

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — March 1886

The amount of freight being received at this point is simply wonderful.

Plowing has resumed and farmers are preparing for spring seeding.

The Bank of Oberlin has reorganized and become a state bank.

J.A. Barnard is building a commodious carpenter shop on his lots in the west part of town.

W.A. Frasier and Geo. A. Metcalf will erect a 2-story brick building on the lot occupied formerly by the Decatur County Bank as soon as the material can be obtained.

J.B. Hitchcock is confined to his bed with a severe attack of rheumatism.

Thursday, Feb. 18 was the 25th wedding anniversary of Dr. and Mrs. A.W. Bariteau and the event was celebrated by a big party.

The wide-awake junior member of the pioneer firm for J.W. Allen & Son will take a trip this week to surrounding towns with a view to establishing a couple of branch houses in favorable localities.

100 YEARS AGO — March 1911

Farmers of the county held a two-day Farmers Institute at the court room Monday and Tuesday. Among the speakers were Frank Hoffman, James Jackson, Tom McKay, H. O. Douglas, H.L. Heaton, John Steichen, D.C. Fowler, H.C. LaTourette, T.B. Wolfe, W.D. Street and Prof. Wheeler.

B.M. Fortney and wife left on the train Saturday evening for the East.

Mercury down to zero Tuesday and a nice taste of winter.

N. Leipold, a brother of Mr. Victor Lorig, from Selma, Ala., was in the city over Sunday.

News comes from St. Cloud, Fla., that our former townsman, H. D. Colvin, has been elected mayor and Gordon Mearns, marshal.

75 YEARS AGO — March 1936

Seven Decatur County residents who celebrated their quadrennial birthdays on Feb. 29 are pictured in this issue of The Herald: Miss Dixie Lee Patton, daughter of Mrs. Cora Patton, 3rd birthday; Mrs. John Ingram, Dresden, the former Miss Roberta Postma, 6th birthday; Mrs. J.H. Ward, Norcat, 20th birthday; Mrs. Gertrude Tacha Hunter, Jennings, 5th birthday; Mary Lou Woodward, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E.R. Woodward, 1st birthday; Glen Eldon Thompson, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Thompson, Traer, 1st birthday and Miss Alene Ruth Jording, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ewald Jording, 2nd birthday.

By the narrow margin of two points the Decatur wrestlers added the championship of Northwest Kansas to their unbroken string of victories. Hackney, who was first in the 185-pound class also set a new league pinning record when he pinned his second opponent in 16 seconds. Coach Bill Huey is tak-

ing 8 boys to Manhattan where they are entered in the state wrestling tournament sponsored by Kansas State College.

Miss Sylvia Post, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L.A. Post, and Claude E. Morris, son of Mr. and Mrs. E.T. Morris of Atwood, were married Sunday, Feb. 16 in Goodland. Mrs. Morris graduated from DCHS in 1935 and her husband is employed at the Service Tire Shop. They have rented an apartment in the E.G. Odell home.

Jennings: Many are filling their ice houses while the ice is still plentiful.

Big Timber: Alfred Heilman wore an expansive smile Sunday when he took Grandpa Richardson for a ride in Henry's new Ford V-8 pickup.

Mrs. V.D. Woodward entertained on George Washington's birthday for her daughter Martha's 12 classmates in the fourth grade. Refreshments consisted of brick ice cream with a hatchet in it, and a red, white and blue cake.

Young Henry Beardsley celebrated his 8th birthday with a party at which 26 of his classmates and friends were entertained. Miss Dorothy Diehl, his city school teacher, helped with games. Other guests were Grandpa and Grandma Beardsley, Miss "Teet" McKague, Mrs. Emily Beardsley, Marilyn Hanson, Marjorie Noel, Roth Noel, Jack Vernon, Phil Woodward, David McGee, Arthur Hamilton, Max C. Vernon, Junior Green, Alice Beardsley, Henrietta Olson, Gene Slagle, Donald Hurst, Don Guinn, Ruth Gene Barnes, Rollie Thomsen, Dwayne Jones, Jackie Woodward, Velma May Hagadorn and George B. Beardsley.

