

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — May 1884

Several sod houses succumbed to the fate of too much wet weather. We have heard of several which have failed in.

If we counted right it rained every day last week, an unheard of freak of nature in this country before, and Thursday was the rainiest day we have ever seen or heard of in our 11 year residence in this part of the state.

J.E. Kulp is quite an expert in wielding the lariat.

Klarton Klatters: Jake Brooks is building himself a new house on his pre-emption.

The assessor's report shows that the number of pounds of wool clipped in 1883 was 36,994 as against 11,582 in 1882.

100 YEARS AGO — May 1909

Decoration Day was rainy and gloomy and was probably attended by the smallest crowd on record at a like celebration in Oberlin, but the usual decoration services at the cemetery were carried. The afternoon program was held at the M.E. Church with O.B. Towne as orator of the day.

Pres. Price of Ottawa University delivered the address to the high school graduating class last Thursday evening. Graduates were Chas. T. Battin, Elizabeth Geiger, Chalmer Harger, Eva Dimmick, Flossie Hayes, Glenn Logan, Bernice Barr, Anastasia Heitmann, John A. Handwerk, Dimis Morrish, Mary Vawter, Henry Bliss, Fred Eckhart, Guy Leist, Cora Noonan, Dean Rogers, Archie Connell, Lucy Leist, Clyde Metcalf, Maxwell Ralston, Herbert Weir and Lester Wylder.

About 65 were present at the Alumni meeting Friday evening. Ray Palmatier was president and Bert Bush was elected president for the coming year.

The cornerstone of the new Episcopal Church was laid by the Grand Master of A.F. & A.M. Grand Lodge of Kansas on Tuesday, June 1.

75 YEARS AGO — May 1934

Another Decoration Day come and gone. In the memorial services at the Methodist Church it was noted that there is only one Civil War veteran remaining in Oberlin, Harry A. Stowell, and only one other in the county, John C. Duncan of

Norcatur.

Mrs. Harold Jeffery died at the home of Mrs. Verna Plotts following a brief illness. She leaves her husband and a 10-day old daughter, Barbara Jeanne, and other sorrowing relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. F.F. Bliss are celebrating 50 years of married life having lived on the northeast quarter of section seven in Center Township their entire marriage.

Dresden: Rev. Chas. Simpson will conduct Memorial Day services at Shibleth Sunday afternoon following a basket dinner.

Announcements have been made of the marriage of Miss Neva Brown to Mr. Perry "Bus" Page. Both are well known in the community and as well regarded.

Mrs. Page graduated from the local high school and has been an efficient employee of the local United Telephone office.

Mr. Page is the son of Mr. and Mrs. U.A. Page of Herndon, and graduated from Herndon High School. He is the capable assistant at Standard Service Station. They will be at home in the Frickey residence at 107 South York.

Band director Bert Hostinsky reports that the enrollments in beginner's band are coming in nicely but there is room for more. There is no charge for lessons.

Mr. and Mrs. Waid Waldo announce the marriage of their daughter, Melba Lucile, to Mr. Russell Anderson at 7 o'clock Sunday morning, May 27. The ceremony took place in the Waldo home here with Rev. F.A. Wegener of St. John's Lutheran Church officiating.

Mrs. Anderson is a graduate of Colorado University and has been bookkeeper for Waldo Grain Elevator in Traer.

Mr. Anderson received his degree from Hays Teachers College and has been on the high school faculty and was promoted to the position of principal. They will be at home at 312 West Ash Street.

50 YEARS AGO — May 1959

Decatur Community High School graduates from Maine to California returned to Oberlin for the annual Alumni Banquet with 573 in attendance, more than 100 more than last year. Oldest graduate present was Mrs. Luella Burger Kelley, Class of 1894.

Officers elected were Sid Morish, Class of '42, president; Leo VanVleet, class of '49, vice president; Pat Euhus, Class of 1959, honorary vice president; Nancy Francis, '57, secretary. Arlene Kiger Pummer, '50 was retained as treasurer.

