

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Aug. 1884

We note among recent improvements in downtown Oberlin a new stone walk across the street between the Herald block and the U.S. Land Office by Major Don Carlos; new sidewalk in front of Fred Bliss's tonsorial establishment and J.G. Parker's law and land mill, also W.A. Frasier in front of the furniture store. Let the good work go on.

Oberlin boasts of one of the best bands in the state. They have just received a brand new set of German silver helicon horns.

The band is composed of R.O. Kindig, leader, tuba; J.F. Heitmann, director; E-flat cornet; F.H. Smith, president, baritone; F.A. Douglas, secretary, bass drum; E.L. Beckwith, E-flat cornet; Geo. W. Keys, B-flat cornet; W.R. Steever, B-flat cornet; J.E. Kulp, alto; J.E. Bebb, alto; F.A. Hunt, tenor; R.A. Reasoner, tenor; H.W. Farrant, snare drum.

W.L. Humes, editor of the *Kenneth Sentinel* visited the Herald office Saturday.

100 YEARS AGO — Aug. 1909

The Benton family is moving into their new residence this month.

C.B. Raymond traded some stock last week for the residence of Ad. Cathcart in west Oberlin.

Mrs. J.H. and Mrs. F.A. Fleming and their daughters, Gladys and Myra, started Monday evening for Illinois for a visit with friends.

The three Love girls, Pearl, Goldie and Grace, who have spent several weeks in the city of New York, arrived at home recently and have wonderful stories of what they have seen while away. It is worth a whole lot for young people to make such a trip.

Will Farris lost 30 head of cattle that had eaten kafir corn.

The county clerk has been notified by the state auditor that Decatur County will be expected to put up \$17,050.49 as state tax for the year 1909. This means \$1.95 for every man, woman and child in the county. Last year the tax was only \$12,596.42.

Fike & Haynes of Colby are the wheat kings of northwestern Kansas. They have just finished cutting their 12,000 acres sown in Thomas County.

75 YEARS AGO — Aug. 1934

The sixth annual four-county Old Settlers Picnic held at Brookwood Park Aug. 16 proved to be the most largely attended of the series and furnished one of the best programs given so far. The presence of Judge Fred Bear of Sterling, Colo., on the program as well as the presence of Congresswoman Kathryn Mc-

Carthy as principal speaker and the ideal brand of picnic weather had a lot to do with the attendance. The program opened with the Oberlin band directed by C.B. Wolfe in the absence of Bert Hostinsky who was on vacation and was followed by old-time songs with Rev. J.D. Bowles at the portable organ with Carl Nicodemus as song leader.

Mr. Glenn Carper, the genial janitor at the court house, instructs the Herald to invite the general public to a wedding dance and reception at the old Bohemian Hall near Jennings on Aug. 29 (from sun to sun) honoring the marriage of Mrs. Christina Nicholson of Jennings and Mr. Glenn Carper (Tina and Tiny).

Court House News: Probate Judge Kulp granted the license and performed the ceremony on Aug. 17 for Arthur L. Nelson, of Worthington, Minn., and Miss Loretta Foster of Oberlin.

Mr. and Mrs. Cadet Gierhart have purchased the Central Shoe Shop and Wilson Fashion Shop in McCook and are operating them as a combined business. Gierharts formerly owned a shoe and ready-to-wear business in Oberlin which they sold on July 1 to Howard Hanson.

At the Oberlin Rotary Club meeting Tuesday a fine program was given by Rube Finch of the Cambridge, Neb., club about Civil War history and the later Indian campaign by Gen. George Custer. He displayed the types of rifles with which the Indians were armed at the Custer massacre and also the Springfield carbines with which Custer's men were armed.

Coach Anderson was Topeka last week at the coaching school directed by Guinn Henry who coached the St. Louis professional football team last year. He was studying especially the new pass rule allowing teams to pass any place behind the line of scrimmage as he thinks this rule will change football quite a lot this year.

50 YEARS AGO — Aug. 1959

The Kansas Crop and Livestock Reporting Service estimates Decatur County's 1959 wheat crop yield at 19 bushels per acre.

Two seven-year-old Oberlin boys found themselves in the same Decatur County Hospital room Monday as the result of falls. Gary Votapka, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Votapka, slipped from the top of the high dive ladder at the Oberlin swimming pool falling to the cement below and Paul Gronewoller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gronewoller, fell from a tree house at the Keith Savage residence, breaking his fall by landing on Bill, who had been standing

on the ground below.

