

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — June 1885

Rain in abundance. Penn Avenue was open to navigation the first of the week.

The G.A.R. post observed Decoration Day on Saturday, May 30, when members of the Grand Army and other old soldiers met at Allen's Hall at 2 o'clock and marched to the cemetery and decorated the graves of Ed. Knowles, W.A. Colvin, Andy Russell and F.M. Abernathy; the latter was killed in the Indian Raid of 1878.

Three 4-horse hacks and two 2-horse hacks run between McCook and Oberlin regularly, besides a half dozen other vehicles that run periodically for the accommodation of travelers.

Large crowds daily besiege the U.S. Land Office.

100 YEARS AGO - June 1910

Misses Martha and Muriel Douglas will leave Friday on a summer's visit to California.

Vollie Griffith has fixed a fine croquet ground on the back part of this lots.

Swede Home: Albert Marcuson and Walter Alstrom shot a wild falcon Friday.

Jennings Items: Jesse Carter got his buggy smashed up while in the Decoration Day procession Monday.

The consecration of Oberlin Trinity Church took place on Trinity Sunday, May 22, 1910. The solemn ceremony was performed by Right Reverend Sheldon M. Griswold, Bishop of Salina, assisted by the Venerable Archdeacon Wilcox and Rev. Richard Cox. The cornerstone of the building was laid by the Masons June 1, 1909, and the building completed in October at a cost of over \$4,000; the furniture is worth another \$1,000 and the lots \$2,000. The church proper is a freewill offering of Walter A. Smith, as a memorial to his mother, Charlotte Aston Smith.

Swede Home: Albert Marcuson and Walter Alstrom shot a wild falcon Friday.

Jennings Items: Jesse Carter got his buggy smashed up while in the Decoration Day procession Monday.

The consecration of Oberlin Trinity Church took place on Trinity Sunday, May 22, 1910. The solemn ceremony was performed by Right Reverend Sheldon M. Griswold, Bishop of Salina, assisted by the Venerable Archdeacon Wilcox and Rev. Richard Cox. The cornerstone of the building was laid by the Masons June 1, 1909, and the building completed in October at a cost of over \$4,000; the furniture is worth another \$1,000 and the lots \$2,000. The church proper is a freewill offering of Walter A. Smith, as a memorial to his mother, Charlotte Aston Smith.

75 YEARS AGO — June 1935

Total population of Decatur County as tabulated by the assessors this spring is 8,563; others are City of Oberlin, 1,874; Dresden, 178; Jennings, 306; Norcatur, 471.

The planting of corn since the rains is in full swing now since as it is already a little late.

Court House News: Recent marriage licenses issued: Evald J. Wurm and Miss Iris Fournier, and Harold Hamilton and Caroline Williams, all of Oberlin; Frank Juenemann, Selden, and Amelia Kleinsorge, Dresden; Adren Alexander and Mary E. McNair, both of Clayton. Several from the Dresden and Herndon area attended the wedding

of Miss Maybelle Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A.R. Anderson of Marquette to Eldon Peterson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Peterson of Oberlin, which was held at the Mission Covenant Church at Marquette. The bride has been a teacher in her community. The couple will be at home on a farm near Dresden after June 10.

Dresden: Miss Nelda Rhodes, Dresden, and Mr. Herbert Vaughn of Hoxie, were married a few months ago but kept their marriage a secret until they had received their high school diplomas. They have gone to Hoxie to make their home and here's wishing this young couple happiness.

Mr. and Mrs. Loy McMullen drove to Oberlin Saturday bringing Miss Lois McMullen who has been teaching at Ellsworth this past year. Loy has been teaching at Tampa and plans to attend summer school in Manhattan.

Shibboleth Items: A baby boy arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Gaines May 17th.

