

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Feb. 1887

Look out for the lion at the close of March.

The Oberlin Opinion received a job press the first of the week.

The Chicago Lumber Co. received two cars of barb wire this week.

The Rock Island surveyors arrived at the east line of the county Tuesday.

Ethan Allen has purchased an interest in the livery and feed store at Eustis and in company with Capt. J. W. Allen started for that place last Sunday.

M. Foley, who has the contract for six miles of grading southwest from Cedar Bluffs, began moving supplies out to the scene of operations Monday. His contact calls for completion of the work by Aug. 1.

100 YEARS AGO — Feb. 1912

A number of 4-horse loads of corn were taken out Monday.

The snowplow failed to open up the railroad Monday and the passenger failed to get in. The Dresden mail also failed to get here and we were forced to read over our Saturday's papers.

John Bivans, the butcher, was in such a hurry to get downtown Monday morning that he wore his night shirt, which he claimed he forgot to take off.

Sunday was a snowy day; at times it nearly developed into a blizzard.

The chess players of the town are greatly wrought up over the way Prof. Chas. Ellis plays. He beat Colonel Parker four straight, cleaned up on the Herald force neatly and knocked the stuffin' out of Dan Campbell, Will Curry and Ira Wear and is sighing for more worlds to conquer.

75 YEARS AGO — Feb. 1937

With the date for the special school bond election but a few days ahead, a Herald reporter interviewed persons of the community and found strong support reasoning that the community needs a new school building and that almost 50 percent of the cost would be covered by the PWA grant which might not be available in coming years.

The debate team which qualified for the state tournament in Lawrence was badly crippled by the loss of John Laidig who succumbed to the mumps and the team was eliminated the first day.

Among the students at the high school who are out with the mumps are Betty Dyer, Mark Cleland, Claretus Gilbert and Lloyd Reist and a faculty member, Mrs. Kidd.

Jennings: The third of a series of benefit bridge tournaments will be held at the Masonic Hall in Jennings on Thursday, March 4.

A silver tea at the Presbyterian church sponsored by the four Federated clubs of Oberlin was given on Washington's birthday for the benefit of the Music Talent Fund, a project of the Kansas Federation of Women's Clubs. A 15-minute

presentation of a medley of American folks songs on the pipe organ by Mr. Ted Addleman opened the program. This was followed by two vocal selections by Mrs. Charles Hawkes, "Ava Maria" by Gounod and "Danny Boy" by Weatherly accompanied on the pipe organ by Mr. Addleman. Oberlin is particularly proud of these two very talented persons and the audience of 150 women was most appreciative. Silver tea services were used by the women pouring who were club presidents, Mrs. Howard Eiler of JCC, Mrs. Dan Campbell of Monday Evening, Mrs. Ben Miller of Philosophian and Mrs. Ted Addleman of Keep Pace. The amount raised was \$21, \$10 of which will be used for expense and the remainder contributed.

Liberty Star: The ladies will serve at the sale for Mr. and Mrs. Ben Smiley March 18. Not the least of the Smiley possessions which will go under the hammer is a genuine stone-headed Indian tomahawk or hatchet with a handle of hickory which was found by Mr. Smiley's people more than 100 years ago.

50 YEARS AGO — Feb. 1962

The DCHS wrestling team bounced back from a season filled with injuries and illness to climb to sixth place in the final standing of the Kansas State High School wrestling tournament held at Norton. Bob Brown placed second in the 133-pound class and Mike Machart won third place in the 112-pound class. Bill Brown captured third place. Norton won the tournament with a total of 59 points followed by Newton with 44, St. Francis 42, Douglas, 36; Wichita West, 29 and DCHS, 24. Although Coach Melvin Simpson had no state champions he felt good about the showing his team made adding that Norton had one of the best high school teams he had ever seen.

Jennings: The winner of the C.N.W.K.A. basketball tourney was Jennings. Alan Scott led the Coyotes with 21 points while John Shirley was high point man for Norcat with 18.

