

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — March 1886

The wild geese, ducks, ground squirrels, chicken hawks and meadow lark conspire to make us believe that spring is here.

The grounds adjoining the depot is a veritable campground, filled with immigrants and their household effects.

Wooster & Allen of the Commercial Livery have 65 stalls in their stable and one night last week had 76 head of horses under shelter.

Dan Caster proved up on his homestead Tuesday.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Hitchcock, Monday, March 15, a son.

The Commercial Hotel has a new illuminated sign.

The high winds of last week demolished the horses sheds on the W.D. Street place.

The building once occupied by the Pioneer Billiard Hall will be converted into a meat market with M.E. Mix as proprietor.

100 YEARS GO — March 1911

Friday morning we had a genuine dust storm from the southwest and on Saturday afternoon we got it back from the north.

The boys are beginning to play ball; we heard a flicker and a robin last week and it begins to look as though spring is here.

Earl Claar has returned from Topeka to his Cook Township farm and will try tilling the soil again.

W.A. Smith and family left Saturday evening for their new home in Topeka.

Arthur Claar has accepted a position with the J.I. Case Threshing Machine Company; his territory being Smith, Jewell and Phillips County.

A.N. Feaster and Judge W.S. Langmade were injured Saturday when thrown from Feaster's buggy, after his horse had been frightened by a boy on roller skates.

75 YEARS AGO — March 1936

Decatur County has been allotted 45,000 acres for listing in the Wind Erosion Control program of the so-called "dust bowl" area. Demonstrations will be held Friday at the Fred Rehm land 2 and a half miles east of Oberlin as well as at the Emil Petracek land 2 miles north and 5 miles west of Jennings. The county central committee who will receive applications is composed of Carl Johnson, Kanona, chairman, Victor Morton and Glynn Shaw. Farmers will receive 20 cents an acre for ground listed or cultivated.

Mr. N.V. Gerhart has resigned as manager of the local J.C. Penney Store and the family will be moving to Tennessee to open a store of his own. The new manager, Mr. Ralph Harper, has been associated with the Penney Store in Great Bend for a number of years and comes here highly recommended.

An open house will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday in Oberlin at the Price Worcester house on East Commercial Street which is the first house in this county to be built under the plans and regulations of the Federal Housing Administration. The new residence is of English colonial type and the building contractor was Ernest Nichols. Several of the rooms have been furnished by Griffith Furniture Store and Hayes & Son Hardware & Furniture.

More than 135 guests gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S.K. Marcuson of the Lund community last Sunday to help them celebrate their golden wedding anniversary.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Stimbirt, Traer. son, Roger, born March 15; Mr. and Mrs. Frank

Spiers, Center Township, a son to be called Bennie, on Friday, March 13 and weighing 10 and one-half pounds; Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Holmquist, a daughter, Carole Ann, born at Benton Memorial Hospital, also on Friday, March 13 and a daughter, Glenva Jean, born to Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Laidig, also born on Friday, March 13 at the hospital.

50 YEARS AGO — March 1961

The bond election, held March 17 in the court house in Oberlin to determine whether or not to build a kindergarten building, was approved by a 4 to 1 vote, 309 to 81. On the second issue, to issue bonds in the amount of \$10,000 to replace the boilers in the present main school building, the vote was 348 to 35 in favor.

The Smith United Super Market is expected to open the first part of April. The store is located at 132 North Penn in the building that formerly housed the Safeway Store. The Smiths are currently living in an apartment but plan to move to the Loyd Waldo home at 106 S. Waldo as soon as school is out as the Waldos plan to move to their farm.

Norcatur: More than 100 persons attended the 75th anniversary of the Norcatur Methodist Church Sunday, March 19. Former pastors attending were the Rev. Oscar Brown and the Rev. Marion Holbert. Current pastor is the Rev. Robert Loomis. Former members who came the farthest for the event were Mr. and Mrs. Lee Railsback, Hayward, Calif. At the groundbreaking ceremony for the \$75,000 educational building to be built on a site just east of the church, the former chairman of the building committee, Ellis Kintigh, turned the first spadeful of dirt, followed by Dewaine Stapp, present chairman.