A group of Christian Endeavor members from Selden were visitors of the Oberlin Federated C.E. Society Sunday evening. Augusta Geisenheiner talked about the B.Y.P.U. camp near Scott City called Camp Christie where Baptist young people spend their vacations in useful and enjoyable occupations.

50 YEARS AGO — June 1960

The Rev. Fred Lawson, pastor of the Oberlin Covenant Church and head of the Decatur County Ministerial Association, has announced a combined worship service for all churches will be held at 8 p.m. on June 19 at the fairgrounds as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebration. A combined choir from all churches directed by Mrs. John Wright with Mrs. Kenneth Rydquist as pianist will sing two numbers, "God of our Fathers" and "O God Our Help in Ages Past."

Dr. and Mrs. Rolla Harger, Indianapolis, Ind., are visiting with his brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Andy Harger. He was presented an honorary degree at Washburn University in Topeka earlier this week. Dr. Harger recently spent 18 months in Pakistan in extension work for the University of Indiana.

Funeral services were held for James W. Farr, 85, who moved to a farm 11 miles northeast of Oberlin in 1946. He and his wife, Ida, celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary last week.

Wedding vows were solemnized June 5 at the Assembly of God Church in Oberlin for Twila Kennedy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kennedy and Dwayne Scott, son of

Mr. and Mrs. Goldie Scott.

Beverly Kindler, Decatur County home economist here since 1952, announced this week that she has resigned her position here to accept a similar post in Norton County.

25 YEARS AGO — June 1985

A heat wave hit the area Saturday afternoon and temperatures soared to an official 108 degrees in Oberlin. Decatur County Extension Agent Allen Dinkel said the sweltering heat obviously didn't do the wheat any good but the fact that the air was humid may have kept damage to a minimum and that we are still on target for a good harvest.

Oberlin City Council members moved to hire Robert Finkbinder of Clifton as city administrator. Finkbinder has degrees from KSU in business administration and from the University of Oklahoma in public administration and has worked with the Urban Renewal Agency in Wichita as an accountant.

State Treasurer Joan Finney heard an ear full of problems when she visited northwest Kansas last week to hear the views of farmers and bankers.

The Herndon Ox-Roast celebration will begin on Saturday with a parade at 10 a.m. According to Don Grafel, chairman of the event, over 70 entries have been received. A free meal will be served following the

parade and there will be ball games during the afternoon and dances for youth and adults in the evening.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Tom Carroll of Atwood announce the birth of a son, Travis Lee, on May 24, 1985, at the Rawlins County Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Neel announced the engagement of their daughter, Brenda, to Glenn Sixbury, son of Robert Sixbury, Colby and Mrs. Carolyn Sixbury, Hays. She is a graduate of Concordia High school and Kansas State University. Her fiancé is a graduate of Russell High School and is a senior at KSU majoring in computer engineering. Both are employed by the Kansas State Computing Center. An Aug. 17 wedding is being planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Miles Ray and her mother, Mrs. Tressie Robertson, returned last week from a two-week vacation trip to Spain. They were accompanied by their sister and daughter, Jean Earlywine, of Buena Vista, Calif.

Kyle Elwood, Oberlin, and Jay Todd, Rexford, finished in first place in team roping in the Kansas High School Rodeo Assoc. finals held in Topeka last weekend. Each won a saddle, belt buckle and a pair of boots and qualified for the National High School Rodeo to be held July 22 in Rapid City, S.D.

Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

Another Monday morning, and it is wet out there again. I had heard that the temperature was to get up to 100 degrees today, but I will be happy to take this cloudy weather over the high temperature.

I don't know of much going on this week. Activities are kind of slow down here before harvest time, then the Fourth of July brings out more fun things again. The Decatur County Ministerial Association is working on all-day events for the Fourth, which will include a community church service, a potluck and events for all ages downtown in the afternoon. The fireworks display will take place at dark. There will be more as all the details get worked out.

I would invite all to look at the new Oberlin website available from the Kansas Sampler Foundation and check out all the information for rural Kansas towns. More events and elements will be added soon. The website is www.getruralkansas.org.