In what was one of the best basketball games this writer had ever seen, Oberlin managed to score two goals in the overtime period of three minutes to win over Norton 26-23. The score was tied at the end of each of the four quarters. In the game with Hoxie here Friday night, the locals won 36 to 20.

About 250 people from surrounding towns were in Oberlin Saturday for a 13-team grade school basketball tournament which was won by Norton.

Mr. Rodney Scott of Allison was in Oberlin Saturday and his nephew, Jerry Thomsen, went home with him to celebrate the birthday of another uncle, Robert Scott. Dr. and Mrs. Thomsen and Amy Jane drove out Sunday to spend the day with the Scotts and Jerry returned home with them.

50 YEARS AGO — March 1961

Dial telephones in Oberlin will go into operation on Sunday, March 5. G.Rover is the word to remember plus the five numerals.

The springs are running in Decatur County and this is considered a good sign in regards to weather. Soil tests have been made in Decatur County and moisture is reported at depths of six feet.

The Oasis, a new business along

the north side of Highway 36, will open this weekend under the management of Elsie Young.

Almost every Sunday the word is out "There is another coyote hunt." The past Sunday hunters in pursuit of coyotes south and west of Traer had company when they saw five deer dashing across a ridge. It is said that deer are quite common in this area and especially are seen in the Nebraska sections.

News from DCHS: James Haney has resigned as vocal instructor at the end of the school year and plans to continue his education at the University of Indiana. Other resignations include Robert Dailey, social science, and Mrs. Avis Taylor, home economics.

Norcat: Work will begin April 1 on a new brick educational unit at the Norcat Methodist Church. Estimated cost is \$17,541. Ground-breaking ceremonies are scheduled for March 19 and the church will also observe the 75th anniversary of the church at that time.

Jennings: The Jennings Coyotes, co-champions of the CNKA League, and the Selden Wildcats, champions of the Prairie League, met head-on Friday night at Selden with Jennings winning 53-49. Both teams will play in the regional with the winner to go to the state BB tournament in Dodge City.

Hospital News: Mr. and Mrs. Larry Wymore, Oberlin, son, Lynn Ray, 2-21-61; Mr. and Mrs. Rex McGowne, daughter, Lisa Gay, 2-23-61; Mr. and Mrs. Leon Miller, Rexford, son, Michael Leon, 2-25-61; Mr. and Mrs. Don Shaw, Arvada, Colo., son, Todd Lee, 2-21-61.

Dresden: Brent Anderson, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Merlin Anderson, was brought home from Children's Hospital in Denver this week and is somewhat improved.

25 YEARS AGO — March 1986

Following a survey of readers and advertisers, The Herald, effective

with this issue, will be distributed Tuesday rather than Wednesday each week. Over-the-counter vendors will receive their copies on Tuesday afternoon along with local box holders, while subscribers on carrier routes, both local and rural, will receive their copies on Wednesday rather than Thursday.

Most farmers aren't wishing for winter weather since they're into calving season, but the continuing high temperatures of February and lack of moisture are cause for some concern among wheat farmers.

Pat Bulluch, 23, a native of Waukeenee, has announced that he plans to re-open Bradley's Blacksmith and Welding Shop. He is a 1981 graduate of the welding program at Northwest Kansas Vo-Tech School in Goodland and has been employed in Russell by Farley Machine Works.

Norcat: Mr. and Mrs. John McMinn, Hillsboro, announce the engagement of their daughter, Debra Kay, to Mark Alan Ward, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth G. Ward, Norcat. The bride-to-be is a 1983 graduate of Hillsboro High School and a 1984 graduate of Brown-Mackie College, Salina. She is employed by Air Midwest in Parsons. Her fiancé is a graduate of Norton High School and is currently attending Wichita State University. A June 14, 1986, wedding is planned.

The Most Rev. George Fitzsimons, Bishop of Salina, confirmed 46 young Catholics in separate ceremonies Saturday and Sunday at the Team Ministry Parishes of Herndon, Oberlin, Selden and Leoville.