Ray Lohofener left Saturday evening for Madison, Wis., to attend the School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin for two weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Nelson were honored on their 25th wedding anniversary Aug. 17 with a surprise party at the Sappa State Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lohofener and Jerry have moved into their new home recently completed in Olive Township.

Jacqueline Dashney and Arnold Morton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Abbott Morton, Oberlin, were united in marriage Aug. 1 at the Presbyterian Church in Walnut Creek, Calif.

25 YEARS AGO — Aug. 1984

Weather in Northwest Kansas has always been one of extremes. Even this week while farmers in the southwest part of the county reported a drenching rain, those in the Norcatur area said as little as .05 was found in some rain gauges. Mrs. Don Ashley in Prairie Dog Township reported 2.50 inches of rain Monday while Oberlin weather observer Sharon Wilkening reported a 2.06 total for the two-day period.

Selden Garvey elevator Stan Shaw reported that milo in that area is not all headed but is holding up pretty well under the long dry spell.

The Decatur County Historical Society made plans to observe the centennial year of Oberlin in 1885 which will include a tour of the route of the Indian raid to be planned by Dale Fisher and Nadine Simpson.

Seven new faculty members will join the staff at Decatur Community High School: Rick Coons of Callaway, Neb., will be the chemistry and physics instructor; Kenneth Honas, Ellis, instrumental music;

Bob Chaffin, who has been teaching at Jennings, will teach math; Linda Marcuson, of the Lund community, junior high English; Randy Olson, a 1971 DCHS graduate who has taught at Stockton, Herndon and Atwood, junior high science and Terri Woolsey, who has been part-time art teacher at Oberlin Elementary and Norcatur, will now divide her time between the high school and elementary school.

Funeral services were held at Enfield Memorial Chapel for Keith Fortin, 63. Interment was at Cedar Bluffs Cemetery with a military graveside service. He served with the armed forces during World War II and after his discharge he and his wife, the former June Herren, made their home on a farm near Cedar Bluffs.

Lori Jean Rhodes and Ronald Leiker exchanged wedding vows May 18, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Hays.

New Arrivals: Rocky and Theresa Diederich, Danbury, daughter, Kamy Cae, Aug. 1, 1984, John E. and Denise Ritter, daughter, Shelley Ann, Aug. 11, 1984.

Tammy Edwards, who will be the new Decatur County extension home economist, moved to Oberlin last week. She comes from Hamilton, near Emporia, and is a graduate of Kansas State University.

Jennings: Hurd Construction of Goodland began work early this month on a 40x48 addition to the Jennings Bank.

The Rev. and Mrs. Greg Larsen and 11-month-old son, Dane, will be moving to Princeton, Minn., in September where he will become co-pastor of the Immanuel Lutheran Church. Both are natives of Minnesota. He has served as pastor of Faith Lutheran Church since Aug. 1, 1981.

Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, director

The museum is the headquarters for the updating of the 2010 Decatur Community High School Alumni Directory. We are asking that if anyone has additions or corrections to the 2010 directory you contact either Sharleen at the museum at (785) 475-2712 or by email at lirm@sbcglobal.net, or Dick at (785) 475-2242 or by email at alumni.dchs@gmail.com.

The Eighth Annual Commencement of the Oberlin High School was held at the rink Friday evening, May 29, 1896.

Members and history of the Class of 1896:

Gordon Borin: He married

Georgia Connell and they were the parents of two children, Virginia and Bruce. They lived in Denver where he was a salesman.

George Marks: He was married to Pearl Griggs of the class of 1899 and they were the parents of five children, George Charles, Elizabeth, Margaret, Alice and Charlotte. He served in the Spanish-American war in the 22nd Regiment of Kansas Volunteers. They lived in Powell, Wyo., where he was in the mercantile business.

Plans for the 51st Mini Sapa Celebration are underway. Be watching for information in the next several weeks.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

The Jennings ladies will be baking kolaches at Bus and Coach, Inc. on Friday. All interested parties are welcome to participate. The activity will begin at approximately 9 a.m. and continue throughout much of the day. Kolaches will sell for \$1 each or \$11 a dozen. Orders will be reserved by contacting any member of the committee. They will be sold Firemen's Fun Day on Saturday at the Firehouse.

Firemen's Fun Day Cake Walk will be held in the Community Hall starting at 10 a.m. If you would like to make a donation of baked items you may call Mary Wahlmeier at 678-2652 and she will pick it up or you can leave it at the Community Hall Saturday morning before the Cake Walk begins.

