

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Sept. 1884

Twenty-two homestead entries at the Land Office last Friday; beats all former records.

The Atwood Citizen issued two supplements last week to accommodate the rush of legals.

W.F. Wheeler has built a residence on the lot formerly occupied by E.I. Randall's boot and shoe shop just south of the O.K. livery stable.

Married, Sept. 7, 1884, by Rev. J.E. Langley, Mr. Frank A. Douglass and Miss Minnie Ormsby.

FF. Bliss has purchased the barber chair and fixtures of the shop run by George Pomeroy and consolidated the two shops at his old stand.

Geo. A. Metcalf has purchased the building occupied by Mrs. J.B. Hitchcock as a restaurant.

Martin Krack, of near Bassettville, had about 100 pounds tame grapes in town one day last week.

100 YEARS AGO — Sept. 1909

Emma Griffith and Lula Metcalf left for Ottawa where they will attend college this year. Francis B. O'Grady returned to his college work at St. Mary's on Monday evening also.

John Bivans, the butcher, tells us he has the finest bunch of young stock that he has ever killed for his market since has has been in business.

Mrs. L.G. Parker and daughter, Helen, returned last week from their trip to Salt Lake City.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis L. Benton held open house Saturday afternoon and evening displaying their fine new residence to their many friends. The splendid home was greatly admired by those fortunate enough to look it over.

D.E. Logan of Harlan Township was badly injured Tuesday as they came to the old settlers' picnic. Their team ran away when the Metcalf automobile passed them, and Mr. Logan caught his foot in the wheel trying to get out of the buggy to hold the team. His ankle was broken and the joint ligaments badly torn.

The Oberlin ball team was beaten in two ball games at the Norton fair last week. The Saturday game was a hectic affair, going 11 innings before Norton could finally win. O'Toole pitched the game and the Oberlin boys claim they really had the game won at the last of the 10th but the Norton umpire ruled otherwise.

75 YEARS AGO — Sept. 1934

One of the Work Relief projects underway is the improvement of the city park and the appearance of Smick Athletic Field adjoining the park. Near the south side of the park between the tennis courts and picnic grounds will be the children's wading pool and playground apparatus and graveled parking space where parents may watch their children. This will also be near the proposed

band shell, if and when it is built. Plans include a small sunken informal garden and a fish pool with attractive fountain designed with native stone.

The rebuilding, renovating and redecorating operation on the former Episcopal Church building, corner of Griffith Avenue and Maple Street, recently purchased by the Federated congregation is nearing an end. The bell from the Baptist Church was being mounted Wednesday. The former Christian church building has been sold to Jerry Votapka but as yet the Baptist building has not been disposed of. We understand that Mr. Votapka will tear down the Christian Church building and erect a residence on the site.

Many people have expressed a desire to hear Kansas' only Congresswoman, Mrs. Kathryn O'Laughlin McCarthy, and that opportunity has been granted as she will speak in Oberlin at 8 p.m. Sept. 12 as a guest of the Young Democratic League of Decatur County. The open air meeting will be held in front of the courthouse using a public address system if the weather is favorable. Otherwise the meeting will be held in the court room.

The government's cattle buying process continues and the County drouth administrator Emil Petracek is authorized to purchase 900 a week with a total listed for this county as about 7,300 head.

Court House News: Marriage licenses were issued to Lester Phelps, Selden, and Norma Fulton, Dresden; Gerald W. New, and Helen Bell, both of Norcatour.

Herndon: Grant Cox, prominent merchant of Herndon, died suddenly Sunday morning. He had been in the store all day Saturday and was in apparent good health.

Dresden: Roy Bainters brought their son, Gayle, to town Sunday evening to be ready for high school Monday. Gayle will stay with his uncle, D.C. Bainter and family.

Miss Alice Ehler of Dresden, was an Oberlin visitor Friday. Miss Ehler has just returned from a six-week bus tour of the East which included the White House and the World's Fair at Chicago. She will resume her instruction at the Deshler, Nebraska high school this fall.

Jennings: Raymond Davitt, the acting postmaster, took over the office last week.

Kanona: Mr. and Mrs. Walter Vernon are the proud parents of a handsome baby boy born Saturday, Sept. 1, at the Norton Hospital.

50 YEARS AGO — Sept. 1959

Six teachers will begin their first year at Decatur Community High School: Don Guinn, vocational ag; Miss Elizabeth Sneath, commerce; James Haney, vocal music; Robert Friend, English; Mrs. Lucy Grey, Latin and library, and Daryl Parker, American history, world history and

basketball coach.