Funeral services were held at Sacred Heart Church for Rita Goltl, 18, who died of Hodgkin's Disease after an illness of two years. Survivors include her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Goltl and brothers Evan and Lairy Goltl.

Hospital News: Mr. and Mrs. Marcellus Hickert, Oberlin, daughter, Ann Elizabeth, 2/22/62.

Funeral services were held for Wes Ridgway, 82, a lifetime resident of Oberlin who was spending the winter in Ventura, Calif., with a son, Joe. Other survivors include four sons, Gale, Leo, Yoyle and Bob and three daughters, Ruby McCain, Hazel Smith and Nola Garver.

25 YEARS AGO — Feb. 1987

An open house for Decatur Manufacturing Inc. is scheduled for March 21 when Gov. Mike Hayden will be the special guest and 120th

District representative Fred Gatlin will accompany him to Oberlin from Topeka. Company president Dick Schroeder reports that good progress is being made at the boat and trailer plant. Fred Sander, vice president, has returned to Wyoming but will continue his association with the company through sales.

The Wichita consulting firm of Peters, Gamm and West were in Oberlin this week as work continues on the last phase of funding for Kansas Coach Inc.

Decatur Co-op Association was the buyer of the service station located at the northeast corner of the intersection of U.S. Highways 36 and 83 formerly occupied by Oil Field Service and Supply.

Teresa Ritter correctly spelled the words "beneficial" and "catastrophe" to win the Decatur County spelling championship. She is an eighth grader at Jennings School and is the daughter of Victor Ritter and Frieda Ritter. She will represent Decatur County in the Kansas Spelling Bee scheduled for April 25 in

Topeka. Runner-up in the county contest was Leanne Chambers, seventh grader at DCJHS and Bobbie Brooks, Jennings, was third.

Jennings: Craig Wahlmeier of Jennings has accepted a position with Data-Tronics Corporation in Fort Smith, Ark., as a systems analyst. He received his undergraduate degree in computer science in December 1986 from Kansas State University.

New Arrival: Judith and Arnold Long, Oberlin, daughter, Megan Renee, Feb. 28, 1987.

Neither Glen Baughman nor Kent Winder of DCHS survived the second round of the 3-2-1A state wrestling tournament held at Hays. Phillipsburg won its first State team title with Hoxie coming in a close second and St. Francis taking third. The upset of the tournament was the defeat of three-time state champion Wes Harding of Southeast of Saline by Hoxie's Lance Shepherd in overtime. The controversial match was determined by overtime criteria.

Decatur Health Systems

By Becky Wilson

Discussion of management and finance systems, the installation of a new president and a renewed commitment to providing outreach clinics to the smaller surrounding towns were highlights of the Decatur Health Systems board meeting last Monday.

A team from Great Plains Health Alliance led by Roger John, president and chief executive officer of the Phillipsburg-based agency, delivered a presentation about the management, billing and finance systems it has to offer affiliated hospitals. The board listened to the presentation, and later agreed the hospital should continue to investigate what Great Plains had to offer while also looking into what other possible providers from the surrounding area such as Kearney or Hays could do — and to see if it would be feasible to stay with the setup the hospital has.

Representatives from Good Samaritan Health Systems in Kearney will be attending a future meeting, and inquiries will be made of Hays. Gary Walter, president of the board the last year, said he is facing an increased workload this year and felt he could not devote as much time to the job. He recommended that Treasurer Pam Wilson be nominated as president.

Mrs. Wilson said she was willing to serve for a year and was elected. The board also moved to give 90-day notice that Decatur Health Systems was giving up any claim to a clinic space in Atwood that has not been used recently. Since Atwood has more doctors now, the board felt it made more sense to relinquish that lease and instead work on expand-

ing the outreach clinics in Norcat and Jennings every other Tuesday and to Herndon and Selden once Decatur Health has enough providers to staff all of them.