Repeating last year's team performance, the Oberlin Red Devil wrestlers took the sub-state title from the St. Francis Indians by a score of 151 to 147. After Corey Raulston's first defeat of the season, the tournament was decided by heavyweight Kent Winder who pinned McMullen of Norton. Coach Alstrom will take seven wrestlers

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Logan Asher Nichols, infant son of Ryan and Karen Nichols, was baptized Sunday, Feb. 27, during morning worship services at St. John's Lutheran Church in Oberlin with Pastor Kevin Schnakenberg officiating. His sponsors are Karen Eskew and Travis Nichols. Logan's maternal grandparents are Scott and Kristi Waterman, and Wilma May is his paternal great-great-aunt.

Ryan May, Cassidy Shields, Elizabeth Nedland, and Zach May were among 10 students from Decatur Community High School inducted into the National Honor Society on Feb. 14 at the Oberlin Gateway Center. To qualify, a student must have a 3.4 grade point average and exhibit service, leadership, and character.

Susan May, serving on the Kansas Farm Bureau State Women's Committee, Jason Ketterl, Taylor Macfee, Samantha Meitl, and Britany Urban were presenters at the Ag Be-Wise class held at the Colby Community Building Saturday, Feb. 19. Anyone interested in promoting agriculture was urged to attend.

Elwood and Jeanie May left Wednesday for Grand Island, Neb., to spend time visiting Stephanie Frankforter and Ethan. They cared for their grandson, Ethan, on Thursday while his mother was at work and returned home on Friday.

Roger May, serving on the Kansas Crop Improvement Association's board of directors, attended their State annual meeting Tuesday

and Wednesday in Wichita where Roger was presented with the prestigious Kansas Premier Seed Grower Award for 2010. His father, Walter, received the same honor in 1965, the year Roger was born. During the annual meeting, Roger was also elected as the new chairman for the Kansas Crop Association.

Elizabeth Nedland played fifth chair French Horn in the Kansas Music Educators Association (KMEA) State Honor Band Concert Saturday at the Century II Convention Center in Wichita. Fifty-four schools were represented in the 1234A State Honor Band and Elizabeth, Samantha Anderson, Darbi Rouse, Katie Glading, and Jacob Helm represented Decatur Community High School. During the concert, Jacob and Katie were recognized for being in State KMEA the past three years. Rhonda May and Dan Nedland were among parents attending the concert.

Susan May was a coordinator and presenter at the Kansas Food Check-Out Day held Wednesday at Dillon in Colby.

Jessica Bremer, a student at Washburn University, was recently named to "Washburn's Who's Who Among Students" which honors campus leaders for scholastic and community achievements. As part of this recognition, her name has also been submitted to the National "Who's Who Among Students" in American Universities and Colleges.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

This area received 3 or 4 inches of snow on Thursday the wind blew it around some. We are grateful for the moisture that was in it. Sunday a lot of it melted.

Sunflower Senior citizens potluck dinner will be held at noon on Tuesday March 8. Bingo will be played following the meal. Please bring a prize and come join us.

A small group attended the United Methodist Church Sunday at Jennings, due to the fog.

If you have news, please send to me at wcanlc@webtv.net or call 785-678-2233.

Glenda Harris returned to her home in Grand Junction, Colo., after spending from Sunday to Wednesday with Lila Jennings. Additional

Sunday dinner guests were Brent and Rhonda Jennings, Topeka, and Brett Jennings.

Judith Nusse, a former Jennings resident, is on a two-week tour to Israel and will return on March 13. They will visit Jerusalem, Nazareth, Cana, the Sea of Galilee, Golan Heights, the Dead Sea, Jordan River baptismal site, Bethany, Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Basilica of Agony, Yad VaShem Holocaust Museum, Israel Museum, the Dead Sea Scrolls, Pool of Bethesda, St. Anne's Church, and many other points of interest. She is the daughter of the late Gerald and Marjorie (Shearer) Tacha, and the late Butch Nusse.

Good Samaritan Center

By Lisa Paulson

To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven. Ecclesiastes 3:1

Spring is just around the corner, and with it comes anticipation of warmer weather, flowers, the return of song birds and rebirth and renewal. Even though the residents are in a controlled environment, the weather and changing seasons still play an important role in their lives here at the Good Sam. Many activities are planned around the seasons and the holidays associated with each one.

