

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — March 1884

Matt Kaspar received a letter from Martin Sealaff stating that about 150 persons would start from Germany in April for Decatur County.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Allen, Feb. 28, a daughter, weight, 9 pounds.

The business at the U.S. Land office last month shows the following entries were made: 31 timber cultures; 30 homesteads; 30 pre-emptions and 10 final proofs. There are 97 final proofs set for March.

Klayton Klatter: Our literary societies are progressing finely. The Clayton Society meets every Thursday night and the Big Timber Society every Saturday night.

100 YEARS AGO — March 1909

March came in like a lamb.

Our city fathers announce that after this week the light plant will not be run in the mornings.

Ira Kellogg rounded out his 30 years residence last Friday.

Joseph Bivans sold his fine bottom farm near Hooker to H.P. Dailey of Elberta, Utah.

Jennings Items: W.E. Wilson and H.D. Heatherington loaded a car here Monday and left for Eskridge. Decatur County loses two of its best citizens.

75 YEARS AGO — March 1934

Following the fine weather the last week in January and the first two and one-half weeks of February, the cold spell just disappearing was especially severe on Northwest Kansas folks. Monday morning capped the climax by showing a mark of minus 15, the first and only time it has been below zero this winter.

The corn-hog program is going over in good shape in this county as evidenced by the fact that to Wednesday noon 743 producers had signed the contracts to reduce production at least 20 percent.

Notice: The ladies of the Methodist Church will serve a 25-cent chicken dinner in the basement of the church, Friday, March 9.

Richard Holmes, who three weeks ago had the handle of a pitchfork forced through his side as

he fell from an overturning load of feed, died Sunday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Verna Plotts where he was being cared for. Holmes was 28 years old and his home was in Chicago.

Merriam Parkinson and Timothy Brown were married at Norton February 21. Mrs. Brown is the daughter of Mrs. S.O. Stowell and her ability in expression and dramatic art has placed her ever in demand as an entertainer.

Mr. Brown is the son of Mr. and Mrs. I.S. Brown of Olive Township. He is operating a farm near Achilles and with Mrs. Brown will be at home there to their many friends.

50 YEARS AGO — March 1959

A shiny mechanical giant made the rounds of Oberlin's streets Tuesday. It was Oberlin's new \$10,000 street sweeper.

The annual athletic banquet and program Tuesday will feature Jack Mitchell, head Kansas University football coach, as guest speaker.

Candidates for Girls' State were narrowed to six last Friday; Karen Anderson, Mary Reeves, Robyn Urban, Nancy Nemeth, Henrietta Goscha and Myrna Fisher.

Rev. A.C. Zeilinger has resigned as pastor of Faith Lutheran Church and plans to retire from the active ministry after nearly 54 years.

Jim Carver won the Outstanding Wrestler award at the Missouri Valley AAU tourney held at Hays. Former Oberlin wrestlers competing included Jim Carver, Dale Votapka, Lemoine Raulston, Norm Foster, Dean Roedel and Bill DeMay.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Wolfe recently purchased the Harry Mahon home at 210 North East and are planning to sell their present home at 118 South Cass.

Mr. and Mrs. Julius Bencken will leave for Topeka Monday where Mr. Bencken will be employed at Scott Motor Co. Their daughter, Marilyn, is a student at Hayden High School and will graduate in May.

25 YEARS AGO — March 1984

Wally Jensen, Matador truck driver, showed his ability to stay calm in a pressure situation last

week, extricating a two-year-old child from a burning vehicle that had collided with his oil hauling rig on a gravel road northeast of Oakley.

Jensen received burns while in the act of attempting to rescue the child's mother when the van's gas tank or carburetor exploded.

The fatality accident occurred when the driver of the van failed to stop at an intersection. Jensen and his wife Alma have lived in Oberlin since 1961 when he moved here to work for Matador Pipelines.