The Jennings Historic Building Committee will meet at the Ambulance Barn at 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 24, to accept the \$1,000 matching funds check from the Norcatur Royal Neighbor Lodge. Lora Arnold will present the check, which is in response to funds collected at the Tribute to World War II Veterans dinner and program held in July.

Michelle Zodrow and Austin, Grapevine, Texas; Tamala Schultze, Kansas City, Mo.; Kallista Schultze, Kansas City; and Kolten Schultze, Manhattan; and Tefani Zadeh, Natalia and Dylan, Chicago, visited their parents, Keith and Helen Muirhead this past week.

Todd and Melanie Mathews, Pauls Valley, Okla., are the proud parents of a son, Brendan Edward, born Aug. 7, 2009. He weighed 6 pounds, 4 ounces, and is 18 1/2 inches long. To welcome Brendan home is brother Zackery, 9, and sister Lillian, 2. Grandparents are Sharon Mathews, Red Boiling Springs, Tenn.; Robert Mathews, West Palm Beach, Fla.;

Nancy McCartney, Del City, Okla.; and Mel Rennie III, Wynnewood, Okla. Great-grandparents are Frances Bader, Jennings; Mel Rennie Jr., Wynnewood, Okla.; and George Mathews, Parkland, Fla.

Glenna (Stephenson) Coburn of Quinter and Esther (Stephenson) Weis of Akron, visited Frances Bader on Saturday, Aug. 8. Esther wanted a book of the History of Allison and the Allison Cemetery written by Frances. Their afternoon was spent on past history. They attended the New Almelo bazaar in the evening.

Frances Bader entertained her cousin, Doug Coleman, Washington, Kan., and her sister, Bonnie Urling, McCook, to dinner at the Frontier Cafe in Oberlin last Tuesday.

Nelson Concrete and Construction is working in Jennings this week putting some new curbing and some sidewalk on Kansas Avenue.

Water meters will be read Thursday, Aug. 20. If your meter is inside, please post reading on front door.

The Czech Museum meeting was held Thursday, Aug. 6, at the Royal Neighbor Hall. President Neoma Tacha presided with directors Mike Tacha, Larry Mizer, Lawrence and Lila Jennings, Bob Tacha, and Dean Gawith and guest Brendan Jennings present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved and treasurer's report given. Dalene Gawith gave a report about a computer system for the museum.

Mike Tacha has "burned down" the weeds in the yard. A new storm and screen door have been installed.

Steve Parke of Pueblo, Colo., visited the museum on July 20. He is doing research on Kansas Czech History and Culture. He remarked

he was pleased to see "such a complete old and modern Czech history recorded as well in a museum." He thought that it was a very "dressed up" and contemporarily presentable museum, and he will have no problem presenting some Jennings history as part of the Kansas Czech story he is doing.

We will be getting a copy of this when it is completed. He had visited seven other Kansas Czech communities as well as Big Timber

Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

School has started. Wow! Where did the summer go? But technically we have until Sept. 22, so I'll still enjoy the warm days. The Back-To-School Picnic provided a relaxing evening and much good food. I have been on a dessert kick, and some of those desserts were fantastic. I'm also excited about football season again.

Our next event will be starting with the Homecoming football game on Friday, Sept. 18, with a Tailgate Party right before the game north of the stadium by the swimming pool.

Also, the Highway 36 "Treasure Hunt" will be happening that Friday, also Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 19-20. If you will be having a garage sale that weekend and would like to put your information on a list, I will be making the lists and maps up prior to that time. The charge for that service will be \$5.

Another event going on, but not Chamber-sponsored, is the "Up In Smoke" barbecue contest and meal at Sappa Park on Saturday, Sept. 19. This sounds like a good time and

good food also.

October is coming up fast and it is time to get the Table Tents ready for the last part of the year. I'll need any information you have to me by Friday, Sept. 4, but no later than Friday, Sept. 11. This service is done by the Convention and Visitors Bureau to help promote the tourism for our town. It helps the visitors to know what is going on and keep them in town a little longer.

I would like to keep a list of current presidents of all clubs here in the office. Could I get an officer for each club to call and give me that information, please? I would very much appreciate it.

Our Scooter raffle is still open, and remember, you don't have to be present to win. Just think how much fuel you might save going to work and doing all those errands.

If you would like for me to put anything special in this column that you will be bringing to the Farmers Market each week, I will be happy to list it for you. You can call the Chamber office at 475-3441.

