, the Oberlin halfback, blocked a place kick after the Atwood touchdown leaving the score 7-6.

Norcat: Norcat will have two new business firms. One of them, Chasens grocery and meat market opened Saturday in the former

Campbell store building. The other new business will be in the former Holsinger store and will consist of ladies ready-to-wear and notions. Mrs. Ruth Winchell is in charge and will open as soon as she can get her goods and get the store ready. Norcat has five grocery stores.

Funeral service were held for L.J. Hamper, 63, of Finley Township. Burial was in the Traer Cemetery. Mr. Hamper's father, Frederick Hamper, was one of the settlers in the northwest part of the county and was killed by the Cheyenne Indians in the raid in September 1878.

Jennings: Jennings celebrated Armistice day under the American Legion which served 700 pounds of barbecued beef to hundreds of people. Jennings beat Lenora 12-0 in the football game and the festivities closed at 12 o'clock with a pavement dance.

Decatur County students enrolled at Kansas State College this semester are Norman Nelson, Jennings; Dale Dixon, Norcat; James Bowles, Harley Chilson, Pauline Eiler, Robert Geiger, and Junior Howard of Oberlin.

50 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1958

A big snow storm brought a welcome .56 of moisture to Decatur County. It was the most precipitation since August. Total precipitation for the year is now 19.77. Some 45 students were absent from school Monday due to the snowstorm which reached blizzard proportions near midday.

The annual 4-H banquet at which more than 350 persons are expected to attend will be held this year in two places: half of those attending will be served at the 4-H building while the other half will be served at the Oberlin American Legion. The entire group, including some 100 4-H members, will then meet at the Decatur Community High School auditorium for the award presentations by Charles Kelley and Mary Gaumer, president and vice president, respectively, of the Decatur County 4-H Council.

Jennings: The homecoming game between Norcat and Jennings was won by the Coyotes 27-18 to climax a successful football season. Queen was Judy Tacha and attendants were Rose Petracek and Betty Gaumer. Team captain was Dave Scott and co-captains were Don Stackhouse and Gaylen Randolph.

Hospital News: Mr. and Mrs. John Richards, Norcat, daughter, Nov. 15, 1958.

The DCHS football team wound up a successful season with a 7-2 record and losses only to Goodland and Colby. Senior members of the squad are Norman Richards, Jim Carver, Bill DeMay, Roy Unger, Gary Erickson, Larry Rathbun, Larry O'Toole, Bob Tally, Charles Kelley, Clint Corder and Walt Fortin. Carver and Corder were named to the all-northwest Kansas area

team and Fortin received honorable mention as a back. Goodland was named the number one Class A football team in Kansas by the Topeka Daily Capital.

Herndon: Rudolph Wendelin, 1928 Herndon High School graduate, has received national recognition for designing a new four-cent forest conservation postage stamp honoring the 100th anniversary of the birth of Theodore Roosevelt.

25 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1983

Pheasant hunters success stories after the opening week of pheasant season appeared to be of extremes. They were either able to get their daily bag limit or they had miserable luck, some not seeing any birds at all.

Leading roles in the production of the DCHS musical "Bye Bye Birdie" to be held Nov. 18-19 will be held by Perrell Stanley, Jay Smith and Pippa Stanley.

Hospital News: Carolyn and Raymond Goodenberger, Bartley, Neb., daughter, Abbey Marie, Nov. 8, 1983; Helen and Richard Karnopp, Oberlin, son, Jeremy Lee, Nov. 11, 1983; Melanie and

Brian Nelson, son, Tanner James, Nov. 13, 1983; Beverly and Martin Withington, Atwood, son, Nov. 14, 1983; Michael and Cheryl Sauvage, Oberlin, daughter, Kayla Jo, Nov. 16, 1983.