This serves several purposes; for those who have lost some cognitive awareness it helps to reorient them to the time of year and jog memories especially when using sensory items such as snow for them to touch or taste, listening to the birds in the spring, smelling fresh flowers in the summer or crunching the dry leaves of fall. It also keeps them connected to the community. This is especially true for us in this agricultural area. They keep abreast of things like lambing or calving season, planting and harvest times and also the work that went with it. Holidays bring back special memories, usually the most meaningful ones.

A lot of our time is spent looking back on life. You know the old cliché, "Hind sight is 20/20"? Working at the Good Sam is really a gift, when you look back on the lives of those you work with and hear their stories of their joys and sorrows. You begin to discern what is truly important in life versus the trivial things that just clutter up your life.

The only thing that endures the test of time, disease and disaster is love, the love of God and the love of others. Those of us who are younger would do well to learn from the older, wiser ones we serve to invest more time and energy in loving one another and savoring each season of our life.

If you would like to share in this wonderful gift, just come and spend some time here like our many volunteers and visitors. Both are such important contributors to our daily life here at the center.

Joey Hirsch came on Monday to challenge the residents in a Presidential Day Trivia. He loves history, and appreciates the "living history" lessons he gets from the residents. Larry Smith comes weekly to promote technology and help with personal e-mails. Marilyn Horn and Colleen Geihlsler also are faithful to come every week for Bingo. Dorothy Alstrom, Rosella Meitl, Penny Fringer, and Karen Bruning come to do manicures on Wednesdays. Dennis Brown, Barbara Dehlinger and Phil Erickson bring Devotions. Carol Duncan reads The Oberlin Herald for our Current Events. The 180 Boys as well as Cerys and Megan Davies come to play Kick Ball on Saturdays. Mert McEvoy leads Bible Study on Wednesdays. The Ministerial Alliance provides church services as does John Paulson. Larry Mack deals for our monthly Pizza and Poker get-together. Connie Simonsson and Penny Fringer have adopted our plants for some tender loving care.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

The Cedar Living Center residents met on Monday afternoon for some American history trivia in honor of Presidents' Day. Residents did a great job of identifying the former Presidents and assorted facts about them.

The sing-along group met with Mary Ann Amack and Teresa Shaughnessy before supper on Monday afternoon.

Wilma LaSalle won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Alvina Gamblin won the blackout game.

Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler of the Faith Lutheran Church gave the monthly Communion service on the patio Tuesday afternoon.

Residents celebrated National Banana Bread Day on Wednesday. Tara Votapka and the dietary department baked up a big batch of homemade banana bread in the morning. The bread was served to residents during the social hour held on Wednesday afternoon in the dining room.

Fr. Mark Berland had Mass for the Catholic residents on Thursday morning.

There were several winners at the penny card game played in the dining room on Thursday afternoon. Residents joining in on the fun in-

cluded Dale Butler, Darlene Fisher, Irene Fringer, Alvina Gamblin, Doris Gilbert, Elsie Goodnight, Donna Kent, Ira Kolsky, Joan Noble, Edie Pettera, and Agnes Pruitt. Several residents also met for game night on Thursday evening.

The baking group made chocolate mint cookies on Friday afternoon. The cookies turned out great and were a big hit with residents and staff.

The dietary and activity departments teamed up during supper on Sunday evening to make ice cream sundaes. Each resident selected from an assortment of toppings and supervised the making of their sundae. Toppings included chocolate, caramel, and strawberry sauce, bananas, cherries, and whipped cream.

Mary McEvoy donated two jigsaw puzzles to the residents this past week. Puzzles with fewer than 500 pieces are always a hit.

Recent visitors: Norma Ward, Clayton; Lillian Sulzman, Dresden; Pete and Eileen Portschy, Herndon; Jan Sattler and Jayme, Atwood.

Carol Kompus, Dolores Koerperich, Ila Ray, Lyle Gamblin, Max and Veanna Carman, Julie Schiessler.

Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

Events coming up soon are the 4Hymns Vocal Group at The Gateway this Sunday at 2 p.m., sponsored by the Oberlin Arts and Humanities, Alif Be Khe Trivia Night at the American Legion, and the Good Samaritan Society Decatur County "Hoedown" at the American Legion.

It has been sort of a slow time here at the Chamber, just the usual meetings that I attend, and visiting with several people that call the office for information. Our Chamber board is working on new ideas for events for the coming year.

We will be meeting again at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8, here at the Bee Building. During that meeting will be a 2011 planning time. Several ideas have been mentioned, but if any Chamber members would like to present an idea, please feel free to come join us at our meeting.

We had a member at our last meeting that spoke about how our town is a "Destination." I am working with Oberlin Convention and Visitors Bureau also in making a pamphlet to help promote our county as an even better "Destination" for visitors and vacationers. I will also be updating the Sappa Park flyer that I made last year since there has been much progress by the committee and Pheasants Forever in creating a more useful park.

I was given some information about a class that will be taking place in Colby on "AGRITOURISM: Your Next Cash Crop?" I have been mentioning this before, and now Jan Janzten will be close by to speak about it. He is a farmer-rancher that started his business sort of by accident when he invited some friends to come go horseback riding on his farm. There are five sessions on Wednesday evenings in April and the first Wednesday in May. There will be additional speakers to help Jan cover other topics which include:

- Defining Your Agritourism Business
- Financing Your Dreams
- Pricing Your Product or Service
- Finding, Reaching and Serving Your Customers
- Legal Forms of Business
- Risk Management and Insurance
- Creating Your Agritourism Business Plan
- Legal Liability
- As I may have said before, I attended a couple sessions in Dodge City where Mr. Janzten talked about the Agritourism business, and I was very impressed. I will be handing out copies of this flyer around Oberlin, and I will have some available in the office if you would like to pick some up.

Decatur Health Systems

By Othelia Vacura

The Diabetic Support Group will be meeting in the lobby of the Specialty Clinic at 7 p.m. Thursday. Topic will be "Food in the Fast Lane," a discussion about choices available at fast-food restaurants.

Making healthy food choices while on the road or when eating out can be challenging. Lisa Votapka will have dietary information on fast-food offerings. All diabetics and their support persons are invited.

Tiffany Palmer, the new director of Cottonwood Home Care, has been a charge nurse at Cedar Living Center for several years. She says she loves geriatric nursing and looks

forward to providing home care.

We welcome Carolyn Miller back to fill the charge nurse position at Cedar Living. She provided several years of nursing care at the center in the past, then left for a short time.

New faces are appearing at Decatur Health Systems. Four new nurse aides have been hired recently. Alisha Simmons is working at Cedar Living, and Carie Schurr, Alysha Tadlock and Alyssa Montgomery at the hospital.

Jonathan Richards has been hired as an information technician to help with computer issues. We welcome the additional skills these employees add to our facility.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Congratulations to Ben and Mariah (Jones) Grafel on the birth of their son, Jasper Kendall Grafel, on Feb. 3, 2011, at Presbyterian/St. Luke's Hospital in Denver. He weighed 1 pound, 13.6 ounces and was 14 inches long and will be hospitalized until he gains more weight. Mail will reach them at the hospital, 1719 E. 19th Ave., Denver, Colo., 80618.

Arian Arnold was honored with a surprise 70th birthday party at the LandMark Inn on Saturday. Her mother, Edla Olson, and brother and his wife, Galen and Lynn Olson,

took her and her husband, Steve, out for lunch. Joining them there for the party were Mike and Nione Rhodin, Loveland, Colo.; Lee Munsell, Lee's Summit, Mo.; Eunice Martin, Norma Anderson, Elden and Delta Anderson, Vince and Gayle Carlson, Jason Anderson, Oberlin; Clay and Jennie Anderson and Cowen, and Kevin Hoffer, Herndon; Larry Holle, Conifer, Colo.; and Violet Holle, Atwood.

Weekend visitors of Chris and Sherri Schmidt were Danace O'Malley, Clae, Jordyn and Kaine, Colby.

Call Pat for all your classified needs
785-475-2206