Herndon: Funeral services were held May 20 from St. Mary's Church for John Paul Huss Jr., who died following an automobile accident four miles west of Herndon.

Court House News: Howard Jennings and Betty Burr, both of Oberlin, were issued a marriage license May 20.

Ray Adams has sold his stock of grocery merchandise and store fixtures to John Van Diest, Prairie View. The building is owned by Jay Paddock.

David Musgrave of Oberlin graduated May 24 from St. John's Military School, Salina. He plans to attend Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina.

Clayton Krehbiel, former Decatur Community High School faculty member, was presented the HOPE Award at the University of Kansas by the senior class. The award goes to the faculty member who has made the greatest contribution to insuring the welfare of students and increasing the prestige of KU in the arts and sciences during the year.

25 YEARS AGO — May 1984

Commencement exercises were held at Decatur Community High School for 47 seniors. Valedictorian was Tom Berkheimer, son of Robert and Yuki Berkheimer, and salutatorian was Jay Smith, son of Eldon and Eleanor Smith.

Let's Go To the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, director

I want to thank all the alumni who stopped by the Museum over the weekend. It was good to see you, and we look forward to seeing you back next year.

Our plans for the upcoming Museum Car and Vintage Sports Show are coming along well. It all starts Friday evening, June 5, with the Cruise-In from 7 to 9 p.m.

The evening will be a laid-back fun time, with buffalo burgers and hot dogs served by the museum and

Class officers have been Janet McDaniel, president; Jason Fortin, vice president; Joani Guy, secretary and Robby Kaempfe, treasurer.

Attendance was up at the annual Decatur Community High School Alumni Banquet with 507 persons making reservations. Miss Flossie Hayes, Class of 1909, was honored on the occasion of the 75th year since her graduation.

It was noted that of the 51 members of the Class of 1934 which was celebrating its 50th year, 35 are still alive and 29 were present.

Continuing to head the alumni association during the coming year will be Idella (Nelson) Frickey, class of 1959; vice president will be Howard Banta, class of 1922; Becky (Alstrom) Wennihan, class of 1974 will be secretary and Linda Long, class of 1980, will be treasurer.

The marriage of Bonnie Beisner and Rex Schamberger has been announced. Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Beisner of Natoma and Mr. and Mrs. Felix Schamberger of Hoxie.

The bride has been employed as band instructor at Decatur Community High School since 1979 and her husband is employed as an insurance adjuster.

The 60th wedding anniversaries of Guy and Helen Votapka and Drs. John and Carlotta Rummel will be observed Sunday at the Oberlin American Legion.

Kelly Moore, Oberlin, daughter of Evan and Judy Goltl, Morland, and a 1979 graduate of Decatur Community High School, received her nursing pin May 10 in a ceremony at Barton County Community College.

root beer floats by Oberlin Business Alliance.

On Saturday, June 6, events start with pancakes, ham, coffee, and juice in the Bohemian Hall from 7 to 9 a.m. Events are planned for the whole day.

Many clubs and organizations will have booths and several vendors will be on hand.

For fun, food and activities, come spend the day in beautiful downtown Oberlin.

Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

"Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends." - John 15:13

Echoing "Taps" was played by Samantha Anderson and Nolan Henningson to mark the beginning of our Fourth Annual Walkway of Flags. A total of 131 flags were flown in memory of, or in honor of loved ones we wished to remember. Each flag had a placard with the name of the honoree, and when known, the war in which they fought. We recognized service men and women from World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War and a special section was reserved for those who have served or are currently serving in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Soft, beautiful patriotic songs displayed while people strolled the Walkway, reading each name and reflecting on the memories that flooded their thoughts.