Paul and Percilla Lattin, Berwyn, Neb., have purchased the 14-unit Star Motel on east U.S. 36 from Thomas and Donna Eskew.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Wilnerd, Almena, announce the engagement of their daughter, Gayle Lea, to Royal W. Tacha, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold W. Tacha of Jennings. A Jan. 7, 1984, wedding is being planned at the Congregational Church in Almena.

Dresden: Funeral services were held for Alice Sawyer, 84, a long-time resident of the Dresden area. The daughter of John and Maude (Park) Fair, she attended Vallonia Grade School and graduated from DCHS in 1918.

She attended Fort Hays State and taught school several years in Decatur County. She is survived by her husband Guy and a son, Dr. Jim Sawyer and his wife Julianne of Pendleton, Ore., three grandchildren and two sisters.

Chamber News

The Oberlin Business Alliance and Chamber-sponsored Business To Business Tour was held on Sunday. About 15 businesses were showcased. The weather was beautiful.

Christmas is definitely around the corner and all the stores are stocked with potential Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers. The tour finished at the Business Enhancement Entrepreneurial Center with goodies provided by the Chamber. It was a fun evening of good food, festive Christmas music, and conversation. Over 30 people enjoyed the event. What a good way to promote our businesses!

The Chamber board is excited. We have hired a new Chamber secretary. Tina Watson has started last Monday as our full time secretary. Come by and introduce yourself. She would love to meet and visit with the public. Her hours will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Don't forget to sign up an entry in the Light Parade. It is Friday, Nov. 28. Anyone can enter and there is no fee to participate. Maybe it would be fun to have a family entry this year. Anything you can adorn with lights will work. Entries will meet and stage at the Decatur Co-op on the south end of Main at 6 p.m. and the parade starts at 6:30 p.m. Bring your friends and family down to watch the parade. Santa will be downtown that night, too.

The day after the Light Parade, the annual Craft Show will be held at

the Gateway. We would love to have your family as our guests for the Craft Show. The show is almost full with quite a few new vendors this year. It will be a fun day. There will be two \$25 gift certificates drawn for on Saturday to be spent at any of the booths. Come on up; maybe you will be the lucky winner.

Chamber and Oberlin Business Alliance are gearing up for their annual membership drive. If you are interested in becoming a member and do not receive an invitation, come into the Chamber and visit with us. We would love to assist you and help you become a member.

Being a member helps the Chamber sponsor events like the Ribbon Cuttings for new businesses, Business To Business Tour, Farmer/Rancher Appreciation Day, Highway 36 Treasure Hunt, Back to School Picnic, Homecoming Tailgate Party, the annual Craft Show, etc.

The Chamber is always in need of new members and support from the community. We are looking for community residents to be on the ballot in January for the Chamber board.

Let us know if you are interested, or know someone who would fit the profile to be on the board.

As always, we would appreciate comments and suggestions. Drop us a line at 104 S. Penn, Oberlin, Kan., 67749 or email us at dcacc@eaglecom.net.

See you on the brick streets where friends meet!

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

Goldie Stapp has returned to her home in Oberlin after a short stay at Cedar Living Center.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Lloyd Wishon, who died on Sunday, Nov. 16. Aleen VanVleet and Art and Alice May are new residents at Cedar Living Center.

Myrna Jones led the sing-along time on Monday afternoon. The group sang "Happy Birthday" to Myrna.

The Monday Evening Club hosted the November birthday party on Monday evening. Those honored were Dale Butler and Donna Kent. Club members served ice cream sundaes and provided musical entertainment.

Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler of the Faith Lutheran Church gave the monthly Communion Service on the patio on Tuesday afternoon.

The Chanté Singers from Decatur Community High School gave a lively performance before lunch on Wednesday morning. Everyone enjoyed the music.

Juanita Williby hosted the pinochle players on Wednesday afternoon. Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson before supper on Wednesday.

Fr. Henry Saw Lone brought Communion for the Catholic residents on Thursday morning.