In other business, Lynn Doeden, hospital chief executive officer, updated the board on recruitment efforts. Dr. Alexander Pleszynski-Platz, who interviewed here in January, has signed and returned the letter of intent that was sent him. The next stage in him coming here is for Dr. Platz to secure a license to practice in Kansas and the hospital completing his reference checks.

Another physician, Dr. George Hightower, will be interviewing in early March. Dr. Hightower is from California, but has family in the Omaha area that he wants to be closer to.

Laboratory manager Jodi Votapka discussed the lab and her efforts to obtain the business from Norton by running microbiology samples. Many practitioners in Norton use Quest Diagnostics of St. Louis, Mo., to run their samples, she said, but some were sending their samples here. A reliable courier service is seen as the sticking point in obtaining all of Norton's business at a reasonable price. The board discussed finding someone who lives in Oberlin but works in Norton and might be willing to deliver samples on the way.

Dr. Pete Zander could not attend the meeting because he was attending a continuing education session in Las Vegas, but he listened and participated via speaker phone. The meeting ended with a closed session on risk management.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

Sympathy is extended to the families of Charles Haag and Wilma Bobinmyer who passed away this past week at Cedar Living Center. They will be missed.

We observed President's Day on Monday with a Presidential trivia time in the afternoon. Several residents also met to try their luck at penny cards. Mary Ann Amack and Donna Fortin assisted with the sing-along time before supper.

During the coffee hour on Tuesday morning, residents learned about Mardi Gras. The bingo players met in the afternoon with Marian Dempewolf and Ila Ray assisting.

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

The craft group worked on greeting cards on Wednesday afternoon.

Margee Wilson and Lynn Doeden put on their aprons to flip up some pancakes for supper on Wednesday evening. The dietary department prepared the sausages and the fruit salad and Margee and Lynn fried the eggs and the pancakes. The dining room smelled great and the food was hot off the griddle. Wheat Ridge Terrace residents Marguerite Bailey, Norma Richards, and Merle Shirley attended the supper along with Melanie Anderson serving as the designated driver.

Fr. Mark Berland brought Communion for the Catholic residents on Thursday morning.

The Pi Alpha Club hosted the February birthday party in the Cedar Living Center dining room on Thursday afternoon. The group served homemade desserts to an appreciative crowd. Amy Carman and her children Isaac, Patience, Moriah, Gideon and Hope provided the delightful musical entertainment. We had no resident birthdays to celebrate, but everyone enjoyed the party anyway.

Several residents met on Thursday evening for a game night. Rumor has it that they had a great time playing Uno.

Alice Shirley attended a birthday party in honor of Juanita Eckhart at Wheat Ridge Terrace at noon on Friday.

The baking group made sugar cookies on Friday afternoon. Even though they made an especially large batch of cookies, they seemed to disappear quickly.

Recent visitors: Pat Marintzer, Idalia, Colo.; Sandra Richards, Denton, Texas; Tom and Celeste Noble, Hot Springs, Ark.; Brandon May, Cairo, Neb.; Geraldine Parker, Norton; Julie Hafner, Linda Bosler, Pete and Eileen Portschy, Herndon; Susie Youngblood and Linda Files, Atwood.

Bill and Carol Duncan, Mirium Fisher, Carol Kompus, Catherine Neal, Eula Jueneemann, Gerry Neff, Wayne Larson, Cecil Hess, Marty Olson, Dolores Koeperich, Elwood May, Marilyn Gamblin, Sherri Shuler, Jim and Laurie Wasson, Oberlin.

Norcat News

By the Norcat News Committee

Sympathy is extended to the family of Verle D. Francis, 90, who died on Feb. 23, 2012, at the Hillcrest Nursing Home in McCook. He was a former Norcat resident and was a retired Burlington Railroad employee. He is survived by his wife, Dolores, McCook; a daughter, Eloise (Dean) Thornton, Charleston, and Leland (Lois) Francis, Wilson; 10 grandchildren, and 24 great- and great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two sons, Keith and Craig Francis; a daughter, Kathy Taylor; three brothers and one sister. Memorial services were held Saturday at the Church of the Nazarene in McCook with Terry McCorkle officiating. Inurnment was in Memorial Park Cemetery in McCook.