Funeral services were held for Guy B. Morrish, 90, a longtime businessman who served as mayor of Oberlin from 1961-66. The son of Sidney John and Anna Bell (Marsengill) Morrish, he was born June 11, 1893, at Hoxie and moved to Oberlin at an early age.

He graduated from Decatur Community High School in 1911 and was a World War I veteran. He was a plumbing contractor and hardware

store operator. His wife, Norma, died in 1975.

Survivors include a son, Sid of Albuquerque, N.M., and a daughter Gertrude Huckleberry of Richland, Wash.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kjelland announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristy Stannard, to Douglas Richards, son of Mrs. Jack Metcalf and Norman Richards. The wedding is planned for April 7, 1984, at Faith Lutheran Church in Oberlin.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom McGuire will be honored on their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception at the Golden Age Center Sunday, March 18 planned by their children, Ida Mae and Elwood Jording of McCook and Dr. Harlyn McGuire, Perry, Iowa.

Roger May, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter May, was among the 15 FFA members who were awarded the State Farmer Degree in the Northwest Kansas district.

Chamber News

By Tina Watson

The Oberlin Business Alliance has been busy. The group has purchased new spring banners to hang downtown, and they are beautiful. They are just another sign that spring is upon us!

The banners will be going up real soon, so look for them. Thanks to everyone who has been bringing in donations for the banners; your contributions are greatly appreciated.

The Alliance plans to have a fish and burger fry from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, April 10, in the alley south of the Business Enhancement Entrepreneurial Building. Donations will be used for replacing the lights on the nativity scene for downtown.

Be looking for the Business Alliance basketball championship drawing that will be starting soon. Be sure to find boxes at participating businesses for your chance to win a basket full of great gifts!

The Chamber Board plans to start having ribbon cuttings for new

businesses. They will also be giving away one gift certificate from Pizza Hut to the first person to come in and tell me the name of the park that the gazebo sits in.

Mark your calendars for Monday! Decatur Health Systems will be having an Express Blood Drive from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. I have read that only three out of every 100 people in America donate blood. Every minute of every day, someone needs blood. That blood can only come from a volunteer donor, a person like you who makes a difference in someone's life by choosing to donate. So please, plan to come out and give blood on that day.

Coffee Hour this month will be from 9 to 11 a.m. Friday, March 27, at Coffee, Tea, and Me. They are at 159 S. Penn., just south of Stanley Hardware. If you have not been there, you are in for a treat!

Until the next time, take care, and we will see you on the brick streets, where friends meet!

Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

It was a wild week here at the old 'Good Sam' homestead. A Wild West kind of week! On Tuesday, we began "Blazin' a New Trail," a theme designed to kick off a new computerized charting system for the Certified Nursing Assistants.

The pond has been transformed into a desert vignette complete with cactus and yucca plants.

Both staff and residents were encouraged to dress Western all week long. Myrtle Ross wore the biggest Cowboy hat I have ever seen!

On Monday, Opal Bryan, Alice Bobbitt, Lora Zwickle, Leone Porsch, Evelyn Olson and Myrtle Ross gathered to bag up trail mix for everyone as nourishment along the trail.

On Tuesday, the weather was a little chilly so Hillbilly Horse-shoes moved indoors. Shirley Hayward, Leone Porsch, Alice Bobbitt, Opal Bryan, Leo Mooty, Elden Long, Doris Marintzer, Faye Miller, Mary Lemman and Myrtle Ross all stepped up.

Elden Long took the tournament with an all time high score of 125! Several ladies stayed and played two more rounds by themselves — they thought they needed the practice to give Elden some competition.

On Wednesday, Tina Perrin, all decked out in her best Western duds, invited everyone to Sing around the Campfire. It sure sounded a whole lot better than the sorry lookin' cowboy that came to last year's round-up (that was me!) Weenies and Beans were served for Social Hour.

