

# Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

## 125 YEARS AGO – Aug. 1885

N.G. Stever is putting up a neat cottage on his farm west of Oberlin. Wesley Stever will start for Missouri the last of the week to enter college.

The high wind Monday completely demolished the photograph tent.

J.R. Neal & Son have opened a general store just north of the rink.

Messrs. Beardsley and Beal have built a 22-foot addition to their drug store building.

The storm Monday night did considerable damage at McCook and it is reported that crops north of the Beaver are totally ruined.

Seven miles of track have been laid on the B. & M. extension and trains are expected to be running to Norton by the first of September.

## 100 YEARS AGO – Aug. 1910

The big tent for the Chautauqua is being put up today.

Rev. W.H. Van Cleave, who has been seriously sick for the past year, resigned his pastorate of the Oberlin Baptist Church on Sunday to take effect September first.

Fred Johnson who has been playing ball in Colorado for a couple of months got home Monday.

Al Compton, while chopping wood Monday, nearly lost an eye by a stick flying up and striking his eyeball.

Frank Railsback and Bard McMullen lost some epidermis in a runaway accident Sunday afternoon.

In looking over the county clerk's books we find that Decatur County has 574,605 acres of taxable land valued at \$7,325,230. The land value averages \$12.75 per acre.

## 75 YEARS AGO – Aug. 1935

While the month of July past was not the hottest or driest on record it did little for crops in Decatur County. Unless general rains cover this portion of Kansas by the latter part of this week, there will be little, if any, corn or feed raised and the outlook for carrying livestock through the winter will again be serious.

Construction of the state park and lake on the Sappa Creek about two miles northeast of Oberlin by the Civilian Conservation Corps is scheduled to start Oct. 1.

In spite of heat, drought and crops burning up, a new car was delivered in Decatur County for every day in July and five to boot according to the county treasurer's office: 13 Chevrolets, 9 Fords, 8 Plymouths,

2 Dodges, 2 Terraplanes; 1 Hudson and 1 Oldsmobile.

Dr. and Mrs. A.J. Thomsen are the parents of a baby girl born the 7th. Norris Reist left Sunday for Enid, Okla., where he will attend Phillips University. He went early to join the Phillips University unit of the Oklahoma National Guard, of which Roy Cody, who left earlier in the summer, is also a member. From Enid the unit will go to Fort Sill.

Early Monday morning at the Federated parsonage Miss Elizabeth Holloran was married to Veeh Reeves. The bride whose home is in Erlanger, Ken., has been a popular teacher in the upper grades the past six years.

The groom is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Eber Reeves and graduated from Decatur Community High School in 1929 where he was prominent in athletics and attended college at Fort Collins. The young couple will make their home on the groom's farm in the Vallonia neighborhood.

Noel Thomsen is visiting at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Claus Thomsen at Minden, Nebr. He took his pony along so he could do some riding while he was gone.

## 50 YEARS AGO – August 1950

Fair week in Oberlin brought rain as usual but the evening shows were spared. Some 500 persons turned out Monday evening, opening night of the three-day fair, to hear Hank Thompson, Western singer and his troupe.

Grand Champion winners in the Decatur County Farm Bureau and Fleischmann's Yeast Co., bread baking contest were: Mrs. Harold Brown (white) and Mrs. Gaylord Shields (whole wheat); runners-up were Mrs. Nettie Britton (white) and Mrs. Arnold Reichert (whole wheat).

Marilyn Reichert of Leoville and Bill Bennett of Jennings copped Grand Champion honors at the 4-H Style Review and Best Groomed Boy contest.

Funeral services were held at Traer for Paul E. Leitner, 82, who was born in Hungary and had lived in the Traer vicinity for 75 years.

Eight Oberlin students participated in the High Plains Music Camp at Fort Hays last week: Pam Banta, Andrea Castle, Connie Cody, Charles Kiefer, Linda Nemeth, Helen Pelkey, Cecilia Pollara and Jim Reeves.

Courthouse News: A marriage

license was issued to Stanley Shaw and Ramona Porsch, both of Selden, on Aug. 5.