It's appropriate to pay tribute to those who have put their lives on the line to preserve our freedom, and to give thanks to those who have sacrificed their lives for our country. Certainly these men and women exemplified Jesus Christ who set the ultimate example in giving His life for all mankind. As we remember them, think also about Jesus who

gave His life for our salvation and eternal resting place.

Earlier this week we had the pleasure of enjoying music! Susan Nelson brought her students to give a spirited farewell performance. This mini-concert began with "Alleluia" and ended with "Let Everything that Hath Breath Praise the Lord".

Joy Russell brought the third graders to sing a collection of patriotic songs ringing clear and true through the sweet, innocent voices of these youth. Our prayer is that the words of our forefathers and the foundation that our great country began will permeate their hearts through the verses that they sang.

Evan Jorn paid us a visit Friday afternoon, giving us an hour of delightful entertainment. Evan was home for Alumni Weekend and we are so happy he thought to include us in his schedule.

Memorial Day brings lots of visitors: Reva Marshall, Trev Snyder and family (Sayer, Okla.) Teena Friend (Stillwater, Okla.) for Dorothy Hunt. Deb Campbell for Myrtle Waldo. Doris Fringer for Kathryn Post and Lora Zwickle. Arian Arnold (Herndon), Arris and Virginia Johnson (Hays) and Mike and Nione

Rhodin (Loveland, Colo.) for Edla Olson. Larry Laird (Pennsylvania) and Luanne and Mike Laird (Celina, Texas) for Eileen Laird. Luanne and Mike Laird (Celina, Texas) and Arris and Virginia Johnson (Hays) for Amy Rehm. Carol Duncan for Myrtle Ross. Cheri Kastens for Pooch Portschy, Loren Escher and Hubert Mumm.

Ann Hazlitt (Selden) for Leone Porsch. Ellen Dewey (McDonald) and Laura Craig (Alamosa, Colo.) for Loren Escher. Sharon Slabaugh for Opal Bryan. Betty Heisel for Ethel Nemeth. Ben and Emily Smith (Rockford, Ill.) and Linda, Joanna, Sarah and Moriah Smith (Atwood) for Dorothy Pryor. Eunice Wenger for Lora Zwickle. Arris and Virginia John-

son (Hays) for John Ready. Wayne and Odetta Marietta, (Russell) for Elden Long. Carolyn Sue Hayes (Colby) for Earl Brown. Dave and Colleen {Lemman} Tarman (Tribune) for Mary Lemman. Beverly Eiler (McCook) and Barbara Castor for Elaine Thomas. Vi and Mark Darby (Sterling, Colo.) for Lucy Schissler. Darrell and Elda Youngs (McCook) for Lucy Schissler and Earl Brown. Joe and Lori Brewer (Limon, Colo.) for Leona Helmkamp. Ralph and Norma Unger for Leo Mooty and Lucy Schissler. Donna and Dick Kelley, Kirk Kelley (Davenport, Iowa) and Sheldon and Brenda Kelley and family (Frederick, Colo.) for Eva Bryan. Johnnie and Christine Richards (Olathe, Kan.) for all.

Traer News

By Maralyn Courange

Maralyn Courange, Kelly Brown, Lakin and Caitlyn Brown, and Sara Ware of Culbertson, Neb., attended high school graduation of Korey Ware, grandson of Mrs.

Courange, in Gettysburg, S.D., over the weekend. They were guests of Brad Ware.

They returned home Sunday afternoon.

Lyle News

By Veda Wood

On Sunday, the Lebanon American Legion had their Memorial Service at the Lyle Church Cemetery, and afterward, an annual potluck dinner was held at the Lyle Community Building.

On Mother's Day, Gary, Cathy and Keith Anthony went to Cambridge, Neb., and took Elsie Lang out to dinner, and then went to McCook.

David Huff visited his parents from May 3 to 5, and again May 14 and 15. He mowed and cleaned up a cow lot while there.

