

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — June 1885
Four fine showers last week. Oberlin now has three lumber yards in full blast. F.H. Smith is building a residence near Capt. Allen's property in the east part of town. Tully Scott of Beloit has received this appointment as receiver of the U.S. Land office at Oberlin, vice C.E. Chandler, whose time has expired.

May business at the Oberlin Land Office: homestead entries, 440; timber entries, 412; declaratory statements, 306; case proofs, 888; final homestead entries, 41; contests, 37.

Clayton: W.A. Miller was killed by lightning while laying sod on his house on his claim. J.C. Brooks, who was working with Miller, was shocked by the lightning and knew nothing for some time; his team ran away and threw him out of the wagon which ran over him. When they found him he was calling for Miller.

The Vallonia ball team has organized with the following players: T.W. Park, M.A. Bobo; J.M. Park; W.A. Curtis, E.W. Outland; W.L. Riley, Guss Bebb, Wm. Payne and F.P. Eno.

100 YEARS AGO — June 1910
Caleb Smick came home from Washburn College Wednesday. Chas. McCalla and Miss Dollie Clair were married June 4.

D.G. Addleman managed Friday's game for the Oberlin team when they defeated the Jennings team by a lop-sided score.

Read E.M. Coldren's letter about the things of interest in Washington, D.C. He and Mrs. Coldren and Anna seem to be having a great time.

E.A. VanGundy, wife and baby Clarence, arrived in the city Tuesday from Clay Center for a visit with home folks. Ernest will soon leave

for Denver where he has a position as instructor in the Central Business College.

Perry Fair went to Kansas City Sunday to be treated for the rheumatism which has been paining him so much of late.

Guy Litton went to DeBeck, Colo., the first of the month where he has a position in a store.

75 YEARS AGO — June 1935

Almost overnight much of the "dust-ridden" country was turned into a flooded area that left in its wake a heavy toll in loss of life and property. Reports from St. Francis tell of the flood which had overflowed the city and disrupted light, power and water service last Friday and causing the deaths of 17 persons in the St. Francis and Benkleman, Neb., vicinity. An Associated Press report on Monday stated that the Republican River flood waters yielded 35 more bodies on that day.

The city of McCook has been without light, power and water service since Friday and for almost 30 hours the roof of the power plant was haven for 38 men caught by the flood waters as they worked to save the plant. The recently built concrete bridge over the Republican River withstood the flood but all approaches leading to it were taken out in the early stages of the flood. More than 100 miles of the Burlington Railroad track in southwest Nebraska are washed out.

Oberlin grocery stores were busy over the weekend with Nebraska folks on this side of the Republican River who are unable to go to McCook due to the washouts at the bridge.

Principal Russell Anderson of the local high school and Mrs. Anderson left Sunday for New York City where he will enroll at Columbia University for completion of his Master's degree.

Court House News: A marriage license was issued to Lyle McGee and Norine Steele, both of Oberlin, and they were married June 2 by the probate judge; also to Lorenz Wegener of Norton and Lillian Euhus of Oberlin on June 3.

Sherman: Miss Doris Willcoxon, has been engaged to teach Sherman Center school for the coming year.

Norcatur: A large number of Oberlin golfers entered the Norcatur golf tournament Sunday. George Nellans captured the championship flight.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Janousek are the parents of a 7-pound girl, Nancy Kay, born at the hospital in Topeka. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Murphy are the parents of a 9-pound baby boy born June 3.

Mr. and Mrs. H.Q. Banta attended the 40th reunion of his Class of 1895 at Ottawa University. Of the 18 graduates, 9 were present for the reunion and all but one are living, several in foreign countries.

50 YEARS AGO — June 1960

Oberlin's eight day Diamond Jubilee celebration is underway. Mr. and Mrs. John Houtsma have begun their 8-day stay in the sod house located on the museum grounds and will show visitors around. Neither is a stranger to pioneer living. He was born in a dugout with a dirt floor and a willow roof at Dresden and she lived in more than one of them as a youth as her father was a sod-house builder in the Clayton area.

Oberlin's major Don Fredrickson cut the ribbon at the opening events and birthday cake was served in front of Jubilee headquarters. On Tuesday the women got into the act with a variety programs by HDU

units, a Civic Club luncheon and a "Then and Now" style show as well as a Jubilee Belles promenaded along Penn Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stiner and Dott Addleman were honored for residing the longest continuously in the county — 85 years.

Sue Matthews and Ann Dowling, Decatur Community High School delegates, left last week to attend Sunflower Girls State on the campus of the University of Kansas. David Nichols and Dallas Caster attended Boys' State at Wichita North High School.

A new business, Phil's Dariette, located on US-36 east of the fairgrounds will open this week under the ownership of Phil and Martha Nemeth.

Ministerial changes will affect several area churches: the Rev. Ralph Long, 56, and family arrived in Selden Friday to assume the combine pastorate of the Selden-Dresden-McGraw Methodist churches. He succeeds the Rev. David Lydecker who has been called to the Bazine and Rush Center churches. Following the retirement of the Rev. Oscar Brown of Oberlin from the ministry of the Prairie Chapel Methodist Church the last Sunday in May, the Rev. Wesley Davis of Jennings is heading the combined pastorate of the Jennings and Prairie Chapel Methodist churches. The new pastorate is known as the Decatur County Rural Parish.

Hospital News: Mr. and Mrs. Keith Fortin, Oberlin, daughter, Joyce Gay, June 9, 1960; Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Dempewolf, Oberlin, son, June 13, 1960; Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Paddock, Oberlin, daughter, Cheryl Denese, June 13, 1960.