Have a great week!!

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

This is the season for receiving donations of some lovely fruits and vegetables. Tom Votapka brought in a big bag of sweet corn last week. Not only was it delicious, it was great fun to gather a group of residents to shuck the corn. This simple job always brings back lots of good memories of days gone by. We also received a bag of fresh green beans from Roberta Blake. Several of the residents were especially skillful at snapping. The residents send their thanks to everyone who has made a donation.

A group of residents gathered on Monday afternoon for a game of Name-That-Tune. Snacks were served. Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack led the sing-along time before supper on Monday.

Mary Votapka won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon. The blackout game ended in a tie between Alice May and Nadeane Haag.

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

Music by the Beach Boys was playing during the social time on Wednesday afternoon. A cart filled with melons, grapes, and fruit juices traveled from room to room

to share the music and the summer treats. Almost everyone joined in on the fun.

Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson on Wednesday afternoon.

Fr. Mark Berland had services for the Catholic residents on Thursday morning.

Darlene Fisher and Donna Kent won the most nickels at the dice game played on Thursday afternoon. Other players included Dale Butler, Alvina Gamblin, Elsie Goodnight, Ruth Havel, Ira and Mary Kolsky, Joan Noble, Agnes Pruitt, Aleen Van Vleet, Leroy Wessel, and Lyle Gamblin.

There were lots of winners when residents met for an evening of games on Thursday.

The baking group made cookies with butterscotch chips on Friday afternoon.

Recent visitors: Jim and Carolyn Plotts, Norcatur; Carol Kompus, Herndon; Lillian Sulzman, Dresden; Philip, Laura, Abi, and Andrew Sulzman, Louisburg.

Marilyn Gamblin, Mert McEvoy, Max and Veanna Carman, Wendy and Garrett Scott, Eunice Richards, Gene and Helen Gee, Eldon and Opal Huntley, Earl Brown, Mary McEvoy, Oberlin.

Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

Have you ever been lost or homesick? Do you remember the horrible feelings of helplessness and loneliness? When someone new comes to live here, these feelings are very real and common. One lady told me early on, "I feel lost." When a person is lost, they need to be found!

It is our mission here at the Good Sam to provide a "home-like" environment for those who join our family. We want to meet all their needs, physical, emotional and spiritual. We spent much time helping her to find her way around, placed a pretty welcome flag at her door so she could recognize her home, introduced her to others, some she already knew, and some she quickly befriended. But then, we invited her to Bible Study. It was there she began to relax and feel "at home."

As Christians, we belong to a universal family, and when we gather to worship, pray and open God's Word together, we come into His fold and He meets our every need. *Luke 15:4-7*

In Rainy Day Theater, Anita Hirsch changed things a bit. Instead of the usual skit, she had the ladies divide into teams of "Families." They discussed television families, famous families, family holidays, etc. This helped to promote some great discussion and encouraged the ladies to speak out, honing their skills for the next skit. Amy Rehm, Myrtle Ross, Kathryn Post and Jeanette Conway were the first family and the second family was Lora Zwickle, Opal Bryan, Alice Bobbitt and Leone Porsch.

Art class cleared our rotating gallery after Fair entries were chosen, but the walls weren't empty for long. The ladies are proud to display two new projects; beautifully decorated doily fans made by Faye Miller, Alice Bobbitt, Opal Bryan, Myrtle Ross, Evelyn Olson and Amy Rehm.

The other project, Sun Prints, was done some weeks ago. The ladies arranged objects in various designs on photo sensitive paper and then placed them in the direct sun to set their design. They are now properly framed and hanging for all to see. They were made by Lora Zwickle, Dorothy Hunt, Leone Porsch, Myrtle Ross, Amy Rehm, Evelyn Olson, Opal Bryan, Alice Bobbitt and Faye Miller.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

The congregation of the Herndon Covenant Church will meet at 10 a.m. Sunday at the church for morning worship services.

Lacy Walker and infant daughter, Shy Ann, were honored by the young mothers of the Herndon Covenant Church with a baby shower Sunday afternoon at Midwest Energy in Atwood.

Elma Lee Erickson, and Don and

Em Threlkel were among those who attended the baptism for their great-nephews, Cyler and Camden Luck, twin sons of Jessica and Mark Luck, of Hays, on Sunday at the Oberlin United Methodist Church and the family dinner which followed.

Bob and Annette Frenzel, Salina, and Ava Perkins, Wichita, were weekend guests of Bob and Sally Olson.

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