## **THE OBERLIN HERALD**

# **Events of Yesteryear**

125 YEARS AGO — April 1886 Rubber boots and slickers were in great demand last week. The stages and trains were all somewhat delayed by the heavy rain Monday night.

Sixty-three prairie schooners were tied up in Oberlin during the rainstorm on Friday.

M.E. Mix sold the old pioneer billiard hall on Penn Avenue Saturday to H.S. Beardsley.

E.D. Stillson and W.J. O'Toole of Hooker P.O. have dissolved partnership, Mr. Stillson retiring. O'Toole Bros. will continue the business.

School District No. 13 is soon to have a new schoolhouse of Kansas brick, 14x26 with frame roof. It will be built at the mouth of Hazard Draw and will be known locally as "Devil's Den Schoolhouse."

Travelers arriving on the midnight express are apt to become bewildered by the formidable array of hotel runners that greet their appearance at the depot.

#### 100 YEARS AGO - April 1911

Charley Spreckelson had his hair cut on Thursday of last week, and this has for many years been taken as a sure sign of spring being here.

Editor Roberts of the Herndon Nonpareil got out a mighty chesty paper last week, all because Mrs. Roberts had presented him with a young son.

The south part of the county received a good rain Monday afternoon.

T.C. Brooks, who has been getting ready to move to Nebraska, changed his mind after the fine rain and has decided to stay a while longer.

The earth trembles when the Fortney boys go by in their new automobile.

R.D. Strain made garden one day last week and before night everything he had planted was up; his neighbors' hens seemed to be anxious to see what he had put in the ground and gave it a raise.

The Presbyterian Church people held their annual meeting Thursday evening; J.E. Kulp was chairman and D.G. Addleman, secretary of the meeting.

#### 75 YEARS AGO — April 1936

Herbert O. Caster, Decatur County's most illustrious son, died Tuesday at Polyclinic Hospital, New York City. No man has done more for Decatur County and Oberlin than has Mr. Caster and his rapid rise to prominence after leaving Oberlin has been watched with pride. Born in Ohio in 1871, he moved with his parents to Oberlin in 1877 and grad- 25 YEARS AGO - April 1986 uated from Decatur County High School in 1891 and from Ottawa University. He served as Decatur County superintendent of schools before entering the legal profession where he served as general counsel to the Empire Gas & Fuel Company in Bartlesville, Oklahoma until 1925 when he entered the New York office of Henry L. Doherty. At the time of his death Mr. Caster was an officer and director of 46 corporations. He is survived by his widow, the former Maude VanGundy, two daughters, Mrs. E. F. Walsh Jr., Kansas City and Miss Mary Caster; three brothers, V.R. and Fred Caster of Oberlin and Amer Caster of Overton, Neb; three sisters, Mrs.

Nora Morton, Oberlin, Mrs. D.P. Gilbert, Wellsville and Mrs. T.J. Taylor, Atwood; and two grandchildren. Funeral services were held in Kansas City and burial was in a Kansas City cemetery where his son was buried four years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Bivans are living at the Hotel Oberlin while their small niece, Gladys Corcoran is quarantined with scarlet fever at the Bivans home.

Leoville: Mr. and Mrs. Jack Spresser are the parents of a 12pound son.

Custer: Freddie Bremer is the proud owner of a new pony. He spent most of the day Sunday learning to ride and was just taking the last ride that evening when he fell off and in some way broke his right wrist.

Frank Fringer, a familiar face on the Standard Oil truck here, has been rewarded with a promotion to the capacity of salesman for the Standard Oil Company and will now travel by car over his territory surrounding the county.

### 50 YEARS AGO - April 1961

One of the many new laws enacted by the 1961 Kansas Legislature of widespread interest to the people of Decatur County, is Senate Bill 400 which provides for the organization of unified school districts.

Oil activity is currently booming in Decatur County with five drilling outfits working 'round the clock in widely separated localities.

Open house will be held next week at Oberlin's new telephone building according to Bill Ottoman, manager for Southwestern Bell. This will be the public's first opportunity to see the new building and equipment at 125 E. Hall.

Dresden: Funeral services were held for Jay Chapman, 83, a farmer in the Dresden area for many vears

The Dale Young construction crew started last week on work on the new building for Centennial Bowling Co. located south of town on the A.J. Dowling land.