Funeral services were held for Harry D. Strunk, 68, colorful publisher of the McCook Gazette and president of the Republican Valley Conservation Assn. The association has been a leading force in getting lakes built in Southwest Nebraska, Northwest Kansas and Eastern Colorado.

## 25 YEARS AGO – August 1985

The 12th year of the Decatur County's home-owned carnival took in a total of \$29,482,90 for the 5-night run which was a mere \$2,000 under the record-breaker set last year.

The only disappointment in the fair came because of the small number of persons who attended the grandstand show, according to Floyd Lotker, president of the Amusement Authority.

Evelyn Zabel, a May 1985 graduate of Washburn University School of Law, began her duties this week in the offices of Lund Law Firm, Chartered. She attended Smith Center High School and Bethany University before attending law school.

Funeral services were held for Chuck Claussen, 31, who drowned Saturday afternoon while on a fishing trip at Hugh Butler Lake. A 1971 graduate of Decatur Community

High School, he had been associated with his father in D-C Wholesale Supply. Survivors include his wife, Cathy, and two sons, Christopher and Cale; his parents, Don and Genola Claussen, a brother and sister and grandparents.

Grand Champion winner in the 4-H Fashion Revue is Jade Morford of Maverick 4-H Club. Junior Division winner is Leanne Chambers of Star Valley 4-H Club.

New Arrivals: Aug. 1, 1985: Michelle and Brad DeKnight, Oberlin, son, Morgan Alan; Alexis and Thomas Basgall, Herndon, son, Lance Edgar.

When Aug. 15 rolls around next week, Adolf Lohofener will mark his 100th birthday, becoming the only Oberlin resident to share a centennial birthday with the City of Oberlin. Although born in Nebraska, he moved with his parents to a dugout on the family homestead in Liberty Township before his second birthday.

New Arrival: Kevin and Tami Black, son, Curtis Carl, July 19, 1985.

Penny Soderlund and her quarter horse, Bar-Note-Leo, won the grand champion horse and rider trophy at the Norton County Horse Show.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Shobe returned home last week from a 15-day European tour, an anniversary gift from their children.

## Decatur Health Systems

By Othelia Vacura

The 10th Annual Decatur Health Systems Golf Benefit will take place Saturday at the Oberlin Country Club with 29 golf teams participating.

The public is invited to a prime rib dinner and auction at the American Legion at 7 p.m. that evening. Tickets are still available for \$30 each.

Area businesses, individuals and corporate sponsors have been generous in donating items that will be up for auction after the dinner. Several highly collectible sports memorabilia items will be auctioned.

Raffle items this year are a three-minute shopping spree at Raye's Grocery, a Dell 10-inch laptop computer, a Ping putter and a men's professional Tommy Armour 855 golf putter. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. These are available through the hospital front office.

Raffle items have been provided by Raye's Grocery and the Decatur Health Systems board; Decatur Health Systems; Dr. Grant Voltertsen and Kurt Vollertsen; Wayne Hackney of Oberlin Concrete; and Mark Ledford of RCC Medical Supplies, Greeley, Colo.

The project chosen for the money raised by this year's benefit is to improve patient comfort at the hospital, which will include the purchase of new linens.

We appreciate the folks who stopped by our booth at the Decatur County Fair. The theme of our booth was "Then and Now," highlighting the increased availability of specialty services in our community. Availability of health care in a rural farming area is a big deal, and we are committed to providing the best possible care to our community.

## Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Vacation Bible School will be held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday at the Herndon Covenant Church. All children from age 2 through 10 are welcome. For details, call Kristi Dirks at (785) 626-9205.

Kirk Kelley spent a week visiting his parents, Dick and Donna Kelley. He has spent the summer in Beijing, Cinca, Singapore, Indonesia, and Paris, Chamonix and Beaune, France. He left Thursday for Cocoa Beach, Fla., to visit cousins before going to St. Augustine, Fla., to attend the graduation of a friend.