My business for the week is the Frontier Restaurant, on the corner of

York and Highway 36. It has been managed by Joyce Carlton for about eight years. Joyce has 20 employees to help keep her restaurant going each day.

The day starts out about 4:30 a.m. for the morning cooks in getting all the breakfast menu items ready, along with their famous homemade pies and huge cinnamon rolls. Warmed a bit, they are delicious! The restaurant opens at 6 a.m. Monday thru Saturday and 7 a.m. on Sundays, and closes at 9 p.m. Monday thru Saturday and 8 p.m. on Sundays.

Wednesday evenings feature a breakfast special, Italian or Mexican, and Saturday night the homemade chicken fried steak or prime rib special. Last, but not least, is the famous vegetable-beef soup, from an original recipe started back in 1951. Many travelers go a bit out of their way to come have a bowl of soup at the Frontier.

Drop in and see what's going on at the "round table" and have a cup of coffee with the locals.

Have a great week!

Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

In honor of National Dairy Month, during this week's activities we're really "moo-ving." Town Square boasted a display of Jersey cows, a combined collection of Lisa Davies and Connie Simonson. Faye Miller arranged them together as the focal point of our celebration. Anita Hirsch made the table decorations for our "Udderly" Delicious Family Potluck. Twenty-three family members joined us for supper and a round of "Cowabunga Bingo." Janice told some pretty corny cow jokes and everyone had a great time.

Earlier this week, Eulaine Benda ("Wesley"), Leone Porsch ("Moo-Moo"), Amy Rehm ("The Udder Two"), Faye Miller ("Jersey") and Evelyn Olson ("Beautiful Calves") made "Crazy Cow" wall hangings that are on display in the front porch area.

"Cow-Pie Pitching" hit a "Bullseye" with the residents. Leone Porsch, Alice Bobbitt, Walter and Betty May, Goldie Stapp, Amy Rehm, Faye Miller, Dorothy Hunt, Opal Bryan and winner Olive Arnold were out to "Pasture" time.

Humorous pictures of cows were placed on the hallway walls all around the square. Residents were asked to go "Searching 'til the Cows Come Home." It provided a purpose for their daily stroll around the square reading the silly remarks attached to each picture.

On a more serious note, Wednesday the activity staff plus four Certified Nursing Assistants went to Victoria to attend an all day seminar entitled "Time Slips." The seminar taught various techniques to enhance communication with residents in varying stages of Dementia. Techniques included things like "approach," "body language," "interpreting behaviors" and "creative ways to promote confidence verbalization." "Storytelling" was

most fascinating and will be added to our weekly routine of activities.

The staff who attended will now bring what they learned and teach our other staff. Keep reading to hear more about this exciting addition to our programming and services. The movie "To Save A Life," showed this past weekend. Two hundred and five people came to see it. We want to thank Ten Cent Evangelism, Decatur County Ministerial Association, Sunflower Cinema and specifically Kayla Bose for helping us with this project. It is vitally important the people who live here stay connected with the community. It gives them the opportunity to participate in missions that reach beyond our walls and into the world, such as partnering with the 180-House and working with the young men there. The ladies have a heart for the youth of our town; what an awesome way to show them that we care.

Visitors this week were John and Edie Tate for **Lois Carlson**. Jim and Reva Marshall for **Dorothy Hunt**. Ken and Clem Mumm (Selden/Colby) for **Hubert Mumm**. Elda Youngs (McCook), Pastor John Paulson, Frank and Mert McEvoy for **Lucy Schissler**. Mildred Holmdahl for **Eulaine Benda, Edla Olson, Lois Carlson and Evelyn Olson**. Sue and Erin May, Cameron, Elizabeth and Dan Nedland for **Walter and Betty May**. Elsie Wolters for **Dorothy Pryor**. Max and Veanna Carman for **Myrtle Waldo**. Murry and Audrey Pavlicek for **Mary Lemman**. Marvin and Sharon Slabaugh for **Opal Bryan**. Kelly Olson (Manhattan) and Gerald Olson for **Evelyn Olson**. Julia Otter (Hays) for **Leone Porsch**. Vicky Mumm for **Doris Marintzer, Hubert Mumm and Francis Janousek**. Judy Menges (Colby) for **Marie McChesney**.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