There were several winners at the dice game played on Thursday afternoon. Players included: Dale Butler, Darlene Fisher, Clara Fringer, Elsie Goodnight, Donna Kent, Edie Pettera, John Schuhart, Blanche Skubal, Fern Wenger, Alice May, and Aleen VanVleet.

The baking group made apple-sauce cookies on Friday afternoon. A large crowd of residents gathered to eat the cookies fresh from the oven.

The annual Thanksgiving potluck dinner was held in the Cedar Living Center dining room on Sunday. Around 80 guests, as well as residents, staff, and volunteers gathered for the meal. It was a great opportunity to meet and mingle with other family members and to share a delicious meal. The dietary department prepared the ham and turkey as well as potatoes, gravy, and stuffing, while the guests and staff members brought salads, vegetables, and desserts. Plans are already in the works for the family Christmas Party on Sunday, Dec. 21.

Recent visitors: Dottie Holiday, Palestine, Texas; Marilyn Fisher, Topeka; Delores Stapp, Norton; Carol Kompus, Linda Bosler, Sharon Ecker, Julie Hafner, Herndon; Mary Morse, Beaver City, Neb.; Brooke and Brady Sumner, Yvonne Sumner, Leslie Ward, Norcat; Laurie Milnes, Norton; Lillian Sulzman, Dresden; Lori Truetken, Selden; Steve and Vonda Leopold, McCook.

Jackie Votapka, Marguerite Bailey, Eunice Richards, Dolores Koerperich, Orlin Beneda, Elvin Beneda, Ira Kolsky, Lyle Gamblin, Shelli Fortin, Max and Veanna Carman, Myrtle Waldo, Jodie Wenger, Fern Jording, Lynn and Roberta Johnson, Connie, Leon, Jamie, and Kary Miller, Don and Ann Mines, Earl Brown, Ella Betts, Elwood May, Sandra Young, Pat Fringer, Roxie Pomeroy, Oberlin.

Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

We are old, with hearts of gold, wanting to do our share. Our eyes are dim, our hearing weak, but we can rock a chair!

The Rock-a-Thon is this Saturday beginning at 8 a.m. and ending at 5 p.m. Everyone here is excited and we're ready to rock. It is so fun to listen to residents who have just moved into the Good Sam and have never rocked, voicing their concerns to the seasoned rockers about their inability to rock for so long. It only takes a minute for them to be convinced; the enthusiasm and excitement they are met with waylays any apprehension they had. Our goal this year is to raise \$150 for each rocker, or \$2,400. The proceeds will go to the new Senior Center. The entertainment schedule is being finalized, so if you have a talent you would like to share, we would love to have you!

Residents who will take on the task are Alice Bobbitt, Eva Bryan, Opal Bryan, Shirley Hayward, Faye Miller, Doris Marintzer, David McGee, Edla Olson, Evelyn Olson, Leone Porsch, Dorothy Pryor, Amy Rehm, Lucy Schissler, Violet Schissler, and Lora Zwickel. Relief Rockers are Hubert Mumm, R.D. Thornton and Leona Helmkamp.

The first Rock-a-Thon was held in response to Hurricane Katrina. It was a huge success and the residents took such pride in being able to give to others in a time of crisis. No other program means more than this to the residents. They have a great desire to feel needed and they still want to contribute to our great community. Plan to drop by to show your support. We will have a Build Your Own Sundae Station set up for you to enjoy as well!

The highlight of this week would have to be our Veterans' Day program. Our thanks to the Color Guard, Col. Gary Allen, Walt Pennell and Connie Simonsson for posting the Colors, Anita Hirsch for her beautiful rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner," Angela Corcoran for the History of the Poppies and Janice Shobe for reading the poem, "In Flanders Field." The program closed with prayer and singing together, "God Bless America."

Veterans who were honored included: Army: Alan Adleman and Loren Escher. Navy: David McGee,

John Ready, Pooch Portschy and R.D. Thornton. Air Force: Glenn Martin.