Those receiving I's on solos at the state music festival in Hays were: chorale, girls ensemble, clarinet quartet, saxophone quartet, Helen Pelkey, flute; Linda Bremer, saxophone; Sue Mathews, bass clarinet and Charles Kiefer, tuba.

Stakes have been set for the foundation of the new home of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Landau on N. Penn Avenue. Nichols Construction Company has the contract.

eration in ceasing the action. As a services Sunday at St. John's Lulast resort Rogers said the county would take criminal action.

New members of the Decatur County Historical Society elected at the annual meeting are Joy Votapka and Sharon Tally. Sharon Martinson and Reva Marshall have agreed to serve additional three-year terms.

Lindsey Euhus, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kent Euhus, was baptized during morning worship

theran Church by the Rev. Morris Kirchhof.

**By** Jody Betts

School News; National Honor Society president Todd Fiscus filled in for Principal Gordon Matson during Student Government Day.

Brad Simonsson, son of John and Sharon Simonsson, a junior at DCHS, has been chosen to attend Boys State at Lawrence June 1-7.

# **Jennings News** By Louise Cressler

Agnes Wahlmeier, Jeff and Mary Damon Cook, Dallas, Texas, and Wahlmeier, and Stan and Ramona Shaw attended Baptismal services of their grandson and great-grandson, Trenton Ray Wahlmeier, infant son of Nick and Kerri Wahlmeier at Faith Lutheran Church in Oberlin on Sunday, April 3. A luncheon was held following the services at the home of Nick and Kerri. Additional guests included Randy and Sharon Olson, Oberlin; Matt and Kristi Ostmeyer and boys, Ellis; Eunice Martin, Oberlin; Darlene Fiekert, St Francis; and Brent Olson and Molly Coleman, Oberlin.

On Saturday, April 9, the Jennings City Library had the monthly reading program for children. They meet at the library at 10 a.m. for reading, snacks and an Easter egg hunt. Candice Taylor, Clayton Carter and Taryn Fleckenstein read a book to the attending children. Those attending were: Clayton and Anna Carter; Abbie and Madison DeBois: Candice, Sidney, Ravna, Abe and Quinley Taylor; Taryn and Jordan Fleckenstein. Helen Rhodes and Bob Jones assisted the librarian. Carla Latimer.

Please continue to bring new or gently used books to The Bank in Jennings for the book drive being sponsored by the Jennings Book Club. Deadline is May 1.

Graveside services were held Monday, April 18 at 2 p.m. at the Jennings cemetery for Walter Cressler, Hoxie, formerly of Jennings. Walt was 102 years old on Feb. 1, 2011. Viewing and visiting for the family was held at Pauls Funeral Home in Oberlin on Sunday afternoon.

Among the turkey hunters here last week at the home of Lila Jennings were her son-in-law, Steve Cook, Fort Morgan, Colo.; grandsons, Derek Cook, Brighton, Colo.;

eight other hunters from Colorado. Brent Jennings, Topeka, and two friends from Oklahoma were at the home of Brett Jennings.

The Jennings City Council has selected Saturday, May 7, for the Jennings Spring Clean-up day, beginning at 9 a.m. The week of May - May 7 has been established as a free week at the Decatur County landfill and trash may be delivered there without cost until noon on May 7. Success of the clean--up day is dependent upon community participation and all interested persons are welcome and encouraged to take part. Repainting the street curbs is one of the items on the work agenda. Other suggestions for the clean-up projects are welcome and should be directed to the city council or the Mayor, preferably prior to May 7.

Property owners wanting assistance with a clean-up project should also contact the City Council or the Mayor 785-678-3010. A noon meal and a late afternoon snack will be provided at the Broken Wheel. Anyone who so chooses may bring a dish to share. If farm work prevents an adequate response of manpower and equipment for the heavy projects, another clean-up day may be scheduled during the fall. Council members include Louise Cressler, Clint Krizek, Stann Hartzog, Pat Hall and Rick Foster.