We enjoyed fresh flowers on the tables this week donated by Fern Wenger's family. The flowers were picked in Fern's garden.

Agnes Pruitt won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon. The blackout game ended in a tie between Agnes Pruitt and Wilma LaSalle.

The dietary staff baked up a rhubarb crisp for lunch on Wednesday. The rhubarb was donated by Gregg Sayer, grandson of Edna Mott.

The craft group met on Wednesday afternoon. The group started working on projects to display at the Decatur County Fair. The fair is still nearly two months away, but the one thing our collective years of experience and age have taught us is that time goes really fast.

There were lots of winners at the penny card game played on Thursday afternoon. Players included Darlene Fisher, Irene Fringer, Elsie Goodnight, Ruth Havel, Donna Kent, Wilma LaSalle, Wilma May, Edna Mott, Joan Noble, Agnes Pruitt, Linda Shuler, and Aleen Van Vleet. Snacks were served after the game. Several residents also met

for games on Thursday night.

The baking group made banana oatmeal cookies on Friday afternoon. The cookies did not last long.

The dietary department and the activity department teamed up on Sunday evening to make ice cream sundaes for everyone. Toppings included chocolate, strawberry and caramel sauces, bananas, nuts, whipped cream and cherries. Staff members Laysha Medina, Vicky Sylvester, Anna Cressler, and Teresa Shaughnessy assisted.

Recent visitors: Shirley Williams, Janice Sattler, Atwood; Jerry Wolfram, Carol Kompus, Linda Bosler, Julie and Bob Hafner, Herndon; Wayne and Donna Joes, Clayton; Lillian Sulzman, Dresden; Judy Jackson, Norcatur.

Opal Huntley, Marian Dempewolf, Lyle Gamblin, Mirium Fisher, Ruth Miesner, Max and Veanna Carman, Gary and Janelle Walter, Marilyn Gamblin, Elwood and Jeannie May, Robert Fringer, Sandra Young, Oberlin.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Those enjoying the Alumni and Memorial Day weekend with their mother, Rachel Carter were Ann and Dick Graner, Bethany, Mo.; Allan and Sherry Carter, Overland Park; Kenneth and Julie Carter, and Jane and Jim Wahlmeier, Concordia. Others joining them for a visit were Ann and Wes DuBois, Madi and Abby, Norton; Jesse and Megan Carter, Oberlin, and Becky Carter.

Kara Kuntz, Zachary and Katherine, Hays, visited Sunday with her parents, Kay and Doyle Brown.

Saturday evening, May 29, supper guests of Jim and Wilma Mader were Mr. and Mrs. Tracy Mader, Jaclyn and Raquel, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Crabtree, Mason and Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Craighton Oneal, Ashley and Eli, and Erin and Ethan Shaw.

65TH ANNIVERSARY

Jim and Wilma Mader celebrated their anniversary at Trish's Steakhouse on Sunday, May 30, with their family: Mr. and Mrs. Paul Crabtree and family, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Mader and family, Mr. and Mrs. Randy Mader and family, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Shaw and family, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Welter, Theresa Slaven, Mr. and Mrs. Barry Stite and Billy, Mr. and Mrs. Craighton Oneal and family, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Crabtree, Brenda Mader, Jennifer Johnson and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Simon. In the afternoon they all went to the farm and spent the rest of the day and enjoyed supper together.