25 YEARS AGO — June 1985

"Oberlin presents to us a 100-year success story," observed U.S. District Judge Richard Rogers as he spoke at the luncheon marking the 100th anniversary of the city's day of incorporation, June 13, 1885. He cited two strong character traits of Kansas people which are self-reliance and self-confidence as well as a genuine concern for the welfare of our fellow man.

Allen Dinkel has resigned his position as Decatur County Agricultural Agent effective July 31 to assume a position in Stockton as agent serving Rooks County.

Herndon weathered sunny skies and a slight breeze for the 1985 Ox Roast celebration which brought more than 2,000 people to the village of about 250 last Saturday.

A.R. (Bob) Bearley of Atwood and his son, John Bearley, Oberlin, will be honored June 25 at the Masonic Temple in Atwood where they will receive their 75 and 50-year pins, respectively, as members of Atwood #164 Lodge.

Todd Fiscus was elected district court judge of the Federalist Party at Boys State held recently on the KU

campus in Lawrence. He is a junior at Decatur Community High School and was sponsored by Oberlin American Legion Post #70.

The Elden Longs of Longs Ranch were recognized recently for having the best breeding Herefords in the state of Kansas. Located 12 miles east and 3.5 miles north of Oberlin, they have been in the cattle business for more than 25 years and have about 250 cattle.

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Nitsch Oberlin, attended the ribbon-cutting ceremonies for the new Republican River bridge west of St. Francis on June 10. More than 80 persons attended the luncheon which followed where Max Brooks, chairman of the Central Bank Board in Denver, was guest speaker.

Hospital News: Merlou and Mike Robinson, Selden, son, Jake Clifton, June 16, 1985.

Weekend guests of Ken and Jan Badsky and family were Capt. and Mrs. Floyd Badsky. They all attended the wedding of Greg Long and Mary Erickson on Saturday and on Sunday they attended baptism services for Kenyon Levi Badsky at Faith Lutheran Church.

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Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

Even to your old age, I am He, and even to gray hairs I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; Even I will carry, and will deliver you. Isaiah 4:46

In a society that exalts youth and beauty, it is no wonder that our culture has the misunderstanding that living or working in a nursing home would be uneventful, depressing, perhaps even drudgery... but in reality nothing is farther than the truth.

God certainly cares for us when our hair turns gray. He sees our value and loves us, He will take care and provide for us. He is an awesome God!

All of that to say what an exciting time to be part of a Christian Community of Care that strives to make every day a day filled with peace, pleasure and purpose for those who live here. With the increase of dementia awareness, the way we approach activities is changing and we are pleased to be actively pursuing new and better ways to meet the needs of those we love and care for.

This week we introduced "Time Slips" a creative storytelling method that opens storytelling up to everyone by replacing the pressure to remember with encouragement to imagine. The stories capture the hopes, dreams, regrets, fears, humor, and desires of people with memory loss, and help them connect with staff, family, and friends.

Certified Nurse Aide Sarah Weyeneth first used the technique in the Garden of Hope with just a handful of residents (all in late stage dementia) on Monday. By using a picture as a prop (a picture of a baby in a suitcase) and asking open ended questions the residents together began to use their imaginations to tell a story.

This activity was repeated on Wednesday with a group of 15 residents. Using the same picture, another story emerged. The stories will be published and shared with the families. This was so much fun and everyone is looking forward to the weekly storytelling that will take place on Wednesday mornings. This is an activity that requires a fair amount of staff and would be a great opportunity for volunteers!

Other happenings this week included a trip around the world

as the residents visited the Ten Best Vacation Spots during "Arm Chair Travel" with Anita. Only four residents in the group had ever been out of the country. Walter and Betty May and Edla Olson all have traveled to the Holy Lands and Amy Rehm had traveled a bit more extensively.

JuliAnna Baker helped out with our "What Am I" activity with a demonstration. This is a game similar to 20 Questions. Clues are given and the residents guess the object being described. The answer was a Hula-Hoop! JuliAnna showed everyone how it works, then Leone Porsch, Alice Bobbitt and Olive Arnold gave it a whirl! Tina Perrin was able to "hoop" her neck while Amy Rehm used a mini-version on her ankle! We are a very talented bunch!

Our thanks to Prairie Rose Harmony for performing for us on Saturday, a lovely intro to Amy Rehm's birthday open house.

Get ready! Our Fourth of July Parade and Ice Cream Social will be a part of the community celebration! We need you to be a part of the parade. Dress yourself up along with your horse, dog, bike, walker or wheelchair and join our parade at 6:30 p.m. Staging will be in the back parking lot!

Guests this week were Reva Marshall, Ron Snyder (Colby), Kara Hazelhorst (Manhattan) for Dorothy Hunt. Erin and Susan May for Walter and Betty May. Cheri Kastens had lunch with Pooch

Portschy, Doris Marintzer, Frank Janousek and Hubert Mumm. Gladys Geis for Lois Carlson. Max Carman for Myrtle Waldo. Ralph and Norma Unger for Leo Mooty, Earl Brown and Walter and Betty May. Marvin and Sharon Slabaugh for Opal Bryan. Gerald and Connie Olson for Evelyn Olson. Gazzigli family and Natalie Hafner (Calif.) for Pooch Portschy. Cindy and Jesse Gillespie (Watkins, Colo.) for Violet Schissler. Murry and Audrey Pavlicek for Mary Lemman. Amy Rehm had friends and family here for her birthday; Herschel and Jody Betts, Luanne Laird (Celina, Texas), Justin Laird (New York City), Becky Hunziker (Breckenridge, Colo.) and Johnny and Connie Simonsson.

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