Wayne and Louise Cressler are happy to announce the arrival of their twin great-granddaughters born April 11. Hayden Eugenia weighed 5 pounds, 12 ounces and Ryleigh Joan weighed 5 pounds, 10 ounces. Parents are Shane and Tania Collins, Mobile, Ala. Grandparents are Genia and Don Tetreault, Clanton, Ala., and Randy Collins, New York.

# **Good Samaritan Center** By Lisa Paulson

To the faithful you show yourself faithful. II Samuel 22:26a.

Each year I try to find a theme for our Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon that is reflective of the ones who come week after week to serve our loved ones who live here. When I surveyed the list of those who come every week I noticed two things: first their names were on every volunteer list I had in my folder for the past eight years and they were no "Spring Chickens." Their ages ranged from 60 plus to 93 and upon further inquiry, many had been volunteering here for 15 years or more.

Faithfulness came to the forefront of my mind and became the mantra that began to play over and over, but for much more than just the volunteers. When I came to work at the Good Sam in 2003, my personal life was in shambles; I was broken and hurting. I came looking for a job, but what I found was a place of refuge and caring. Right away I was so encouraged by the faith in Jesus the Residents so freely shared. I was strengthened and found healing for my broken heart.

Then I took notice of the faithfulness of the families who came to visit every week and some even every day. The faithfulness and unconditional love of husbands whose wives were struggling with Alzheimer's or another health problem and vice-versa, the wives whose husbands were living here made a huge impression on me. The children of the residents who were faithful to call, visit, shop, take their mom to appointments etc. inspired me.

That was eight years ago. The names and faces of residents have changed, but faith in Jesus and the faithfulness of their families remain. New broken and hurting staff members have joined our Good Sam Family giving our Residents a wonderful opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus right here, right now, right where they live!

God is not finished with them vet!

The Fruit of the Spirit has been our topic of discussion in Bible Study. Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Gentleness, Faithfulness and Self-control are the fruits we are growing. Myrtle Ross, Dorothy Pryor, Alice Bobbitt, Leone Porsch, Opal Bryan, Evelyn Olson, Lucy Schissler, Walt and Betty May, Violet Schissler, Dave and Charlene Meyer, Phil Erickson and Lucy Schissler participated.

coln came on Tuesday with a very special treat: warm homemade donuts!!! No diets today veryone came to taste and enjoy!

The First Hand Friends came to read for the very last time. Next month will be their Teddy Bear Picnic to celebrate the great strides they made in reading this year!

We honored our faithful volunteers on Saturday. The luncheon was hosted by our newest club "The Good Sam Gals." Members include Amy Rehm, Mary Waldo, Emma Sanford, Lucy Schissler, Violet Schissler and Alice Bobbitt. Leroy Stevenson was our guest speaker, Mary Waldo read our scripture and Amy Rehm closed our program with prayer.

Again we want to extend our thanks and appreciation to all who share their time and talents with

Praise God for the vision of Dad Hoeger who, in obedience to the Lord's prompting, founded the Good Samaritan Society. His belief that "In Christ's Love Everyone is Someone" extends beyond providing a loving home for the elderly, but includes ministry to their families, staff members and the community as well!

As we prepare our hearts for Easter, please join us for a Good Friday Service at 7 p.m. Friday evening in Town Square. Don't forget the Community Easter Sunrise Service at the Fairgrounds at 6:30 a.m., presented by Decatur County Ministerial Association.

Here is a list of this week's faithful friends and family who visited; Max and Veanna Carman for Myrtle Waldo. Cheryl Miller for Loren Schrock. Sharon Slabaugh, for Opal Bryan. Jerry and Joye Hill for Don and Cheryl Hill. Reva Marshall for Dorothy Hunt. Murry and Audrey Pavlicek for Mary Lemman. Mert McEvoy for Lucy Schissler. Connie and Gerald Olson for Evelyn Olson. Edie Tate for Lois Carlson. Eunice Martin for Glenn Martin. Steve and Arian Arnold (Herndon) for Edla Olson. Carolyn Strevey for Crystal Moore. Marilou Long for Elden Long. Marilyn Horn for Myrtle Ross. Rhonda May for Walt and Betty May. Loyd Waldo, Jody Betts for Mary Waldo. Ralph and Norma Unger for Lucy Schissler, Opal Bryan, Alice Bobbitt and Evelyn Olson. Brecken and Kennedy Jensen for Violet Schissler. Dave Meyer and "Sable" for Charleen Meyer. Mary Long for Phil Erickson.