The Jennings Playground Committee is sponsoring an animal immunization clinic at the Heritage Park in Jennings on Wednesday, June 16, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. All routine immunizations, such as rattlesnake, distemper, rabies and others will be available. Fees will be the same as charged at the

Countryside Veterinary Clinic in Oberlin. If interested, please contact the Countryside Clinic in Oberlin or Mike McKenna at (785) 678-2610. Walk-ins are welcome.

The Jennings United Methodist non-generational, non-denominational Vacation Bible School was held from June 1 through June 5 at the Jennings church from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Ten youths and six adults attended. The school was led by four Kansas Wesleyan students and the Rev. and Mrs. Carl Ellis, representatives of the United Methodist Small Membership Churches. "Joseph, from Prison to Palace" was the theme of the school. Next year's Vacation Bible School will be held in the mornings, beginning June 7, 2011.

The Jennings High School Class of 1950 held its 60th Class Reunion May 29 at the Royal Neighbor Hall of the Jennings Museum. The afternoon was spent visiting and remembering good times, updating their memory book and taking pictures.

Eight classmates were in attendance, Gene Rogers, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Jerry and Joyce Tacha Ryan, McPherson; Robert (Smokey) and Pat Mizell Robertson, Alamogordo, N.M.; Wayne and Louise Young Cressler, Dean and Dorothy Vacura, Dean and Dalene Sewell Gawith, and Lawrence and Lila Harris Jennings. Letters were received from Hugh Wahlmeier of Horsehead, N.Y., and Ardith Davitt Gross of Baton Rouge, La. Unable to attend were Dorothy Brown Stealy and Betty Sejkora Bouts of Denver, and Louis Hahn of Craig, Colo.

The directors of the Czech Museum met June 3 at the Royal Neighbor Hall of the museum. President, Neoma Tacha, presided

with directors Larry Mizer, Mike Tacha, Lila Jennings, Bob Tacha and Dean Gawith present. We had 60 plus visitors over the Memorial weekend. We thank Betty Fitzgerald, Lawrence Jennings, Robert Robertson, Lowell Stacey family, Aleta McLeod Phelps, Bob Jones and others who contributed new items for display. The Class of 1950 had their 60th class reunion here on Saturday afternoon. Several people

researched family histories. Our next meeting will be Thursday, July 1. The public is invited to attend.

Memorial weekend guests of Lawrence and Lila Jennings were Brian Jennings and Westley, Solomon; Brent and Rhonda Jennings and Brendan, Topeka; Steve and Joyce Carlton, Oberlin, and on Tuesday, Bruce Carlton, Bakersfield, Calif.

Selden News

By Jacque Boultinghousey

On May 20 at Senior Citizens, Jeanie Spresser won high, Edna Schiltz took second, Betty James got low and Lola Cook had the most Aces. Other members present included Ralph Weis, Royce Cook, Gail Mumm, Paulie Neff, Pat Wessel, Bob Wessel, Matt Finnesy, Carl Mumm, Helen Karls and Carlene Bruggeman.

On May 27 at Senior Citizens, Gail Mumm won high, Shirley Emigh took second, Ann Hazlitt got low and Betty James had the most Kings. Other members present included Lola Cook, Royce Cook, Jeanie Spresser, Matt Finnesy, Anna Albers, Alfred Albers, Carl Mumm, Paulie Neff, Edna Schiltz, Pat Wessel and Ralph Weis.

On Thursday at Senior Citizens, Ralph Weis won high, Lola Cook took second, Bernita Aumiller got low and Jeanie Spresser had the most Queens. Other members present were Pat Wessel, Betty James, Edna Schiltz, Royce Cook, Alfred Albers, Anna Albers, Bob Wessel, Carl Mumm, Gail Mumm, Helen Karls and Shirley Emigh.