Randy and Leann Polreis and boys of Chanute came Thursday to visit Jack and Mary Gutchewsky and attend the Decatur County Fair. Additional dinner guests on Thursday were Tammy Neal, Katrina and Jimmy, Oberlin; Brian and Krista Gutchewsky and Gavin, Kearney,

Neb.; and Sarah Uerling, Addyson and Hayden, McCook.

The Herndon Covenant Church will hold morning worship services at 10 a.m. Sunday at the church.

Marli Papaeliout of Las Vegas visited last week with Sandy Reuther. The women met several years ago at a church camp in Minnesota.

Donna Kelley, Kirk Kelley, and Kendra and Jessica Kelley met Ashley Hulet and Kaitlyn Howell of Frederick, Colo., in Wray, Colo., last Monday and the girls accompanied them home to attend the Decatur County Fair.

Mary Lou Olson met Gara Lee Sprague of Arapahoe, Neb., for lunch last Wednesday in McCook. Cecil Hess, Mary Lou Olson and Ivis Hanson attended funeral services for their cousin, Marjorie (Shearer) Tacha at the Jennings United Meth-

odist Church last Tuesday.

Steve and Arian Arnold attended the Arnold family reunion at Pagosa Springs, Colo., from July 31 to Aug. 5. Amanda Lucera, Ava, Owen and Monica of Des Moines, Iowa, were overnight guests on July 30 at the Arnold home, en route to the Arnold reunion. The Arnolds also attended the Johnson reunion in Cambridge, Neb., over the weekend.

Gert Myers of Mansfield, Ohio, and her granddaughter, Megan Myers, of Granger, Ind., have been visiting Elden and Detta Anderson and Norma Anderson and families.

Richard and Maureen Anderson, Samantha, Chris and Gabe, and Gary Anderson honored Detta Anderson with a birthday supper on Sunday at the Richard Anderson home. Others guests were Gert Myers, Megan Myers, Elden

Anderson, Steve and Arian Arnold, and Dick and Donna Kelley. Fireworks followed and after the group sang "Happy Birthday" to her, the Arnolds sang it in Swedish and Samantha sang it in Spanish. Callers on Sunday at the Elden Anderson home were Carol Fink of Wamego and Norma Anderson.

Rex Olson, Seth, Sam and Abbie of Boulder, Colo., spent the weekend with his parents, Keith and Mary Lou Olson and family. Additional Saturday afternoon visitors were Sheri Steineman and Lia, and Sheila Waters and Karin of Denver.

Dave and Sherri Aberle, Cheyenne, Phoenix, Austin and Carson, Arvada, Colo., spent from Friday to Sunday with the Richard Anderson family.

Wahlmeier, rural Clayton; Nick and Kerrie Wahlmeier, Oberlin; Adam Wahlmeier and Ashley Wagoner, Norton. Boating, tubing, swimming, fishing and yard games were enjoyed all weekend. Other upcoming wedding anniversaries in the family include Kevin and Colleen Wagoner, 30 years, and Jeff and Mary Wahlmeier, 25 years.

Allan and Sherry Carter, Overland Park, visited his mother, Rachel Carter, last week. Allan returned this week to help his brother, Kenneth Carter at the farm.

## Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

Another Fair has come and gone, leaving behind more fond memories. What a wonderful time for the community to come together. Both young and old came almost every night to see friends, eat, ride the rides and just be part of the excitement. Even at the Good Sam the days were filled with questions, memories and conversation about the fair, past and present!

We watched another Bi-Folkal slide presentation about a Wisconsin County Fair. It explained how the concept of County Fairs began and stimulated a lot of discussion and heightened the anticipation of our trip to the fair.

Tuesday evening, we loaded up the van with four happy residents. Earl Brown couldn't get to the Midway fast enough! We had to track him down several times; he was being quite the social butterfly. He finally lit at the Pork Burger Stand and was "mustard" grinning from ear to ear as he recounted the many friends he had been visiting with.

The ladies—Alice Bobbitt, Dorothy Pryor and Faye Miller shared a funnel cake and boasted about all the blue ribbons they received for their craft projects! Several friends stopped by commenting on the stories that were on display. What fun!