Sympathy is also extended to the families of Jim Marshall and Earnest Huff.

Don't forget the pancake and sausage supper from 5 to 7 p.m. on Sunday at the Norcat United Methodist Church.

Happy Birthday to Denise Bailey, Feb. 22; Juanita Eckhart, Feb. 24; Mike Helm, David Hare, Robert Schoenrad, R. J. Brogan and

Andrea Spanier, Feb. 26. Happy Anniversary to Monty and Linda Hunt, and Gail and Denise Bailey, Feb. 23.

Senior citizens pinocle was held in the Educational Bldg on Thursday.

Senior Citizens met on Feb. 17 at the Educational Building for pitch with 15 present. Winners were Jodi Lyon, Kay Foth and a tie for third for Sherri Regal and Norma McCallister. The next meeting will be at 1 p.m. Friday at the same place. A potluck dinner at noon is planned on Friday, March 30, with cards to follow.

Genealogy information is being sought for Freida or Freda Meda Crabill. She was born July 21, 1905, at Norcat or in the Norcat area. Her parents were Minor Eldon Crabill and Edith Lillian McBride. It is thought when she was born, they were living in Sherman township. Her parents are buried in the Norcat Cemetery. Information may be sent to John Hartwig, 1905 NW 10th Street, Ankeny, Iowa, 50023-1209, phone (515) 964-1089x2, or email to shart@crosspaths.net.

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Cassidy Shields was one of four Decatur Community High School students selected for the Kansas Music Educators Association (KMEA) State Honor Choir and Elizabeth Nedland, French horn, was one of five Decatur Community High School students selected for the Kansas Music Educators Association (KMEA) State Honor Band. Both groups were held at the Century II Convention Center in Wichita Feb. 23-25 beginning with in-service workshops followed by both choir and band performances on Saturday. Selections for both groups were based on strenuous auditions earlier in the year.

Saturday overnight guests and weekend visitors of Elwood and Jeanie May to celebrate Brandon May's Feb. 26 birthday were Brandon May and Leslie Myers, Kearney, Neb.; Andrew and Stephanie (May) Frankforter, Ethan and Isaac, Cairo, Neb.; Dora Holliday and Valerie Schultz, Chase; and Sharon Stahl, Plainville. Dora and Sharon are Jeanie's sisters and Valerie is Jeanie's niece.

Joseph Scott James Waterman, infant son of Heather Waterman, was baptized during Sunday morn-

ing worship services Feb. 26 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Oberlin with Pastor Brad Rick officiating.

Alexandra Waterman sang a vocal solo during church services preceding the baptism of her brother, Joseph Waterman, in honor of his baptism.

At the Junior High Music Festival in Colby Feb. 15, Alexandra Waterman received a II rating on her vocal solo and a I rating on her clarinet solo. She was also in the eighth grade girls' ensemble and the woodwind ensemble which both received I ratings.

Paul and Kelly Shields, Tyler, Cassidy, and Caitlin were Sunday supper guests of Gaylord and Shirley Shields to celebrate Gaylord's birthday which was Monday.

The third annual Good Samaritan Hoedown fundraiser for the residents at the Oberlin Good Samaritan Center will be held Saturday evening, March 24, at the Oberlin American Legion and will include a dinner, auction and dance. For tickets (\$25 each) or sponsorships, contact Dianne Bremer at Great Northwest Insurance, 475-3400 or at home, 475-2973.

Good Samaritan Center News

By Lisa Paulson

Even though the calendar tells us it's still February it feels like spring is just around the corner, and with it comes anticipation of sunny warmer weather, flowers, the return of song birds and rebirth and renewal. Even though your loved ones 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 re-orient 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 along with it. Galen Tacha and I had quite the conversation about snow removal off the creek bottoms in the winter and pulling calves.