The wives of the veterans were also recognized with a lapel Poppy pin. They were Mary Lemman, Dorothy Pryor, Leona Helmkamp, Muriel Ready, Lucy Schissler, Shirley Hayward, Arlene Rositto and Eunice Martin.

This seemed to be the week for our gentlemen. R.D. Thornton celebrated his birthday with his children and grandchildren, Chris Dempewolf, Laci Leichter, Sharee Dempewolf, and Aaron and Ralph and Lynn Striet.

Glenn Martin spent the week with his family going on various outings and eating at Oberlin's finest eating establishments with his wife, Eunice, son-in-law, daughter and granddaughter, Rod and Glenna Copeland and Libby Copeland, Burlington, Vt., and son, Terry Martin, Shawnee.

Hubert Mumm entertained his family. It's always a party when his brothers and sisters show up! Eleanor Rogers (Selden), Anogene Rogers (Rexford), Don Rogers (Las Cruces, N.M.) and Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem).

David McGee's daughters, Pat and Kathleen, came to cheer him. Kathleen and her husband brought their dog "Ollie" too! David's sister, Enid Foland, and her daughter, Lynette Donaldson, visited from Almena.

John and Muriel's family headed back to New York after hosting Muriel's 100th birthday party. The count came in at nearly 100 guests!

Other visitors were: Julia Otter and Frances Porsch (Selden) for Leone Porsch. Elizabeth Fahrenholtz and Jim (Alma, Neb.) for Eva Bryan. Walt Pennell for all. Ralph and Norma Unger for Leo Mooty and Earl Brown. Sharon Slabaugh, Brian, Pam and Nathan Simonsson for Opal Bryan. Ron Snyder and Reva Marshall for Dorothy Hunt. Steve and Arian Arnold (Herndon) for Edla Olson. Dorothy Ward and Bee Nelson (Norcat) for Marguerite Clark. Del and Lorine Grace (Denver), Frank and Mert McEvoy for Lucy Schissler. We have had quite the week with guests. It is a blessing to have you all here. Thank you for coming!

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

The Tuesday Study Club met at the United Methodist Church in Jennings on Oct. 28. President Helen Rhodes opened the meeting. Rachel Carter, Ruth Chance, Violet Foster, Carla Latimer, Wilma Mader, Joan McKenna, Helen Muirhead, Helen Rhodes, Jean Skubal, Lynn Tacha and Vendla Tacha answered the "Knit and Purl" roll call.

Ann Gallentine began by saying that her knitting is interwoven with her life history, from learning with her grandmother to making her own grand-baby clothes and in between, the steps it took to become a Master Knitter in the Knitting Guild Association. The November meeting will be in Colby with a visit to Red River Commodities and their Sunflower processing plant.

The Historic Building Preservation Committee is making plans to install new windows in the old theater/Masonic Hall building. Bids have been offered and the windows are ordered. Some local citizens have pledged to buy an installed window and these will have a brass memorial plate attached to the window sill. If anyone is interested in assisting with this project, contact Marge Hartzog or Louise Cressler.

Terri Hanke returned Nov. 6 from a two-week trip to Israel, Jordan and Egypt. She and her mother, Elda Hanke, from rural Phillipsburg, went with four others, led by Pastor Tom Krause of the Lord of Life Lutheran in Kansas City. They landed in Amman, Jordan and toured Jericho before crossing the

border into Israel. The group stayed in Tiberias and Jerusalem, visiting Cana, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Sephori, Megiddo, and Masada. They enjoyed a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, waded in the Jordan River as well as the Dead Sea. They rode from Jerusalem to Petra, Jordan, where they explored the city carved entirely in a stone canyon.

They traveled to Cairo, Egypt, by crossing in a tunnel under the Suez Canal. Arriving in Cairo, they waded in the Red Sea and stayed in a hotel with a wonderful view of the Nile River.