Dorothy Woods and Donna Lin-



Strong gust winds moved into Decatur County Sunday afternoon with a peak gust of 77 miles per hour recorded at Oberlin Airport. Decatur County Extension Agent Mick Glaze said the wind definitely damaged the fast growing wheat crop and moved a lot of topsoil.

According to an inventory done by Jim Strine of the Kansas Department of Forestry, 270 trees have vanished from the streets of Oberlin since 1972. Most were American or Siberian elms.

During a meeting with township officers in Decatur County on rightof-way farming, County Attorney Terry Rogers said letters will be sent to offenders asking for their coop-

# **Herndon News** By Julie Hafner

Herndon Pride is sponsoring the annual Easter Egg Hunt at the City Park on Saturday, April 23. This event is for preschool-fourth graders starting at 10 a.m. An adult Easter basket is on display at The Bank in Herndon with raffle tickets available. A bake sale will take place at the same time. You need not be present to win. Come and cheer the little ones while they find the hidden decorated eggs! This is no Egg-Aggeration, it will be lots of fun!

Sharon Frick, Herndon; Sherrel Adams and Gwen Gilbert, McCook, traveled to Indianola, Neb., to help Kristal and Jaxton Payton and Vesta Gilbert celebrate birthdays. Lemon meringue pie was served instead of birthday cake, as that's a family favorite.

Don Pettera, Mesa, Ariz., is spending the week visiting his mother, Edie Pettera of Oberlin and family and friends in the area.

Congratulations to Anita Mumm of Denver on her award sponsored by the Denver Women's Press Club. Anita's short story, titled, "Pet Cemetery," won honorable mention. Bud and Vicky Mumm, Gem, enjoyed the English tea party held before all.

the readings of poetry and stories and mingled with participants while cake was being served.

St. Mary's Catholic Easter services will be Holy Thursday, 5 p.m.; Good Friday at 3 p.m. and Easter Sunday Mass at 8:30 a.m. Parishioners met for Palm Sunday at the hall for the distribution and blessing of palms. Father Nick and altar servers led the procession into the church following the opening service and beginning of Mass, marking the cards and quilting, and went to the beginning of Holy Week and Our

Lord's journey to the cross. Julie's Memory

## Joggers Joke, 1921

"Just As Good As Married: Ayoung fellow undertook to jolly an old maid, when the following conversation took place:

"Aunty, why don't yau get married?'

"I'm as good as married now." "How's that?"

"Well, you see, I've got a parrot and he does the swearing; I've got a hog and he does the grunting; and I've got a tom cat and he stays out all night! If that's not as good as the average husband, I'll quit!"

A Blessed and Happy Easter to

# Lyle News By Veda Wood

Easter sunrise services will begin at 6:45 a.m. Sunday on the steps of the Lyle Church. Jim Plotts will conduct the services and breakfast will follow at the community building.

Everyone is welcome. A freewill donation will be taken for the breakfast.

A few people are going to the Norcatur Educational Building for Bible study on Monday at 7 p.m. I also write this on Monday, and have a visit with Aubrey, (greatgranddaughter) for an hour or two after school.

Jackie Porter, Eleanor Jenson, Joyce Sumner, Toots Magers and I sewed on Tuesday, for the first time this year.

Although June Jolly's birthday was a few weeks ago, we finally had her birthday party in Norcatur at the Cardinal Bar and Grill.

It was cold and blustery on Friday, so Margaret Magers, June and I were the only diners, then we went to the Senior Citizens card game.

Another activity that has been delayed for months was our Liberty Star club meeting. Carolyn Plotts, a visitor, Babe Hawkins, Joyce Price, Toots Magers. Kathy Van Meter and Veda Wood met on Wednesday at Lyle.

June Jolly keeps busy with bingo, Animal Shelter sale in McCook.

Joyce Sumner, Toots Magers and Kathy Van Meter went to the luncheon for volunteers at the Good Samaritan Home on Saturday.

My daughter, Sandy McNames, went to Hays on that blustery Friday evening and read a poem in the contest.

She said she didn't win, but she had fun. She had invited Carol and I to go, but we declined because of the wind, but she and I were reading our poetry to each other about 11 p.m.

