

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — March 1885

It has been reported that the new town of De la Plain is booming. Farmers got to work in earnest this week and are making the sod fly in all parts of the county.

An extensive prairie fire was visible in the southeast Sunday.

Wilson & Tacha expect to be located in their new quarters next to the U.S. Land Office by next week.

The upper story of the addition to Fitz Colby's livery stable is being utilized as a skating rink.

From the county clerk's office we learn that from the first day of March 1884 until the first day of March 1885, 391 claims have been proved upon and placed upon the tax rolls of Decatur County.

The crowd that besieged the doors of the U.S. land office Saturday morning, prior to office hours, was a reminder of old times.

100 YEARS AGO — March 1910

The first four days of March could hardly be beaten for warm spring-like weather.

Ray Holsinger of Norton took out license Saturday to wed Eva May Ward of that city.

M.G. Raymond, son of our county clerk, returned home from Salina last Saturday where he had received a diploma from the business college of that city.

Norcatut Items:
C.R. Moore has purchased the Star Livery barn, so now he is the owner of both barns.

Wes Chappel is putting the finishing work on Frank Shirley's new residence this week and will then begin on O.G. Bells.

Albert B. Ayers and Ella S. Voorhees were married by probate judge Macfee at his office Wednesday.

Kanona Items:
Mr. Nichols of Oberlin has made a deal for Lanning's store and will take charge at once.

Albert Janosheks have moved on Stinson's farm northeast of Kanona.

75 YEARS AGO — March 1935

The Decatur County commissioners adopted a resolution that township trustees inform the owners or the occupants of any land where any soil is blowing that necessary steps must be taken to prevent drifting.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bowen are constructing a new gas service station on the southwest corner of the intersections of U.S. Highways 183 and 36.

The state appropriations bill included money for building a state tuberculosis sanatorium at Norton. Zimmerman Brothers have installed a refrigerated showcase for the display and storage of meat.

Lyle: Word came recently of the death of J.A. Brothers who was an early day settler of this community having come long before the Indian raid and the grasshopper invasion. He was the postmaster and proprietor of the Lyle store for many years. He moved to Farmington, N.M., in 1900 where Mrs. Brothers and two

sons, Frank and Charley still live. Sixty men have found work on the construction of Highway 183 according to Francis Barkley, state engineer in charge of the project.

The Topeka Capitol carried a story telling of a birthday party in Chicago for Mrs. Esther Beers who was 105 years old. Mrs. Beers is the grandmother of Mrs. H.J. Morrison of Oberlin.

Mr. and Mrs. C.C. Andrews celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at Norcatut with a dinner for relatives. They were married March 4, 1885, in a sod church at Lyle and their first home was a dugout on the Andrews homestead. In 1887 Andrews assisted his father in building the first frame house in Decatur County, hauling the lumber from Kearney Junction, Neb., more than 100 miles.

50 YEARS AGO — March 1960

The Decatur County Hospital board of trustees has announced that four nurse's training scholarships will be granted annually from any high school in Decatur County as well as Herndon, Rexford and Selden. The scholarships are for three-year nurse's training courses in the amount of \$800. Recipients must agree to return to Oberlin and serve one year at the Decatur County Hospital. If the local hospital has no staff position open, recipients must agree to offer their services to the hospitals at Atwood, Colby, Goodland, Hoxie, Norton or Oakley. Funds for the scholarships have been set aside from the legacy of George M. Robb.

Karen Anderson, state president of the future Homemakers of America will preside over the state convention in Topeka's Municipal Auditorium Friday and Saturday. The Topeka Daily Capital claims it will be "Kansas' Biggest Tea Party," to be attended by some 2,000 girls. On Saturday afternoon the girls will be favored with a tea at the Governor's mansion.

Mrs. Ernest Nemeth will replace Mrs. John Guy as Decatur Community High School secretary. Mrs. Guy resigned recently. Funeral services were held for Arthur Peters, 57, well-known Oberlin businessman who died of a heart attack. He was associated with Sinclair Oil for 25 years and became the bulk agent after the death of L.R. McGee in 1952.