Janice Laidig of Danbury, Neb., a former Decatur County 4-H member, will leave Oct. 5, 1961, to go to Chile as an International Farm Youth Exchange student. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Laidig of Harlan Township. Other former IFYE students from Decatur County were the late Daniel Petracek who went to Greece and Donelle Gaumer who went to Nepal.

Julie Ann Martin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Martin of Herndon, and John R. Geisinger, son of John Geisinger of Selden, were united in marriage at St. Mary's Church in Herndon Feb. 4 and are making their home on a farm near Dresden.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Simpson announce the marriage of their daughter, Twila, to Meredith Crest on Feb. 24 at Colorado Springs. Mrs. Crest is a 1958 graduate of DCHS and attended Blair Business College before her marriage. They are making their home in Colorado Springs.

Births: Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Morton, daughter, Jana Grace, 3-14-61; Mr. and Mrs. Ed Vavroch, son, John Edward, 3-15-61; Mr. and Mrs. John A. Guy, son, John Todd, 3-18-61; Mr. and Mrs. Larry Sargent, daughter, Jan Marie, 3-20-61; Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Arnberger, daughter, Tamara Kaye, 3-20-61.

Wise Wiggins, 92, pioneer resident of the Liberty Star and Lyle neighborhood, is seriously ill in the Norton Hospital and neighbors are taking turns staying with him at night.

25 YEARS AGO — March 1986

More than 200 farmers, landowners and bank representatives attended an informational meeting at Oberlin American Legion Hall regarding the 1986 farm program administered through the Agricul-

tural Stabilization and Conservation Service. County ASCS director executive director Diane Barrett told the audience, "It's a difficult program. All regulations and provisions have still not been sent down to county offices." Decatur County farmers were mailed their base and yield notices on Friday and many were in to sign up the first thing Monday. Meeting the acreage reduction requirements calls for a 25 percent cut in wheat acres and 20 percent in feed grain plantings.

Weather permitting, dirt will be flying and highway construction crews will be arriving Monday to work on an 8-mile stretch of U.S. 83 south of Oberlin.

A condominium storage facility is being proposed by Decatur Co-op Association which could provide nearly a half million bushels of new storage capacity for area crops.

Twenty-two adults have been registered for the 10-week sign language class to be taught at DCHS in the evenings by Barry Howery of Victoria who teaches for the Kansas

Commission for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired out of Hays. Howery has developed a new concept for teaching sign language to the hearing which involves using songs to enhance the learning process.

Members of the Marymount College Choir and Chamber Singers from the area who are participating in a tour which will begin at Victoria are Christina Green, Herndon, Juanita and Margaret Kaus, Selden and Joyce Meitl and Pippa Stanley, Oberlin.

The Oberlin Jaycee organization which was organized Feb. 28, 1985, as the result of the efforts of regional director Dr. Allen Hooper now has a membership of 45 and has been active in a program for youth in gun safety. In cooperation with the Daisy Corporation over 60 boys and girls between the ages of 8 and 14 are meeting at the Vo-ag building for gun safety instruction. Twelve of the students through their test scores and marksmanship have qualified for a state shooting match to be held at Great Bend in May.

Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

I do think spring is just around the corner! Sunday was a gorgeous day. That's my excuse for not getting my laundry done.

It was just too nice to stay inside, so I worked on one of my many projects that I have going at my house. I hope you all enjoyed the day also.

A lot of events are gearing up for the spring and summer seasons. This weekend is a long-awaited event with the Grand Opening of the final segment of the Golden Age/Recreation Center. The bowling alley is officially open.

Grand opening events will be taking place on Friday evening and all day on Saturday. Come join the fun and enjoy this new recreation in our town.

Also happening this weekend is the annual Good Samaritan Society "Hoedown" at the American Legion beginning at 6 p.m. Call the Good Samaritan Center at 475-2245 for information.

On Sunday evening at the Ameri-

can Legion is the monthly Country Music Dance with Gary Phipps playing. If you enjoy country music, this is the place to be. It is not just for singles anymore; it is for anyone who enjoys the music whether you dance or just come to enjoy the music and conversation.