Birthdays and anniversaries:

May 14 - Mason Mumm, Micah Goscha. May 16 - John and Marilyn Kaus, Barry Walker, Tom and Diane Aumiller. May 17 - Dan Mumm, Ryan Stevenson. May 18 - Dan Wachendorfer. May 19 - Harold Murphy, Frank Bouts, Leslie Wessel. May 20 - John Kaus. May 21 - Dennis and Marla Rogers. May 22 - Karen Shaw, Wade Zodrow. May 23 - Dylan Spresser. May 24 - Ashley Stevenson, Tom and Maureen Bruggeman, Jeffery Benoit. May 25 - Lawrence and Mary Ann Juenemann. May 26 - Linda Schroer, Sonya Stanton. May 27 - Tasha Carman, Gary and Jerrie Robinson, Drew Stevenson. May 28 - Scott Bruggeman, Kendra Spresser, Andrea Mitchell, Steve and Helen Carman. May 29 - Joe Geisinger, Robert Wessel, Jan Juenemann. May 30 - Dick Stevenson, Devin Spresser, Amy Rogers Hurdle. June 1 - Gary Gillium. June 2 - Charles Focke, Jared Schrener. June 3 - Greg Bruggeman, Charlene Shaw, Abbie Miller. June 4 - Bob and Pat Wessel. June 5 - Steve and Judy Rogers, Chris and Robynn Wessel.

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Funeral services for the Rev. Wilbur May, son of Theodore and Frieda (Voelker) May, were held Wednesday morning at St. John's Lutheran Church in Oberlin with burial in the Oberlin Cemetery. He was preceded in death by his wife, LuVerne, and is survived by their sons and families, Jim (Mitzi) May and Ray and Becky O'Boyle, Oberlin, and John (Karen) May and Eleanor, Lummi Island, Wash.; brother, Walter (Betty) May, Oberlin; and sisters Lois (Arnold) Behrmann, Orange, Calif., and Lillian (Art) Rutsch, Vista, Calif., and many other relatives.

Hannah May, Haley Schiessler, and Grant Gilliam were confirmed Sunday morning during worship services at St. John's Lutheran Church in Oberlin, officiated by Pastor Kevin Schnakenberg. Their parents are Roland and Pam May, Julie Schiessler and the late Kevin Schiessler, and Lee and Jane Gilliam. A lunch followed in the church fellowship hall to honor the Confirmants.

Returning home on Tuesday, June 1, Susan May, Ryan and Erin traveled to Denver on the previous Friday with her parents, Gerry and Darlene Schaffer, where they visited her brother, Steve Schaffer, and family.

Gaylord and Shirley Shields left Memorial Day for Salisbury, Md., where they visited their son and family, Phil and Karen Shields, Justin and Anna. Thursday evening

they attended Justin's high school graduation where he graduated summa cum laude, with honors. Justin plans to attend the University of Maryland next fall. On their way home Friday, they visited with Ed and Marsha Stillions and family in Shawnee. Marsha passed away the following morning, June 5, surrounded by her family.

Jeff and Kimberly Wickersham, Calvin and Cason, Council Bluffs, Iowa, were Tuesday to Sunday guests at the home of Craig and Karen Larson to help Karen celebrate her birthday. Jeff and Kimberly and boys also visited her grandparents, Zane and Gladys Geis, while in Oberlin.

Jay and Becky Tate, Dakota, Mollie, and Grace left Saturday, May 29, for Ponchatoula, La., where they spent a week visiting her father, Pat and Diane Ryan. On the way home, they were Saturday overnight guests of Jay's brother, Jaron and Tara Tate and Abigail, Hot Springs, Ark., and returned home Sunday evening.

Richard and Delayne May of Lawrence, Hannah May's baptismal sponsors, attended Hannah's Confirmation Sunday morning at St. John's Lutheran Church, and were weekend guests of Rhonda May and Dan Nedland, Cameron, Hunter, and Elizabeth.

Cameron Nedland left Sunday afternoon for Manhattan where he will be attending summer school at Kansas State University.