Von Sumner visited with Toots Magers last Wednesday afternoon. On Sunday, 25 Powell cousins met at the Community Building, had dinner and planned the Powell picnic, which will be held in July.

Sheryl Patterson visited me on Thursday, picking up a photograph album of Alta Van Gundy's to be sent to our niece, Connie Boyer.

June Jolly's family members have been passing some sickness around, but she feels they are about through with it

w She did Bingo at the Eagles club one day and attended a DOES (counterpart of the Elks) luncheon. She and another lady took first in pitch, and then she won a chimes set in a grab bag.

Toots Magers and I rode to Lebanon, Neb. with Rea and Dee Magers to attend Neal Warner's funeral at the Lebanon Presbyterian Church on Saturday.

The American Legion, Post 313 and Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 7719 performed, including Taps, presenting the flag, and the volley over the Veterans grave.

A lunch followed at the American Legion Building.

Eleanor Jenson was honored by her children with a beautiful reception at the Norton, American Legion. Kathy Van Meter, Toots Magers, June Jolly, Joyce Sumner and Veda Wood attended, as well as many family, friends and neighbors.

Remember the Sunrise Service at Lyle April 24, 6:45 a.m.

# **Mount Pleasant News** By Dianne Bremer

Hunter Nedland's photograph won the Juror's Merit Award for the third year in a row at the High Plains Artfest this past weekend at the Oberlin Gateway Center. He also sold a photograph this year as he has done the past two years.

The High Plains Artfest brings together amateur and professional artists from Northeast Colorado, Southwest Nebraska, and Northwest Kansas where they can show and sell their work

The dance scheduled for Thursday evening had to be cancelled due to the wild weather. We will reschedule as soon as possible. There were several winners at the penny card game played on Monday afternoon. Snacks were served following the game.

Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack led the sing-along time before supper on Monday afternoon. We sang many of our favorite old songs. Everyone joined in on singing Happy Birthday to Ira Kolsky. Mary Votapka won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Darlene Fisher won the blackout game.

Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler gave the monthly Communion service on the Cedar Living Center patio before supper on Tuesday afternoon.

Teresa Shaughnessy and Tara Votapka hosted the annual Volunteer Tea in the Cedar Living Center dining on Wednesday morning. The dietary department prepared a delicious brunch for the group. Volunteers attending the event included Stuart Euhus, Marian Dempelwolf, Ila Ray, Dolores Koerperich, Myrna Jones, Mary Ann Amack, Juanita Williby, and Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler.

A group of residents met on Wednesday afternoon to watch Johnny Carson shows on DVD. Homemade bread was served warm

home Saturday evening.

Friday through Tuesday.

from the bread machine with plenty of butter.

Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson on Wednesday afternoon.

The first annual pie baking contest was held at Cedar Living Center on Thursday afternoon. Staff members brought the pies which were judged and then later eaten by an appreciative audience of residents and staff. Pies were donated by Lisa Votapka, Roberta Blake, Teresa Ely, Natasha Weishapl, Tara Votapka, and Teresa Shaughnessy. The pies were judged by a panel consisting of resident Wilma May and staff members Vicky Sylvester and John Lister. Roberta Blake won the best overall pie for her peach pie. Additional prizes were won by Lisa Votapka and Tara Votapka. Tara was especially proud of winning the award for the prettiest pie as it was her first homemade pie.

The baking group made a fabulous batch of monster cookies on Friday afternoon. They were a big success. Norma Ward ate supper with Max Ward on Friday evening.

Recent Visitors: Susie Morford, Atwood; Linda Files, Atwood; Bee Nelson, Norcatur; Linda Bosler, Herndon; Julie Hafner, Herndon; Don Pettera, Mesa, Ariz.

Mirium Fisher, Lyle Gamblin, Carol Kompus, Max and Veanna Carman.

Call Pat today for all your Classified needs Sophomore Day/open house at the university. After spending Friday evening in Manhattan, they returned 785-475-Susan May attended the Farm Bureau National Women's Leadership Conference in Baltimore, Md., from 2206

Roland and Pam May, Zach and Hannah, and Ryan May toured Kansas State University on Saturday where the boys were involved with