A card from Jay Paddock mailed from Buenos Aires, informs the Herald that he and Mrs. Paddock were in the Argentine capitol when President Eisenhower visited that city. The Oberlinites spent the day of Feb. 28 visiting at the O'Grady ranch. The O'Grady family formerly lived here, the late John P. O'Grady having been cashier of the Farmers National Bank many years ago.

Members of the Philosophian Club celebrated the organization's 40th anniversary March 1 at the home of Mrs. Ben Miller with Mrs. Louis Moberly, Mrs. Gary Torluemke and Mrs. Gaylord Shields as assisting hostesses. Mrs. Francis Winkler traced the development of the club from 1929 when Mrs.

Mike Roach was president to the present. Dresses and hats worn by members in the club's early days were modeled during the style show. Corsages were presented to the four charter members, Mrs. Roach, Mrs. Maddox, Mrs. Henry Beardsley and Mrs. Rell Landau.

Mrs. Arris Johnson has been hired for next school year to assume the teaching responsibilities at Oberlin Elementary School of Mrs. Sidney Morrish who has resigned to accept a position in the Albuquerque, N.M., schools.

25 YEARS AGO — March 1985

Members of the Centennial Committee selected Howard Banta to be the Centennial Marshal and Mable Allen to be the First Lady for all Centennial activities during the year.

Speaker of the Kansas State House of Representatives Mike Hayden visited Oberlin Saturday to meet with constituents of the 120th District. Hayden said new leadership in the Senate chamber has brought good cooperation between both bodies. Hayden told the group that he still opposes the multi-bank holding company idea and said his concerns come from his rural constituency and heavy ag lending. Office space in the Southwest-

ern Bell business location on East Hall will be back in business next week when Richard Schumaker, 28, Hays, assumes the position of customer services supervisor for the area from St. Francis to Norton and south to Hoxie.

Gladys and Elden Haas have finalized the purchase of the Frontier Restaurant from Paige Dutt located on Highway 36 in Oberlin.

Scott Goltl, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lairy Goltl, has received a regents scholarship for eight semesters to attend Concordia College, Seward, Neb. He plans to take a pre-ministerial course of study.

New Arrival: Mr. and Mrs. Tim Wolters, a daughter, April Ann, March 11, 1985 at Rawlins County Hospital.

Clarence and Karen Fisher have returned from a vacation trip to Denmark where they visited relatives of Mrs. Fisher and her late father, Tony Nielsen.

Skeptics predicted that the 23-0 Rexford Golden Plains cage squad was due for an upset, but Coach Jerry Livingston and his team silenced the critics by taking the title. Golden Plains won the boys' Class 1-A state basketball championship game against Pretty Prairie 45-42 and is the only boys team in the State of Kansas to remain undefeated.

Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

As most of you know, the Oberlin Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) helps promote tourism to Oberlin by sponsoring the Table Tents that are out around town for each quarter of the year, and I get the lucky job of putting the information together and getting it printed. The second quarter is coming up and I need dates and times for events that are happening in April, May and June. I will be sending the information to the printer on Friday, March 12. I have a lot of events already, but I'm sure there are some I don't know about. If there is something of interest to travelers, please let me know about them.

Do you have your census filled out yet? I used to wonder how important this really was, and I was sort of a private person that didn't see the need of giving any information where it wasn't needed. But, I do believe the numbers do help our small rural communities in many funding services that come back to our community, such as School Lunch and Breakfast Programs, Supplemental Nutrition Programs, Adult Education, School Renovation Grants, Grants for infants and families with Disabilities, Special Education to all ages where needed, Title I Grants to local educational agencies, Vocational education, Head Start, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, plus many more that our county relies on.

I know sometimes we wonder if our money is being spent wisely, but if you know of someone who needs a bit of financial help from a government program, wouldn't you want to help make that hap-

pen? For each person that doesn't count themselves, the county loses over \$1,200 in total government assistance. Now, I know you are thinking there are some that get it that don't need it, and yes, there are flaws in the system, but I think of the elderly and the young children with problems that could use every penny we can get back from our tax dollars. So please think about it and do your part by filling out those 10 simple questions.

The deadline to use your Santa Dollars will be March 31st, and is coming up soon. There are still some out there not used yet, so dig in your pocket or purse and see where you might have stashed them. My business of the week is Cabin Antiques, which is owned and operated by Marlin Bowen. He started his business in 1983 in an antique mall in South Dakota. Seven years ago in July, he moved his business to Oberlin. He specializes in primitives and has a wide variety of furniture, glassware, and Red Wing crocks among many, many other items on his three floors.