Margaret "Toots" Magers, Kathy Van Meter, Deanna Sumner, Cathy Anthony and Veda Wood met at the home of hostess Carolyn Plotts on Wednesday for Liberty Star Club.

They enjoyed a delicious lunch and a plant sale, and from there to the tea served by the Royal Neighbors.

As if that wasn't enough fun for one day, Veda went on to the Andbe Home's family night. The only drawback was they served a wonderful fried chicken dinner, and I couldn't find room for any more.

They also had music for a dance. Several wheel chair occupants were coaxed onto the floor, which was fun. My Aunt Alta May and I sat across from Bob Sawdon and Bee Nelson. He said he is getting along well.

June Jolly attended the Premier Designs jewelry party at the Educational Building on Saturday.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

The maintenance department has been working hard the past couple of weeks on a new landscaping project at Cedar Living Center. The newly renovated, but still not completed project, includes a rose garden. Please stop by for a look anytime.

There were several winners at the dice game played on Monday afternoon. Players included Dale Butler, Darlene Fisher, Elsie Goodnight, Ruth Havel, Donna Kent, Mary Kolsky, Ruth Leopold, Aleen Van Vleet, and Mary Votapka.

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

Susan Nelson brought several students from the high school for one last music performance before the summer vacation at noon on Tuesday. The program was a big hit with both residents and staff.

Mary Votapka won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Joan Nobel won the blackout game.

Juanita Williby hosted the pinocchle players on Wednesday afternoon. Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson.

Fr. Henry Saw Lone celebrated the Catholic Mass on the Cedar Living Center patio on Thursday morning.

Thursday afternoon a group of residents went outside to assist with planting our garden boxes. We planted tomatoes, peppers, and eggplant. Everyone had a great time watching the turtles as there were several out on the patio that afternoon. A couple of the turtles were even hanging out in the potting mix bag.

Don and Marie Thomas were supper guests at the home of Dennis and Kaylene Thomas on Thursday.

Several residents enjoyed trying a variety of games during game night on Thursday evening.

The baking group made chocolate chip cookies on Friday afternoon. There were several visitors around that afternoon to share in eating the cookies.

James Plotts went to the Alumni

Banquet on Saturday evening with Jim and Carolyn Plotts.

Wilma May attended a May family reunion over the weekend.

Several residents were out with family members over the weekend to attend Memorial services, family get-togethers, or just to go for a ride in the country. Karl Wendelin reports that he doesn't remember when he has seen the countryside so green and nice.

We enjoyed lots of visitors over the holiday weekend. There were many family members, friends, and old neighbors who stopped by to visit with residents.

All of these visits meant so much. The following are just some of the many guests who dropped by during the past week.

Recent visitors: Lillian Sulzman, Dresden; Carol Kompus, Eugene Kleidosty, Linda Bosler, Cheryl Kastens, Herndon; Carolyn and Jim Plotts, Norcatur; Wayne and Donna Jones, Clayton; Helen Carman, Selden; Steven Thomas and family, Lamar, Colo.; Don and Jan Thomas, Columbia Fall, Mont.; Evan Wenger, Aubrey, Texas; Marie, Raymond and Sylvia Wallace, Calgary, Alberta, Canada; Voyle Miller, Lincoln, Neb.; Vaughn Miller, South Carolina.; Betty Rall, Colorado Springs; Shawn, Adrian and Elle Walker, Lincoln, Neb.;

Rick and Sharon Gamblin, Columbus, Neb.; Adam, Angie and Chayden Kleinsorge, Sioux Falls, S.D.; Pat Marintzer, Idalia, Colo.; Leo Van Vleet, Phoenix, Ariz.; Greg, Stacie, Emily, Rodney, Kaidyn, Ryleigh Coyle, Rossville; Johnnie and Christine Richards, Olathe; Royce Rasmussen, Lansdale, Pa.; Connie Kienitz, Lakewood, Colo.; Nadine Chandler, Wheat Ridge, Colo.