Hunting season on pheasants will last 20 days this fall with a daily bag limit of 4 cocks and possession limit of 8.

Virgil McKinzie will be the football coach at Hill City High School this year.

Mr. and Mrs. John Forsberg have been here the past two weeks and plan to remain until Sept. 1. They are remodeling the W.T. Stevenson home which they purchased a year ago.

Building permits were issued to Dale Young to build a brick veneer home at 307 N. York for Gus Lippmann Jr., and to Edgar Simonson to build a frame home with brick trim at 709 W. Cedar for Albert Marcuson.

25 YEARS AGO — Sept. 1984

The Bill Kaempfe home some four miles south of Oberlin was totally demolished by fire on Labor Day evening. The family had been working during the afternoon to clean out a windbreak north of the house and hauling the debris to an old silo where it was being burned under supervision but apparently sparks had been blown into a grassy area when the wind shifted. The Kaempfe's sons, Darren, a senior, and Brent, a junior were at football practice at the time of the fire. Another son, Robbie, graduated from DCHS last year.

Bill Kincaid, county road engineer, submitted his resignation effective Jan. 1, 1985, to the Decatur County commissioners. Kincaid

Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, director

Thursday, May 26, 1898, the Tenth Annual Commencement of the Oberlin High School was held in the rink. On account of the rainy weather there was not as large a turnout as there would have been if the weather had been more favorable. The stage was decorated with the class colors, flowers and portieres.

Members and history of the Class of 1898:

Gladys Ackley: She married William F. McCue and they were the parents of one daughter, Anna Mae. They lived in Denver and then moved to Norton where she was engaged in the ready-to-wear clothing store.

Ed Branstool: Herman Edward never married. In 1900 he engaged in the mining business and became an expert operator of a diamond drill, which took him to many different localities and to British Columbia and Alaska. After retirement he ran a filling station in Los Angeles with his brother Clarence. He died March 6, 1924, from kidney trouble and complications. He is buried in Oberlin beside his parents and a sister.

began work for the county in the Jennings area in September of 1951 and was appointed acting engineer on Jan. 1, 1964

Funeral services were held for a Custer Township farmer, Don Ehler, 57, who died in a one-vehicle accident north of Dresden. The son of Chris and Mabel (Litton) Ehler, he attended Dresden Grade School and graduated from DCHS in 1946. Burial was in Dresden Cemetery.

Hospital News: Connie and Ron Tripe, Norcatour, daughter, Alicia Marie, Aug. 29, 1984; Janet and Ken Badsy, Oberlin, son, Kenyon Levi, Sept. 1; Cindy and Mike McDaniell, Oberlin, daughter, Sept. 3.

The historic building on the northwest corner of Penn Avenue and Hall Street is undergoing a facelift by workers from The Wood Shed. Several years ago the 98-year-old structure was listed as one of 10 historical sites in Kansas by Charles L. Hall, Department of Architecture of Kansas State University.

The Kansas Army National Guard has appointed Lt. Col. Gary L. Allen, 48, of Topeka as a new Battalion Commander of the 287th Maintenance Battalion located at Norton. Lt. Col. Allen was born on a farm seven miles east of Oberlin and currently resides in Topeka with his wife, the former Carolyn Chambers of Norcatour.

Family members who attended the wedding of Rod Betts and Lisa Kay in San Diego over the Labor Day weekend were Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Betts, Mrs. Jessie Bremer and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Lohofener.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

Sympathy is extended to the family of Arlo Wurm who passed away on Saturday, Aug. 29.

Residents enjoyed a box of Colorado peaches donated by Richard and Bernadine Samson.

There were several winners at the dice game played on Monday afternoon.

Those joining in on the fun included Dale Butler, Darlene Fisher, Alvina Gamblin, Elsie Goodnight, Ruth Havel, Joan Noble, Agnes Pruitt, Aleen Van Vleet, Mary Votapka and Leroy Wessel.

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

Agnes Pruitt won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Darlene Fisher won the blackout game.

Gabe Moore played a variety of music on the Clavinova before supper on Tuesday. Gabe returned to Lindsborg on Wednesday where he is a music education major at Bethany College.

Everyone had a great time on Wednesday afternoon at an auction held in the Cedar Living Center dining room. Residents earned points by attending activities, volunteering for small chores, and participating in special events during the previous week. These points were turned into pseudo dollars that could be used for bidding on items at the auction. The auction items were donated by staff and friends and included stuffed animals, toiletries, playing cards, word search puzzles, and snack items. Lynn Johnson served as the

auctioneer and the bidding was fierce at times. A few of the residents were no strangers to attending auctions with Lynn. Some went home with lots of loot.

Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson on Wednesday afternoon.

Penny cards were on the agenda for Thursday afternoon. Peaches were served after the game.

A dance was held in the Cedar Living Center dining room on Thursday evening. Vic Mowry of Hoxie, and his band provided the music. Residents, guests, and staff kept the dance floor warm. Cookies and lemonade were served during the intermission.

The baking group made chocolate chip cookies on Friday afternoon.

Recent Visitors: Linda Bosler, Julie Hafner, Carol Kompus, Herndon; Jan Sattler, Atwood; Lad and Lori Truetken, Selden; Lillian Sulzman, Dresden; Harold Sulzman, Susan Orr, Colby; Alysha Tadlock, Goodland; The Sumner Family, Norcatour; Joyce Rice, North Carolina; Gene and Lil Van Vleet, San Diego; Patsy Marintzer and Phil Timm, Idalia, Colo.; Susanne Manley, Shawnee, Okla.

Connie Miller, Eunice Richards, Kaylene Thomas, Wayne Larson, Henry Edgett, Marion Wenger, Nora Bell Manning, Bertha Schwisow, Delores Koepferich, Marguerite Bailey, Opal Huntely, Ila Ray, Jeanette Sulzman, Connie Olson, Lyle Gamblin, Roland May Family, Oberlin.

Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. John 10:10b

It has been a little more than two years ago, that we first opened the Garden Of Hope, a dementia day room specifically designed to meet the needs of residents with various forms of dementia. The room is bright and cheery with it's own patio and courtyard. Consistent caregivers, Frannie Nothdurft and Vi Krizek contribute their own unique style and gifts to bring peace, pleasure and purpose to the residents who spend the majority of their time here. Other staff that help out regularly are Melissa Chambers, Judy Jordan, Jori Diederich, Sara Kyte and Joey Hirsch.

Before the Garden of Hope opened, these residents spent much of their time alone in their rooms with only brief one-to-one visits from activity staff and visitors. Now their days are filled with music, Bible readings, games, videos, small "jobs," enjoying the outdoors and stories. It is an environment that provides "quiet commotion" geared to meet the interests and abilities of those who spend time here. Nadine Anderson, Bonnie Weskamp, Leo Mooty and Eleanor Demmer spend the majority of their days here while others who drop in regularly are Elden Long, Dorothy Hunt, Elsie Macy as well as our day residents, Paul Meisner and Olive Arnold.

Myrna Jones came Monday to play for our Ol' Time Music. What a joy and delight to have her tickle the keys for a full house.

Rainy Day Theater is growing in

popularity. The Quiet Room was filled this week with Leone Porsch, Jeanette Conway, Evelyn Olson, Lora Zwickle, Edla Olson, Elden Long, Faye Miller, Paul Meisner, Shirley Hayward Ross, Opal Bryan and Alice Bobbitt combined their reading the scripts with some fun improv acting and a great discussion followed.

Lunch Bunch headed to the Reload for Taco Tuesday. Kathryn Post, Edla Olson, Emma Sanford, Leone Porsch, Opal Bryan, Evelyn Olson, Faye Miller, Amy Rehm and Shirley Hayward all ventured South of the border for a spicy treat.

The resident initiated Thursday evening Prayer Team consisting of Edla Olson, Amy Rehm, Opal Bryan, Evelyn Olson, Alice Bobbitt, Shirley Hayward and Leone Porsch met to lift up prayer concerns. If you have a need you would like them to pray for call Lisa or Montine.

Friday night, Pooch Portchy, Lora Zwickle, Lucy Schissler and R.D. Thornton joined volunteer, Larry Mack for PIZZA and POKER!

Visitors this week were Reva Marshall, Mildred Black and Ron Snyder (Colby) for **Dorothy Hunt**. Alberta Ritter and Pat and Clem Mumm (Colby) for **Hubert Mumm**. Esther Ready (NYC, NY) and Gail and Kay Marcuson for **John Ready**. Sharon Slabaugh for **Opal Bryan**. Dean and Eloise Thornton (McCook) for **R.D. Thornton**. Betty Heisel and Shelby Hackney for **Ethel Nemeth**. Edie Tate and Gail and Kay Marcuson for **Lois Carlson**. Rhonda Wildeman (Jennings) for **Emma Sanford**.

Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

Kevin and Megan Rippe and family have moved from Oberlin last week and are now making their home southwest of Herndon on the farm originally owned by Jerry and Jo Harris. We're happy to have your family closer. Welcome Rippe's!

Thanks to the men who volunteered their help at the St. Mary's parish workday, Saturday, Aug. 29. Old trees and sidewalks were removed. Special thanks to Sam Solko for the use of the backhoe, making hard work a bit easier.

Bob and Julie Hafner joined friends, Karl and Beulah Tiede from Overton, Neb., in McCook Tuesday evening for dinner. The Tiede's were traveling home from a trip to Colorado. Friday evening the Hafner's met Jason Hafner and Raquel Frerichs Lexington, Neb., in Cambridge. Jason was delivering the Colorado peaches that the Lion's club sold as part of their fund-raising.

The Hot Tomatoes Orchestra, Denver, provided an evening of dancing and memories for those attending the ballroom dance at the Skyline in Atwood Saturday evening. Many in the area attended and commented on this wonderful event.

Trevor and Jackie Frick, Denver, spent the weekend with Laverne and Sharon Frick. They came to attend the wedding Saturday of Lindsey Dame and Kyle Frick in McCook. Kyle and Ashlie Frick traveled home to Seattle on Monday after spending the summer in Herndon and McCook.

Late afternoon visitors Saturday of Tony, Bev Kleidosty, Riverdale, Neb., and Nichols of Elm Creek, Neb., at their Herndon home were Del, Ken, Alan and Sam Solko.

St. Mary's Catholic Youth Organization hosted a Back-to-School breakfast for the community on Sunday morning. A nice crowd attended the breakfast that consisted of breakfast burritos, fruit, coffee and juice. A silent auction of several nice items was held also. The CYO wishes to thank everyone for their generosity at the breakfast, silent auction and pampered chef sales. The CYO group is raising money for six members and two sponsors to attend the National Catholic Youth Convention in Kansas City in November 2009.

Voni Sattler visited her nephew on Thursday at the McCook hospital where he had surgery.

Mabel Cecilia Steinert, known as Sister Venard Venus, passed away August 26, 2009 in Concordia. Mabel was born February 13, 1910, to parents, John Wesley and Johanna Elizabeth on a farm south of Gorham, Kan., and entered Marymount College to become a Sister of St. Joseph on Sept. 7, 1930. Sister Venard's first mission was in Herndon, where she taught music, 6th and 8th grades as she coped with the dust storms. People had beautiful memories of Sister. Her last mission was in Oakley, where the mayor proclaimed May 3, 1991, as Sr. Venard Venus Day. Sister Venard was a great-aunt to Megan Steinert Rippe.

Julie is celebrating her one-year anniversary as Herndon correspondent. Thank you to all who contribute to the weekly news. Call 785-322-5219 or e-mail kompugal@yahoo.com for events and happenings that are enjoyed by readers around the country.

Wednesday, Voni Sattler, Deanna and Chelsey Williams, Amy and Piper spent the day in Hays. They met Allen, Patti, Breanna, Britani and Nicholas Park and Alex Johnson for dinner at Applebee's. All enjoyed some shopping after dinner.

Julie's Memory Joggers
Herndon, Kansas, October 12, 1945

Dear Aunt Lena,
How are all of you? How are

Helen and the children? We are all well and working hard as ever. Is Uncle Joe (Kompus) still working? Did Bill get to come home yet?

Elizabeth had a letter from Ralph (Wolfram) and he is on a ship coming home. He will get to Washington the 17th or 18th of October. So, if he don't get a leave, she will go to Washington to be with him.

Clarence Solko is coming home from Europe to this month. And Emery will get out sometime in November. The wheat is up nice now. I am sending you the check for the cream stubs that you left with us. Dad is here painting the hen house.

With love, Luella and family (Mrs. Herman Solko) Herndon, Kan.

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Kelly Olson, having recently graduated from Kansas State University with honors, is teaching freshman Geometry and Algebra at the Junction City High School and is residing in Manhattan.

Elaine Samuelson, Denver, was a Wednesday - Friday guest at the home of Ralph and Violet Shaw.

Hannah and Zach May attended a Northwest Kansas Youth Leadership Forum at the Hays Research and Extension Center on Saturday. Hannah is in the eighth grade and Zach is a freshman at Decatur Community Junior/Senior High

School.

The Jay Tate family returned home early Sunday evening after enjoying a relaxing weekend at Johnson Lake near Lexington, Neb.

Stean Olson, Hays, was a weekend guest at the Gerald Olson home.



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