One of our board members, Richard Kimble, died this last week. This was Richard's third year on the board. He and his wife were the managers and chefs at the Stockmen's Café at the Oberlin sale barn. They provided the meal for the Chamber's last two annual banquets. Richard will be missed.

The Oberlin Convention and Visitors Bureau keeps busy with growing responsibilities at Sappa Park and the marking of the Old-West cattle trails through Decatur County.

The next event for the Oberlin Business Alliance is its annual Fish and Burger Fry on Good Friday, April 22.

Selden News

By Jacque Boultinghouse

On March 10 during Senior Citizens at the Community Center, Ralph Weis won high, Lola Cook took second, Carl Mumm got low and Jeannie Spresser had the most Queens. Other members present included: Edna Schiltz, Royce Cook, Paulie Neff, Bob Wessel, Matt Finnesy, Betty James, Bernita Aumiller, Gail Mumm, Lillian Sulzman and Marilyn Meyer.

On March 17 during Senior Citizens at the Community Center, Shirley Emigh won high, Lola Cook took second, Janice Kruse got low and Bernita Aumiller had the most Kings. Other members present were Edna Schiltz, Royce Cook, Ralph Weis, Lillian Sulzman, Bob Wessel, Pat Wessel, Shirley Baker, Marilyn Meyer, Paulie Neff, Ann Hazlitt and Carl Mumm.

School Calendar - March 25 - 7 p.m. Junior High Carnival at Rexford. March 26 - Regional Music.

Birthdays and anniversaries - March 18 - Nick Rall. March 19 - Danielle Hickert Young, Chance Marble, Tate Bruggeman. March 20 - Mitch Miller. March 21 - Alfred Albers, Traci Smith Metcalf. March 22 - Jackie Geisinger Weins, Stacey Sulzman Wolf. March 23 - Tami Porsch, Francis and Leone Porsch. March 24 - Jayde Adelman, Jim Halbert. March 25 - Jeremy

Schiltz. March 26 - Jeni Rogers, Elsie Wessel (she will be 95). March 27 - Carol Wessel, Dori Pauls, Julie Geisinger, Shani Hunziker, Sara Brantley. March 28 - Lori Miller, Bernie Koerperich, Shirley Campbell Weber, Lisa Weimer. March 29 - Paula Schiltz, Tammy Shaw, Alexia Campbell, Marissa Porsch. March 30 - Wyatt Ashley, Gayle Bainter, Peggy Carman, Doc and Rochelle Mather. March 31 - Kyle Emigh, Bruce Otter.

Election Day is coming up. On April 5, we urge everyone of legal age to cast your vote and make your opinion heard. Look in your local newspaper to find out where your voting poll will be.

New books that have been shelved at the Selden Public Library include: Large Print Books: Winter Bloom, by Tara Heavey; Here to Stay, by Catherine Anderson; Angel's Rest, by Emily March; Sing Softly to Me, by Dorothy Garlock; A Distant Melody, by Sarah Sundin; Heartwood, by Belva Plain; Wild Man Creek, by Robyn Carr; Devil's Food Cake Murder, by Joanne Fluke.

Regular Print Books: Iron Lace, by Emilie Richards; Rising Tides, by Emilie Richards; Fortunate Harbor, by Emilie Richards; 2-Book on CD; It Started in Naples-DVD; My Life in Ruins-DVD.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

The Sunflower Senior Citizens potluck dinner was held Friday March 11. Those enjoying the delicious meal, social hour and playing bingo were: Rachel Carter, Ann Szweistis, Alice Mizer, Bob and Neoma Tacha, Wayne and Louise Cressler. Tuesday, April 12, will be our next potluck dinner at 6 p.m.

Brenda and Daniel Coffman with their two sons from Columbus, Ohio, arrived in Jennings Thursday. They are living in the former Heit house on S. Topeka. We welcome them to our community.

Pastor Barbara Patterson gave

the sermon Sunday at the United Methodist Church in Dresden and Jennings. She and her husband, the Rev. Glenn, had been gone almost three weeks to Africa with a mission group. Glenda Johnson, Jennings, and Darlene Nondorf, Phillipsburg, had given sermons in Barbara's absence. We will be hearing more about Barbara and Glenn's trip to Africa in the near future.