On Monday, we were still thinking about the many aspects of love that we celebrate in February. We read Psalm 150 again as we sat around the beautifully decorated Heaven-themed pond. Then, Arlie Hafer, Loren Schrock, Opal Bryan,

Amy Rehm, Marylu Brown, Alice Bobbitt and Dorothy Hunt played Heart Toss in Town Square.

The Good Sam Gals got official name badges to wear when they greet the many guests that come to visit.

The nice weather prompted the Artsy Craftsy Club's creation of some beautiful tissue paper flower gardens. Dorothy Pryor's "A Flower Garden", Amy Rehm's "Love's A' Bloom" and Betty May's "Betty's Folly" are on display.

Bible Study this week is starting a "One Another" series. This week was "Love One Another" and the question was raised, "What is it that makes you feel loved?" The answers were not what I expected. The general consensus was "the little things", not flowers, diamonds, chocolates or the like but "a smile or hug", "when people get down so I can see and hear them better", "just a visit or phone call from my kids", "when the girls go slow and give me extra time".

On Friday, the In House club baked muffins for the staff, to show them that they are loved. Then Poker Club met to express their love for the game.

Our thanks to the Girl Scouts for the Conversation Heart decorations and Jim Ferguson for bringing six boxes of Girl Scout cookies for us to enjoy. Yummy!

Recent visitors were: Cheryl Miller for Loren Schrock. Nadine Tacha (Jennings) and Bill and Char-

lotte Nelson for Galen Tacha. Max Carman for Myrtle Waldo. Mert McEvoy and Ralph and Norma Unger for Lucy Schissler. Jerry Hill for Cheryl Hill. Reva Marshall and Tami Cook (Norcat) for Dorothy Hunt. Mert McEvoy for Earl Brown. Donnia Lindgren and Arlie Hafer. Marvin and Sharon Slabaugh for Opal Bryan. Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem) and Stan and Becky Faimon (Stratton, Neb.) for Doris Marintzer. Murry and

Audrey Pavlicek for Mary Lemman. Galen Olson and Arian Arnold for Edla Olson. Gerald Benda for Eulaine Benda. Pat Fringer for Margaret Vacura. Von Johnson for Crystal Moore. Connie Simonsen for Amy Rehm and Marylu Brown. Marilyn Horn for Myrtle Ross. Betty Hafer (Atwood) for Arlie Hafer. Carol Ginther (Gem) for Donnia Lindgren. Marian Fraker and Ted Taylor for Mary Waldo.

Lyle News

By Veda Wood

Tracey Pershing visited with her parents, Carol and John Moye; her daughter, Adrienne and children, Kylie and Skylar of Hays; her sister Tielia High; family and friends. She spent Wednesday with her grandmother, Veda Wood. They spent the day doing family "ancestry", looking at pictures, and going to cemeteries. As she said, some people love this kind of activity and some don't. We are of the ones who do. We had such a wonderful day. She went back to Wyoming on Friday.

June Jolly took in the Home Show in McCook on Friday. She visited with Kathy Van Meter and Lloyd Frandsen while there. June played cards that evening. On Saturday she and most of her family went to Kearney, Neb., to attend a hockey game between Kearney and Lincoln.

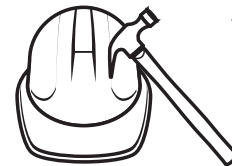
Judy and Charley Easton visited Toots Magers Sunday afternoon and fixed the water leak under her house.

Kathy Van Meter and Lloyd Frandsen attended the banquet at Southern Valley School by Furnas County Livestock Association. Mrs. Van Meter visited with Shanna Nitzel, one of the 300 people who attended. On Sunday they went to the talent show at the Fox Theater in McCook. Alexis Whipple, a young country singer and yodeler, was the main entertainer.

Joyce Sumner reported that her granddaughter, Amy Archer, had been in the hospital, but is out and feeling better.

Jim and Carolyn Plotts were Tuesday evening supper guests of Greg and Yvonne Sumner.

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