Naptime was interrupted to bring everyone down for the long anticipated Rodeo. Everyone was decked out in Western finery. Hats, vests, jeans, bandanas and boots. The competitions got under way.

The first event was barrel racing. Two teams competed for the prize. Janice Shobe, Loretta McFee and Sheena were Team one, riding "Horsey." Team two was Janna Leitner, Coleen Rippe and Tina Perrin riding "Holsteen." Team one was the winner. "Holsteen" just wouldn't getty-up and go.

Stacking bales was the second event. Again, two teams were needed. Each team had to pass seven small bales person to person until the last person had to run to a barrel

that was turned on its side to carefully place the bales, one on top of the other until all seven were stacked. If they toppled they had to start over. Team two won this event.

The third event was a cowboy word scramble. The teams were the same. The staff members crowded around the barrels that had several letters on them. A word clue was given and the residents had to yell out the answer. The staff then had to rummage through the letters, handing one letter to each resident who would hold the letter up to spell the word correctly. Team two won 4-1.

The last event was Cow Pie Pitchin'. Team two took first in this event as well! Earl Brown commented that he had never been to such a silly Rodeo in his life.

On Saturday afternoon, Western Week came to a close with a visit from the Country Steppers. Four couples traveled to Oberlin to kick up their heels and dance. Dennis and Peggy Kennedy, and Rich and Hilda Hampton, Culbertson, Neb.; Charles and Coleen Wilcox, Palsade, Neb.; Greg and Diane Wolfe, Indianola, Neb.

They demonstrated the two-step, the waltz, cha-cha and line dancing for an enthusiastic crowd and promised to come back, next time to dance with the residents. We'll look forward to that!

Recent visitors were Reva Marshall, Ron and Dixie Snyder (Colby) for **Dorothy Hunt**. Sharon and Marvin Slabaugh for **Opal Bryan**. Rhonda Wildeman (Jennings) and Donna Lincoln for **Faye Miller**.

Donna Kelley, Elden and Detta Anderson for **Eva Bryan**. Clem Mumm (Colby), Bud and Vicki Mumm (Gem), Ken Mumm (Selden) for **Hubert Mumm**. Eunice Richard and Mert McEvoy for **Lucy Schisser**.

Helen Brooks, Vivan and Vicky Heisel (Fort Morgan, Colo.) and Betty Heisel for **Ethel Nemeth**. Stan Faiman family (Statton, Neb.), Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem) for **Doris Marintzer**. Pastor Doug Hasty for **John Ready**.

Cheri Kastens for **Pooch Portschky**, **Loren Escher**, **R.D. Thornton**, **John Ready** and **Elden Long**. Jody Betts for **Edla Olson**. Dean and Eloise Thornton (Garden City),

Chris Dempewolf (Norcatour), Sheree Dempewolf and Aaron (Colby), Lynn Streit, Jesse Streit and Suzy (Larned) for **R.D. Thornton**. JoAnn Neidenthal, Joyce Carl-

ton, Melissa and Gloria for **Nelda Vaughn**. Cindy Gillespie (Watkins, Colo.) for **Violet Schisser**. Ann Hazlitt (Selden) for **Leone Porsch**.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Stan and Ramona Shaw are happy to announce the arrival of their great-granddaughter, Lexy Shay Golemboski.

She was born March 5, 2009, at Citizens Medical Center, Colby weighing in at 7 pounds, 6 ounces, and is 19 inches long.

Proud parents are Zach and Katie Golemboski, Colby. Grandparents are Cindy and Danny Black, Carlsbad, N.M.; the late Doug Wahlmeier, and Mark and Jacque Golemboski, Colby. Dennis and Marilyn Wahlmeier, Cambridge, Neb., are also great-grandparents.

Great-great grandmothers are Agnes Wahlmeier, Jennings; and Carol Shaw, Selden.

Wayne and Louise Cressler went to Bison Sunday to visit at the home of their son, Russell Cressler. Preston Cressler and friends, Timken and McKenzie Cressler, rural McCracken, also came to visit.