I took a browse and saw a very unique spice cabinet in his front window, salt and pepper set collection, 100 plus cookie jar collection, a beautiful punch bowl with cups setting on a 26" base, old cookbooks, teapots, embroidered tea towel sets and pillowcases, and lots of unique dishes and other items. I also found an old type screen door that I was wanting for my back door if it will fit. So, go say hello to Marlin and take a browse.

Have a great week.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

Joan Noble was the guest of honor at a birthday party held in the Cedar Living Center dining room on Monday afternoon. The party was hosted by Mrs. Nobles' nieces, Julie Hafner and Jan Sattler. They served brownies, cheese and crackers, and assorted snacks to residents, staff and guests. The dining room was decorated with balloons.

Wilma May won the first Bingo on Tuesday afternoon and the blackout game was won by Wilma Lasalle.

A group of residents met on Wednesday afternoon to watch the movie "Homeward Bound." There was plenty of fresh popcorn to snack on.

Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson on Wednesday afternoon.

Fr. Mark Berland brought communion for the Catholic residents on Thursday morning.

There were lots of winners at the dice game played on Thursday afternoon. Those joining in on the fun included Dale Butler, Darlene Fisher, Irene Fringer, Elsie Goodnight, Donna Kent, Ira and Mary Kolsky, Edna Mott, Joan Noble, Agnes Pruitt, Aleen VanVleet, Mary Votapka and Delores Wheeler. Several residents also met for a game night on Thursday after supper.

Residents and staff enjoyed an extra special program on Friday morning when the Wichita Children's Theater presented "Little Red Riding Hood" in the CLC dining

room. A few quick improvisations were made when the eight foot tall props did not fit in our dining room, but other than that the program went off without a hitch. Everyone really enjoyed the show and we are grateful to the theater group as well as to Mary Henzel, Ella Betts, and all of the others involved with the Arts and Humanities Commission.

The baking group made chocolate chip cookies on Friday afternoon. As always, the cookies were served warm from the oven. Guests might want to remember 3 p.m. on Friday is a wonderful time to visit at Cedar Living Center.

The Royal Neighbors met for their monthly meeting Friday afternoon on the CLC patio.

Gary and Janelle Walter helped Marian Miller celebrate her birthday on Sunday.

Recent Visitors: Jan Sattler, Atwood; Gene Kleidosty, Bob and Julie Hafner, Pete and Eileen Portschy, Linda Bosler, Herndon; Sylvester Ritter, Dresden Lillian Sulzman, Dresden; Ernie and Betty Jean Wicke, Ludell; Jason Hafner, Raquel Frerichs, Lexington, Neb.; Gregg Sayer, Cambridge, Neb.; Marj Law, Lakewood, Colo.

Lois Lamb, Opal Huntley, Lyle Gamblin, Gladys Geis, Phyllis Screen, Dolores Koerperich, Max and Veanna Carman, Nadean Stoney, Mirium Fisher, Sarah and Gary Fredrickson, Oberlin.

Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. (II Timothy 4:7)

The majority of residents who live here are believers in Jesus who, even in their advanced years are still active in their pursuit of learning about Him and seeking ways to serve Him on a daily basis.

This is evidenced by the number of people who attend Devotions every morning (average 15-20), Bible Study twice a week (average 18), Songs of Worship on Wednesdays (25) and church services on Sundays. You can see them helping one another: Shirley Hayward, Faye Miller and Opal Bryan pushing friends in wheelchairs to meals and activities. Alice Bobbitt sits with Emma Sanford to keep her company. Dorothy Pryor and Myrtle Ross spend hours visiting. Amy Rehm writes notes of encouragement and thanks to staff members. Edla Olson shares her gift of music and humor as well as interesting books and articles she finds. In this season of life they have new trials to face. Health problems, loneliness and depression are common, but these people keep fighting the good fight, determined to finish well by keeping their faith. They are an inspiration!