Karen Stueve and Katie of Gardner visited Friday, March 11, thru Sunday, March 13, with her parents, Bud and Helen Rhodes.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

Sympathy is extended to the family of Beth Binning who passed away on Friday at Cedar Living Center.

Several residents met on Monday afternoon to try their luck at rolling the dice. Snacks were served following the game. Myrna Jones led the sing-along time before supper on Monday.

Bingo players on Tuesday included Letha Bachman, Dale Butler, Irene Fringer, Alvina Gamblin, Elsie Goodnight, Ira Kolsky, Bob Keller, Wilma LaSalle, Wilma May, Joan Noble, Edna Mott, Agnes Pruitt, and Mary Votapka.

Max Ward was the guest of honor at a birthday celebration held in the dining room after bingo on Tuesday afternoon. Norma Ward and Shelley McKenna served cake and ice cream to residents and staff.

Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler of the Faith Lutheran Church had the monthly Communion Service on the Cedar Living Center patio before supper on Tuesday afternoon.

The craft group met to make shamrock lapel pins on Wednesday afternoon. The shamrocks were worn by the residents on Thursday.

Stuart Euhus led the Bible study on Wednesday afternoon.

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

Family members brought lunch to the Cedar Living Center patio on Thursday to help Alvina Gamblin celebrate her birthday.

The dietary department served

corned beef and cabbage at noon on Thursday in honor of St. Patrick's Day. Residents met in the afternoon for a St. Patrick's Day celebration hosted by Tara Votapka.

The baking group made banana chocolate chip cookies on Friday afternoon. Many staff members showed up to help the residents eat the cookies.

Pastor Gene Gee and Gaylen Huntley of the Oberlin Community Fellowship led the worship service on the Cedar Living Center patio Sunday afternoon. Opal Huntley also attended.

Ron Temple and his group met for a practice session in the dining room on Sunday afternoon. An appreciative audience of residents and their guests came out to listen and sometimes sing along.

Recent visitors: Lillian Sulzman, Dresden; Norma Ward, Clayton; Meredith Hrnchir, Jarett and Marie Sis, Jenny Sis, Delpha Sis, Jan Sattler, Atwood; Linda Bosler, Herndon; Randy and Sue Miller, McDonald; Betty Rall, Michelle Comptare, Colorado Springs; Rita Hartner Eckerdt, Les and Myrna Pettera, Loveland, Colo.; Marlene Cook, Littleton, Colo.; Lad and Lori Truetken, Selden; Tara Larson, Colby.

Robert and Penny Fringer, Marilyn Gamblin, Carol Kompus, Marian Dempewolf, Caroline Jacobs, Dolores Koerperich, Connie Miller, Mirium Fisher, Kary Miller, Jamie Miller, Juanita Williby, Max and Veanna Carman, Phil Erickson and Mary Long, Oberlin.

Good Samaritan Center

By Lisa Paulson

"You are the light of the world... like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden." Matthew 5:14

Our Good Samaritan motto ; In Christ's Love , Everyone is Someone" reminds us that whatever our title and whatever our role (resident, staff , family, visitor or volunteer) we are all equally precious in the eyes of the One who loved us enough to die for us!

This week the STAR Committee was encouraged in our mission by attending a STAR Retreat held at the Gateway. Bill Kubat from our National Campus was the presenter. STAR Committee members are: Linda Hollowell, Judy Jordan, Paula Cochran, Vi Krizek, Jo Henderson, Angela Cochran, Christine Edmundson, Frannie Nothdurft, Tina Perrin, and Lisa Paulson.

The STAR acronym stands for Stop Along the Road, just as the Good Samaritan did in the Bible (and for which the Society is named). In our work it is expected that we would do this "on the job" for our Residents, but the retreat was a call to incorporate the motto and mission into every aspect of our life, both personal and professional. Our thanks to Janice Shobe for bringing Bill Kubat to us. It was a very inspiring investment into our lives.