They went to Giza to see the pyramids and Sphinx. The next day they visited the Egyptian Museum of History and viewed the Treasures of King Tut. The group enjoyed a dinner cruise on the Nile River with belly dancers.

The next morning, the group began the 27-hour journey home, returning exhausted but with many wonderful memories.

On Friday, Earl and Jan Treat, Fort Collins, Colo., visited William and Rachel Carter. He is a nephew of William. Lawrence and Carol Carter, Dave and Diane Carter and Ken Carter joined them for lunch. The Treats are missionaries and have worked at starting a school in the country of Georgia. They were home on furlough. Ann Graner, Bethany, Mo., came Sunday to spend a few days with her parents, William and Rachel Carter. She will take them to Kearney, Neb., where William will start chemo treatments.

Water meters will be read in Jennings on Saturday, Nov. 22. If your meter is inside, please post reading on your front door.

The Community Hall has been beautifully decorated. Thanks go to Dona and Eugene Mrstik who helped and loaned us many of the lights and larger decorations. Others helping decorate were Carla Latimer, Bob Jones, Wayne and Louise Cressler.

President Neoma Tacha presided at the November meeting of the Czech Museum on Nov. 6. Directors present were Mary Wahlmeier, Roger Shimek, Lawrence and Lila Jennings, and Dean Gawith. The group voted to renew the certificate of deposit at The Bank.

The new windows for the Shimmick building will soon be installed. The guttering will be finished on all the buildings as soon as weather permits. We will be assembling the green wreaths so that they can be put on the 150 graves of the

veterans in the Jennings and Big Timber cemeteries. Anyone interested with helping on this project call 678-2470 for the date and time of the work session. We will be taking them to the grave sites in December for the National Wreath Laying Day.

We will not be presenting a Kansas Day Program until January 2010. Our next meeting will be at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 4 at the Royal Neighbor Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Weekend guests of Lawrence and Lila Jennings were their grandson, Jeremy, Maranda, and Jackson Hounshell of Erie, Colo., and Brian and Westley Jennings of Solomon. The men helped with the corn harvest.

Brett Jennings returned from Seattle, Wash., on Saturday where he, Judy and Lee Ploussard of Oberlin, and Rhonda Jennings of Wichita went to see 2nd Lt. Brent Jennings off before he flew to Iraq.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Dennis and Pat Barnett of Fort Walton, Texas, have been visiting her mother, Daisy Schmidt, and his father, Keith Barnett, and families. They took Mrs. Schmidt to Hastings, Neb., on Monday for cataract surgery.

Dave Bergling hunted pheasants over the weekend with Doug Jackson and Jim Jackson of Goodland.

Cecil Hess accompanied Mary Lou Olson to Kearney, Neb., on Wednesday for a medical appointment for Mrs. Olson. They visited in the afternoon with Mrs. Olson's granddaughter, Keely Wilson, Julie and Harmony.

Regan Green, son of Merlin and Dixie Green, has been hospitalized in Colby with pneumonia.

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Walter May was honored Sunday noon with a dinner and birthday party to celebrate his 85th birthday.

Additional guests at the home of Rhonda May and Dan Nedland, Hunter and Elizabeth were Richard and Delayne May, Lawrence; Betty May, Robert and Sally May and Cole, Roland and Pam May, Zach and Hannah, Roger and Susan May, Ryan and Erin, Carie Nichols, Dustin and Tyler, and Shannon Schurr.

Jerry and Connie Olson left Fri-

day for Manhattan where they visited their daughter, Kelly, a student at Kansas State University.

While there, they met Bill and Bob Brown, formerly of Oberlin, and together attended the Kansas State/Nebraska football game on Saturday. They returned home Sunday afternoon.

Violet Shaw, Shirley Shields, Tami Shaw, and Dianne Bremer helped with The Dresser's fall style show Friday evening at the American Legion in Oberlin.