United Methodist Women met Thursday. Helen Rhodes, with all who attended, gave the program, "This is the Fast I Choose."

Roll call, "A Lenten Sacrifice," was answered by Helen Rhodes, Kathy Nauer, Ruth Chance, Lila Jennings, Rachel Carter and Louise Cressler.

Bible verse was, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me," *Philippians 4:13*.

City Council met Thursday evening. Attending were council members Pat Hall, Stan Hartzog and Louise Cressler.

Mayor Bob Jones called the meeting to order. Jacque Boultinghouse, Selden, brought information to the council on severe weather meetings to be held.

She told us she was there to help us in any way she could. Local emergency preparedness monthly meetings to plan for emergencies will be held at Oberlin.

Weekly siren testing will be done at least through tornado season.

Abbie Hissong, Fredrickson Insurance agent, spoke to the council on the renewal policy of the city's insurance.

Some questions were raised about the coverage in various areas and she will look into those then get back to us.

Marge Hartzog spoke with the council on a fund raiser for the Red Cross. This is needed for a shelter to be designated as a Red Cross shelter. A date has been tentatively set for that. Marge has had all of the training from Red Cross.

The dog ordinance rewriting was tabled until next meeting.

Broken curbs in downtown were discussed with plans to fix them.

Several water meters which are inside residences were discussed. A list will be made of them and a plumber hired to move them outside.

Pat Hall was nominated as a new library board member to replace Violet Krizek whose term was up. The council approved the appointment.

Water meters will be read March 20 or 21.

A fundraiser is being planned for Melissa Hadley who was injured in a car accident several weeks ago.

She remains in the Kearney, Neb., hospital. There will be more details at a later date.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

The card players met for an afternoon of games on Monday. Players included Zola Brown, Dale Butler, Darlene Fisher, Elsie Goodnight, Ruth Havel, Donna Kent, Alice May, Edie Pettera, Blanche Skubal, Mary Votapka, Aleen VanVleet, Agnes Pruitt, and Joan Noble.

Myrna Jones, Mary Ann Amack, and Nadeane Haag assisted with the sing-along time before supper on Monday afternoon.

Elwood Mines won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Elsie Goodnight won the blackout game. We have received several donations of bingo candy from the family of Mary Votapka. These donations are always much appreciated.

Elsie Goodnight gave a presentation on Tuesday afternoon to an attentive audience of Cedar Living Center residents about her trip to Washington, D.C. with the Decatur Saddle Club to perform in the Inaugural Parade for President Dwight Eisenhower. Zola Brown also told stories about the group. Zola was the treasurer for the club for many years and her husband, Earl, went on the trip.

The Pinochle players met for a game on Wednesday afternoon with Juanita Williby.

Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson on Wednesday afternoon.

There were several winners at the penny card game played on Thursday afternoon. Residents also met to listen to Charlotte Kurtz read the news from *The Oberlin Herald*. This is a very popular weekly event.

The baking group made sugar cookies on Friday afternoon.

Recent visitors: Carol Kompus, Linda Bosler, Chris Wood, Herndon; Kristen Bremer, Colby; Todd, Deanna, Brooke, and Brady Sumner, Norcatour; Lad and Lori Truetken, Selden; Lillian Sulzman, Dresden; Tom Votapka and Terry Hanke, Jennings.

Shelli Fortin, Eunice Richards, Jackie Votapka, Nadeane Haag, Jacob Fortin, Roberta Koerperich, Connie Miller, Dolores Koerperich, Orline Beneda, Elvin Beneda, Lyle Gamblin, Ira Kolsky, John and Diane Bremer, Roxie Pomeroy, Max and Veanna Carman, Alice Shirley, Ila Ray, Opal Huntley, Oberlin.