In January a new activity program was introduced called the Welcome Mat Ministry. This is intended to keep the residents in touch with their home churches and to do outreach projects for the community. Much of what happens is initiated by the residents themselves. So far the ladies have started a Thursday evening prayer group led by Amy Rehm. A choir performed Friday night for our family potluck, directed by Edla Olson. Choir members were Amy Rehm, Opal Bryan, Alice Bobbitt, Dorothy Pryor, Violet Schissler and Glenn Martin's wife Eunice. Candy-coated pretzels were made for the kids attending Pioneer Club by Emma Sanford, Doris Marintzer and Faye Miller.

The residents would like to thank all of you for your generous support of our Cold Hands, Warm Hearts clothing drive. On Tuesday, Evelyn Olson, Faye Miller, Shirley Hayward, Olive Arnold and Alice Bobbitt helped sort the coats, hats, gloves, scarves socks and long underwear that were donated to help the Decatur County Ministerial Association with their Transient Ministry. We have been overwhelmed with the amount of items we received, so we are gratefully and officially ending the drive

this Friday, March 12. The Lyle Gals, Margaret "Toots" Magers and Kathy VanMeter were here on Monday bringing with them homemade goodies, laughs and pinochle! Evelyn Olson, Leone Porsch, Myrtle Waldo, Lucy Schissler, Pooch Portschy and Opal Bryan all played.

Another game played was Shake Loose a Memory Olympics, with Olive Arnold taking the Gold, Amy Rehm took home the Silver and Alice Bobbitt got the Bronze.

Our thanks also goes to Ella Betts and Mary Henzel for arranging for the Wichita Children's Theater to come perform "Little Red Riding Hood" for us. It was delightful! Several staff members brought their kids to watch the production with the residents adding to the fun.

Rain didn't stop families from joining us for our spring family potluck on Friday night. This is a quarterly event to bring everyone together for good food and great fellowship! Speaking of that, you won't want to miss the First Annual Good Sam Hoe-Down and Auction to be held at the Legion. Dinner, dancing, auction and pictures are on the agenda for a great time in Oberlin. Tickets are \$25 for dinner and dance, or \$5 for just the dance and auction. Call Montine or Cindy for tickets at 475-2245.

Visitors were Ron Snyder (Colby), Penny Fringer and Reva Marshall for **Dorothy Hunt**. Susan and Erin May for **Walter and Betty May**. Edie Tate and Gladys Geis for **Lois Carlson**. Gerald Olson for **Evelyn Olson**. Shirley Williams (Atwood) for **Hattie Toth**. Ralph and Norma Unger for **Leo Mooty**, **Lucy Schissler**, **Earl Brown** and **Walter and Betty May**. Ann Williams and Connie Simonsson for **Amy Rehm**. Max and Veanna Carman for **Myrtle Waldo**. Marvin and Sharon Slabaugh for **Opal Bryan**. Mert McEvoy, Sally Olson (Atwood), Ellen Dewey (McDonald) and Laura Craig (Almena) for **Lucy Schissler**. Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem) for **Doris Marintzer** and **Hubert Mumm**. Jody Betts for **Eva Bryan**, **Edla Olson** and **Myrtle Waldo**. Stan and Becky Faiver (Stratton, Neb.) for **Doris Marintzer**. Detta Anderson for **Eva** and **Opal Bryan**. Pete and Eileen Portschy, Chris Wood, Cheri Kastens (Herndon) for **Pooch Portschy**, **Loren Escher**, **Hubert Mumm** and **Helen Marintzer**. Clem and Ken Mumm (Selden/Colby) for **Hubert Mumm**.

Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

The Herndon community extends sympathy to the family of Laurence L. Escher, formerly of Herndon, who died Thursday, March 4, 2010, in Oberlin. Rosary was held Monday evening at 7 p.m. and Mass was celebrated at St. Mary's Catholic Church with burial at St. Mary's cemetery on Tuesday. He was born March 29, 1922, to Louis and Rosa (Barenberg) Escher and graduated from Herndon High School in 1940.

Stations of the Cross were conducted by the Christian Mothers Altar Society following Mass on Sunday at St. Mary's. Rachele Solko was Reader; Sharon Ecker, Cross-bearer and Jean Kogl, Candle-bearer.