Orlin Beneda, Elvin Beneda, Lyle Gamblin, Max and Veanna Carman, Paula Tadlock, Mirium Fisher, Alice Shirley, Ila Ray, Opal Huntley, John and Dianne Bremer, Connie Olson, Earl Brown, Gene Plotts, Sharon and Alvin Johnson, Mary McEvoy, Oberlin.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

John and Ardythe Cederberg were in North Platte, Neb., on May 17 to attend the graduation and reception for their grandson, Dalton Pettera, son of Denise and Larry Pettera.

They also helped Erin Pettera celebrate her birthday.

Steve Schissler attended the high school graduation for his niece, Carissa Gillespie, daughter of Gary and Cindy Gillespie, in Aurora, Colo., over the weekend.

Chris and Sherri Schmidt hosted a potluck supper on Sunday to honor their daughter, Danace McDonald, of Colby, who recently completed a business degree; also Pat and Dennis Barnett, Fort Walton Beach, Fla.; and Mike and Erin Kittson and Noah, Tucson, Ariz., who have been visiting relatives.

Larry Gilbert is hospitalized in Denver. Mail will reach him at the University of Colorado Hospital, room 204, 1635 N. Ursula, Aurora, Colo. He is a nephew of the late Clara Wancura.

Weekend visitors of Edla Olson, and Steve and Arian Arnold were Mike and Nione Rhodin of Loveland, Colo.

Wesley Benda is hospitalized at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney, Neb. His children, Gerald Benda, Leanne Pike, Shirley Maresch, Bev Messerly, and Barbara Olson, have been with him.

His sister and her husband, Ida Marie and Dave Erikson of Plenty-

wood, Mont., also visited him at the hospital.

Those from the Herndon Covenant Church who spent Memorial weekend at Covenant Heights Bible Camp for a work weekend were Greg, Mariah and Noah Jones, Sarah Hatch, Britta and David Noren. Josiah and Mandi Jones, and Kjell and Laressa Nordgren and family.

Weekend guests of Dick and Donna Kelley were Kirk Kelley, Davenport, Iowa; and Sheldon and Brenda Kelley and girls, Frederick, Colo.

Keith and Mary Lou Olson attended the fifth grade graduation of their granddaughter, Abbie Olson, at Whittier Elementary School on Friday evening and the graduation of their grandson, Seth Olson, from Boulder High School on Saturday morning in Boulder.

Their parents are Rex Olson and Anne Olson. They were weekend guests of her niece and husband, Ian and Pam (Starbuck) Patrick, in Broomfield. A barbecue followed the graduation on Saturday at the Patrick home.

Dave and Sherry Bergling enjoyed a Wasinger family reunion on Sunday at the home of Leila Wasinger in Hays.

Larry and Deb Olson of Mulvane were Thursday visitors of her parents, Bob and Sally Olson.



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Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Congratulations to Merl and Ruth Chance who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Sunday.

A reception at the United Methodist Church was hosted by their children Helen and Steve Broadbrooks, David and Debbie Chance and Kathy and Jim Guilfoyle. Ruth and Merl were married on May 23, 1949.

Wilfred Wagoner was taken by ambulance to the hospital Saturday evening.

Approximately 100 people attended the potluck dinner held Sunday at the Sunflower Senior Center.

Memorial weekend guests of Mike and Joan McKenna were

Amy and Doug Osborn, Overland Park; and Dwight and Jean Lynch, Shawnee. Brett and Tracey McKenna, Clafin, were additional dinner guests on Saturday evening. Sunday they were joined for lunch by Rita Carey, Westminster, Colo., and Micheal and Cheryl Sauvage, Oberlin, after the Big Timber Cemetery services

Weekend guests of Wayne and Louise Cressler were Russell Cressler, Bison; Gwen Anderson, Council Grove; Megan Faris, Jessica Lemmons and Gabe, Manhattan.

Jennings received a very nice measurable amount of rain.