The STAR Committee shone brightly Thursday as they hosted our "Coffee, Tea and Me" St. Patrick's Day Party. Coffee cake and fruit cups were served by everyone wearing green and lively Irish music played in the background.

Tuesday, during Social Hour a DVD of the history of St. Patrick was viewed by Mary Lemman, Mary Waldo, Leone Porsch, Alice Bobbitt, Opal Bryan, Amy Rehm, Earl Brown, Doris Marintzer, Crystal Moore, Eulaine Benda and Walt and Betty May. Afterwards, Shirley Hayward and Ben Jorns joined us for a competitive game of Shamrock Toss! Mary Waldo was our first place winner with Leone Porsch taking second, and Shirley Hayward third. This is a favorite game that can be played by everyone!

Pastors Chris and Sharon Nelson from the Oberlin Covenant Church came to help us say good-bye to our dearly loved Maintenance Supervisor, Terry Black. They led a Memorial Service in his honor. The residents, many who knew Terry as a child, had the opportunity to share remembrances of him and the Good Sam Choir sang the Spirit Song. He will be missed in this place.

We also said good-bye to Mildred Burr who came to live with us after the fire at the St. Francis Good Samaritan. She is returning to her home there as they have re-opened the facility there.

Serena Stacy interviewed Glenn Martin and Amy Rehm for an American History Project on Survivors of WWII.

HO-DOWN this Saturday, March 26 at the American Legion! You won't want to miss it. Tickets for the Dinner/Dance and Auction are on sale here at the Good Sam or Northwest Insurance Agency for \$25.

Remember to let your light shine bright for the Lord this week!

We had lots of visitors this week: Cheryl Miller for **Loren Schrock**. Detta Anderson for **Eva Bryan**. Sharon Slabaugh for **Opal Bryan**. Jerry and Joye Hill for **Don and Cheryl Hill**. Penny Fringer, Tara Sue Larson, Tami Cook, Reva Marshall and Ron and Dixie Snyder for **Dorothy Hunt**. Murry and Audrey Pavlicek for **Mary Lemman**. Frank and Mert McEvoy for **Lucy Schissler**. Connie and Jerry Olson for **Evelyn Olson**. Edie Tate and Gladys Geis for **Lois Carlson**. Eunice Martin for **Glenn Martin**. Galen Olson for **Edla Olson**. Jody Betts for **Crystal Moore**. Max Carman for **Myrtle Waldo**. Linda Wade and Marilou Long for **Elden Long**. Marilyn and Steve Horn for **Myrtle Ross**. Susan and Erin May for **Walt and Betty May**. Bud and Vicky Mumm, Stan, Becky, Muriel Faimon and Luke Marintzer for **Doris Marintzer**. Julia Otter, Pam Glassman, Lorraine Ackerman and Connie Bryan for **Leone Porsch**.

Rexford News

By Vicki Allison

The Golden Plains Junior Class Annual Carnival will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. on Friday, March 25, at the high school. Lots of activities for children and adults to enjoy: bingo, cake-walk, football toss, golf, balloon darts, face painting, fish and duck ponds are just a few of the many booths to play and earn prizes. The Carnival proceeds are used to fund Prom 2011, April 16, for Golden Plains. Thanks in advance to the public for their participation and donations received from local businesses to help support the evenings event are greatly appreciated.

Free Family Movie, "Touching Wild Horses," Sunday, March 27, 3 p.m. in The Hall (230 Main Street).

On Tuesday and Wednesday, Shepherd's Staff hosted rep-

resentatives from at least seven counties. The Northwest Kansas Travel Council held a retreat and monthly meeting and viewed all of the facilities.

There were 30 bingo players at the Red Barn's March Bingo event on Saturday, March 12. Participants varied in ages from five to fifty-five and older and all seemed to enjoy the two hours of winning fruit or candy bars.

It was Spring Break for lots of schools during the past week and Taylor Moeder and friend, Paige, from the Shawnee, were guests of Taylor's grandmother, Cleda Moeder, on Saturday to Wednesday. On Tuesday, Peyton Moeder and friend, Cora, came for dinner and spent the night.

Until next time, make your week a memory.

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