Our thanks again to Dan Votapka for our private train ride! Walt and Betty May looked like teenagers as they sat in the very last car, smiling and visiting as the train went round and round. Dorothy Pryor, Emma Sanford, Alice Bobbitt and Faye Miller joined them.

Our fifth annual "Rooster Crowding Contest" took place on Thursday. You could hardly tell the difference between the cackle of the laughter goin' on and the crowing!

Amy Rehm took first place and Betty May second.

Friday, lots of furry friends came to visit during the Pet Parade! The little Yorkshire named "Angel" made quite an impression with her pink and black polka dotted tutu, fur stole and painted fingernails!

Who would have thought living and working at a nursing home could be so much fun! It's a wonderful life!

Visitors this week were Mert McEvoy and Mabel McLaughlin (Sturgeon, Mo.) for **Lucy Schissler and Eva Bryan. Hubert Mumm, Francis Janousek and Doris Marintzer** were all visited by Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem). Gladys Geis for **Lois Carlson**. Reva Marshall, Penny Fringer and Ron and Dixie Snyder (Colby) for **Dorothy Hunt**. Colton and Taylor Simonson (Wamego) and Sharon Slabaugh for **Opal Bryan**. Eunice Martin, Lisa Martin (Tokyo, Japan), Andy VonWolf (Munich, Germany), Barry Martin (Olathe), for **Glenn Martin**. Ralph and Norma Unger for **Leo Mooty and Earl Brown**. Max Carman for **Myrtle Waldo**. Traci Otter (Hays) for **Leone Porsch**. Kristi Geschwentner, Bill Ortiz (McCook, Neb.) and Murry and Audrey Pavlicek for **Mary Lemman**. Jane Dowling (Gold Canyon, Ariz.), Carol Sloan (Lawrence) and Margaret Lund (Hays) for **Amy Rehm**. Kirk Kelley (Davenport, Iowa) for **Eva Bryan**. Gerald Olson for **Evelyn Olson**. Doug Frickey (Norton), Charmaine Frickey (Parker, Colo.), Linda, Brad, Joslyn and Andrew Wade and Marilou Long for **Elden Long**. Steve and Arian Arnold (Herndon) and Margaret Lund (Hays) for **Edda Olson**. Petrina and Joshua Murphy for **Nila Wesch**.

## Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

Fair week slipped away all too quickly. It was a busy week all over Oberlin, including Cedar Living Center.

Monday afternoon, the craft group finished up their projects to display at the fair. Residents had a great time putting the finishing touches on everything.

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

Charlotte Kurtz and Teresa Shaughnessy traveled to the fair grounds on Tuesday morning to set up the Cedar Living Center display. We appreciated all of the nice comments on the craft work done by the residents.

Edna Mott won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Mary Votapka won the blackout game.

Loyd Waldo ate supper with Mary Waldo on Tuesday evening in honor of their wedding anniversary.

A group of residents met on Wednesday afternoon to watch an interesting travel video on Washington, D.C. Snacks were served.

Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson on Wednesday afternoon.

Dale Butler, Edna Mott, Darlene Fisher, and Elsie Goodnight traveled to the fair on Wednesday evening. Helpers for the trip included Margee Wilson, Paula Corcoran, Helen Karnopp, Charlotte Kurtz, Teresa Shaughnessy and Mirla Coleman. We were especially grateful to Bernie Goetze for driving the transportation bus and to Colleen Geihlsler for helping with the bus arrangements.

Fr. Mark Berland had Mass for the Catholic residents on the Cedar Living Center patio Thursday morning.

A big group of residents gathered in the dining room on Thursday

afternoon for carnival games, including the soda can toss and penny pitch. Ice cream bars were served following the games.

Dan Votapka went above and beyond the volunteer call of duty to see that residents got a train ride at the fair grounds on Friday morning. Residents going along for the ride included Dale Butler, Elsie Goodnight, Wilma LaSalle, Wilma May, Edna Mott, Joan Noble and Aleen VanVleet.

The baking group made chocolate chip cookies on Friday afternoon.

Agnes Pruitt celebrated her birthday on Saturday.

Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler of the Faith Lutheran Church led the worship service on Sunday afternoon.