Tick-Tock, Tick-Tock, Set Your Clock! Set your clocks ahead Sunday, March 14, at 2 a.m. for the official beginning of Daylight Savings Time, always on the second Sunday of March.

Roseanna Stoney attended the surprise 65th birthday pizza party for Tom Brown, Ludell, at Roger's Grill in Herndon Saturday evening. Family and friends joined in the celebrating, wishing Tom many more happy years.

Danny Marintzer of Omaha, Neb., visited Kent and Chris Wood recently, while spending time with

his mother, Helen Marintzer, at the Good Samaritan in Oberlin.

Check out the website! Thought you might like to know the Linguistic Atlas of Kansas German dialects has a website dedicated to the collection and digital preservation of recordings of Kansas German dialects. Professors William Keel and Chris Johnson, University of Kansas, are the principal contributors and have been adding "features" to it. They will be adding a couple of Rawlins County recordings taken last April. Check it out and click around on http://www2.ku.edu/~germanic/LAKGD/Atlas_Intro.shtml to listen to some sample recordings. Thank you Gabi!

Come join in the fun with a St. Patrick's Day breakfast and silent auction of the Catholic Youth Organization students following the 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mary's on Sunday, March 14. Pancakes, sausage and eggs, coffee and juice will be served until 11 a.m.

Marlene Wolfram of McCook and Jerry Wolfram, Herndon attended the ceremony of their son, Jeremy Wolfram, from the Airport Safety Officer Fire Department Graduation in Wichita. A reception followed the graduation on Friday, Feb. 26. Congratulations Jeremy!

Chris Wood cheered up all the

Herndon residents this past week at Cedar Living Center and Good Samaritan in Oberlin.

Jason Hafner and Raquel Frerichs of Lexington, Neb., spent a couple of days with Bob and Julie Hafner celebrating Raquel's birthday on March 4. They enjoyed home-baked cookies with aunts, Edie Pettera and Joan Noble on Friday afternoon that the residents at Cedar Living

stirred up.

Don and Joan Grafel, and Kyle Grafel, all of Herndon; Kent Grafel, and Wayne and Betty Grafel, all of Culbertson, and Kathryn Sousek of Omaha, Neb., attended the funeral service of Leland Imig in Seward, Neb., on Tuesday, March 2. Leon and Marita Portschy visited with Leland's family in Seward on Monday, March 1.

Rexford News

By Vicki Allison

"Stitch and Chatter" will be a new activity at the Red Barn and is scheduled to start Friday, March 19. Berneda Zoberst has volunteered to be in charge of this quilting activity.

To get started, a small quilting project will be provided, unless another project is of interest or maybe just enjoying the fellowship is what you are seeking.

Cleda Moeder and Buck Harper were in Salina Feb. 26 and 27 to watch Cleda's grandson, Taylor Moeder, wrestle in the State Tournament. He took first in the 130 pound weight class.

I would like to share some of Golden Plains School accomplish-

ments during the 2009-2010 school year: Middle School Volleyball - undefeated League Champs; Middle School Ladies Basketball 14-1 - League Champs; High School Football - Undefeated League Champs and District Champs; High School Scholars Bowl - League Runners-up, Regional Champs, State third; Physics Students - first place at Fort Hays State University Physics Club sponsored Physics Bowl.

Happy Birthday wishes to Janette Dible, March 6; Morgan Wark, March 8; Dave Williams, March 27.

Until next time, make your week memorable.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Helen Broadbrooks, Lexington, Okla., is visiting several days with her mother, Ruth Chance.

Janeil Dilling, Goodland, visited her mother, Imogene Keenan, over the weekend.

Bible Study at the United Methodist Church was held at 7 p.m. Sunday evening led by the Rev. Barbara Patterson. The study of the book, "Secrets of the Vine" with a video is shown each time. Those attending Sunday evening were Ken and Julie Carter, Paul and

Kathy Nauer, Violet Krizek, Rachel Carter, Alice and Larry Mizer, Kay and Doyle Brown, Darlene LaRue, Helen Rhodes, the Rev. Glen Patterson and Louise Cressler.

Carter, the infant son of Colin and Lindsay Bailey of Norton is still a patient at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney, Neb. Prayers are being asked for him and his family. Carter is a grandson of Mike and Vicki Bailey.

Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night.