Lyle News

By Veda Wood

Elden Huff took his stock trailer to Ness City on Friday, met his brother, David, there to help move. David visited his parents, Earnest and Donna, for a few days and, on Sunday, took the trailer on to Yuma, Colo., where he has a new job. He brought the trailer back on Tuesday, swapped it for his dog, who had visited Earnest's while he was gone, and went home, planning to start work on Wednesday.

The community has been concerned about Gary Anthony, who has spent the week in the hospital at Hays. His brother, Keith, was with him several days, and Gary's wife Cathy is still with him. We hope to see them both at home and much better soon.

Margaret "Toots" Magers ate supper with Kathy Van Meter and Lloyd Frandsen on Sunday, Feb. 22. She sewed with the Lyle group on Tuesday. On Saturday, Feb. 28, June Jolly took Toots and Eleanor Jensen to WaKeeney to a birthday party for Ivy Roland of Norton and her cousin, Opal Roland of WaKeeney. The birthday ladies (I don't think they care if I tell this) were 96 and 97 respectively. If this is private information, Ivy, you can beat me up the next time I see you.

She and Eleanor help quilt a lot of the Tuesdays, and we appreciate it.

We were privileged to have Dewayne and Aurelia Jackson in church on Sunday. Aurelia played the piano in Joyce Sumner's absence. A small group enjoyed the first Sunday of the month dinner. A little reminder: everyone is welcome at the dinners, it is not just for the ones who attend church, and everyone is welcome to church, also.

Sandra McNames and three friends, who just like to sing, took Sandy's mother, Veda, and another spectator to the Cardinal Bar and Grill on Saturday, where they joined in the Karaoke and, by the sound of all the laughter, had a great time. There is a lot of talent in this small town. Those singers are Sweet Adelines, and had sung at a nursing home and an assisted living home before coming here.

Today is my granddaughter, Tielia's birthday, so "Happy Birthday, Tielia."

I try to correct my writing by using the spell check thing. Where I wrote, "much better," it told me it should say, "many better's." Ha. What does it know? It helps, but you have to watch it. It's almost as entertaining as television.

Rexford News

By Vicki Allison

Now that the time has jumped forward an hour, an illusion that spring is here has entered many households.

How many of you have started gardens and planted peas on March 1? Not me, even though the suggestion had been given to me. I do have good intentions of plotting out a garden and enjoying the fruits of my labor.

Spring gives us beautiful weather as well as the severe weather. The National Weather Service office in Goodland, in cooperation with emergency management officials, designated this as Kansas Severe Weather Awareness Week.

A test tornado warning will take place at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday. Everyone is encouraged to treat the test warning as if it were an actual emergency and review your emergency procedures.

Walk Kansas began Sunday.

Cleda Moeder was able to see her grandson, Taylor Moeder, a student at St. James Academy in Kansas City, win the championship in 112-pound class at the State Wrestling Tournament in Salina on Feb. 27 and 28.

Cleda and Buck Harper accompanied Dan and Betty Racette of Col-

by, Taylor's other grandparents.

A happy birthday to Morgan Wark, who turned 5 on Sunday. She celebrated her birthday with family and friends on Saturday. One of the special gifts she received was a doll house, her daddy and mother, Chad and Dez, built for her.

The Golden Plains School will have spring break next week, with classes resuming Monday, March 23.

Red Barn happenings: Monday: Barnswallows, 1-5 p.m.

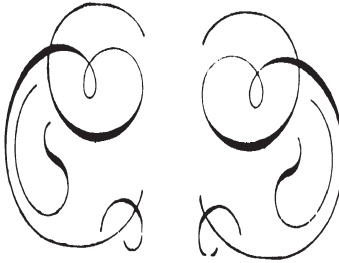
Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m., Ladies Bible Study.

Thursday: Come on Down, 1-5 p.m.

Fridays: Koffee Klatch, 9:30-11 a.m.

Do you have any Rexford news? Call me at 687-2525.

Until next time, make your week memorable.



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