Tom Votapka donated fresh sweet corn this week. Several residents enjoyed helping to clean the corn and everyone enjoyed eating it. We have received donations of other nice garden goodies and these are much appreciated.

Recent visitors: Carol Kompus, Linda Bosler, Jerry Wolfram, Julie and Bob Hafner, Herndon; Lillian Sulzmann, Dresden; Beth Johnson, Norcatour; Chris Elway, Meredith Hrnchir, Shirley Williams, Atwood; Kelly Olson, Manhattan; Alysha N. Tadlock, Goodland; Stacie, Emily, Rodney, Kaidyn, Ryleigh Coyle, Rossville; Marilyn Fisher, Topeka; Gregg Sayer, Rachel Gallatin, Cambridge, Neb.; Sharon Wurm, Staplehurst, Neb.; Malorie, Gregory, and Savanna Jackson, David City, Neb.; Patsy Marintzer, Idalia, Colo.; Susan Rich, Asheville, N.C.

Juanita Williby, Max and Veanna Carman, Marilyn Gamblin, Jody Betts, Loyd Waldo, Ila Ray, Eunice Richards, and Lyle Gamblin, Oberlin.

## Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

July visitors at the home of Alice and Larry Mizer were Tatum Row and son Taryn, Lexington, Ky.; Cody Herl, Natoma Beach, Fla.; Emily Herl, Berkeley, Calif.; Gary Foster, Kathy Foster and Austin, Berryville, Va.; Don and Peggy Foster and Jessica, Aberdeen, S.D.; Barb Herl, Pleasanton, Calif.; Max Mizer and Kathy Tacha, and Alice and Larry Mizer all attended the Gemoreth reunion at Colby this past weekend. Alice and Larry Mizer observed their 49th wedding anniversary on July 31.

Descendants of Adrian and Bertha Barnes Mowry held a reunion in the Sunflower Senior Center on July 24. The event was hosted by Susan and Hugh Wiggington and Kelley Wiggington of Hoxie. They are members of the family of Alice Mowry Mosier.

Others in attendance included members of Eugene Mowry's family: Richard and Donna Mowry, Morland; Mascha Loomis and Paul,

Hemrico, Va.; Carol Stephens and Tascha Campbell, Hoxie; and Erica Campbell, Arlington, Va. Members of Mabel Mowry Shimmick's family: Shirley Jennett, Denver; Jon and Michelle Jennett, Shelbi, Jessica and Cassie, Golden Colo.; Marge and Daryl Hartzog, Dorothy and Dean Vacura, Jennings;

Bill and Amy Vacura, Matt and Brandon, Norton; Brad and Jody Vacura, Jake, Jaden, and Jena, Frederick, Md.; and Blake and Crystal Vacura, Ashley and Zach, Omaha, Neb. Old clothing and other memorabilia that once belonged to A.J. and Almira Mowry were on display. Of special interest was the license to practice law that A.J. received in 1899.

A family gathering was held over the weekend at the Marion County lake home of Tom Neff and Chris Gillespie to honor her parents on their 50th wedding anniversary. All the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren attended

which included Tom and Chris; Elliott and Tamara Gillespie, Alex and Emma, Belton, Mo.; Aaron and Tara Gillespie and Jackson, Hays; Kevin and Colleen Wagoner, Sharon Springs; Brandon and Rosa Wagoner and Noah, Grandby, Mo.;

Kyle and Lisa Bollers, Tyce and Tenley, Lochbuie, Colo.; Mark and Shelley Shaw, Ethan and Erin, rural Logan; Danny and Cindy Black and Bowen, Carlsbad, N.M.; Zach and Katie Golemboski and Lexy and Logan Black, Colby; Jeff and Mary

Place your ad today  
in the Fall Sports section!  
Call Tim at 475-2206

## Attention Jennings Residents

Jennifer Taylor, PA-C will be at the Jennings Clinic at 111 W. Main in Jennings, KS on Monday, August 16 and 30, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Appointments can be made  
by calling Dorothy at  
**(785) 678-2350**  
or by calling the Oberlin Clinic at  
**(785) 475-2221**

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