

THE OBERLIN HERALD

# Events of Yesteryear

By Joan Betts

**125 YEARS AGO — Aug. 1887**  
W.A. Lloyd is closing out his stock of groceries.

A heavy rain over the county Monday night.

J.E. Kulp and family are sojourning in Ohio for the present.

Mrs. J.D. Wickham has been appointed postmistress at Lyle. J.A. Bothers resigned.

E.E. VanEpps will occupy the second story of W.D. Street's building with his photo gallery.

Sol Rees of Jackson has raised on this farm this year 5000 bushels of potatoes, 3000 bushels of onions, and has corn that will yield 100 bushels to the acre. That's the kind of a granger Sol is.

A list of Oberlin's attorneys-at-law:

G. Webb Bertram, Lewis G. Parker, S.D. Decker, W.A. Wilson, A.G. McBride, Col. W.T.S. May, S.W. McElroy, Owen R. Fegan, L.L. McBride, Judge Ray, A.C.T. Geiger, Judge Hayes, A.J. King, S.S. VanSickle, M.V. Jones, E.E. Jones, E.E. Gibbens, J. Walter Wilson, F.W. Casterline, D.M. March, Judge Goss, G.F. Bogue, Adam McElroy, Prince L. Huggeons, James Donovan, A.L. Patchin, Tully Scott.

**100 YEARS AGO — Aug. 1912**

Grover Martin traded for the Grice auto on Saturday.

Will Guinn lost his life in a tragic manner last week; receiving such severe burns while trying to transfer gasoline from one car to another on the road near Kanona that he died 5 hours later. Will Cook had his hands seriously burned in attempting to aid Guinn.

Primary election winners:

County Clerk: C. J. Raymond, d; Frank Groom, r.; Register of Deeds, Frank Votapka, d., Geo. D. McMullen, r.; Probate Judge, S.B. Weir, d.; O.C. Milleson, r.; Sheriff, C.W. Bainter, d.; L.H. Baner, r.; Supt of Public Instruction, T.B. Wolfe, d.; G. W. Gilkison, r.; Clerk of District Court, O.E. Furman, d., L.F. Gillette, r.; Com'r 2nd Dist., Fennis Penn, d.; Justin T. Avery, r.; Com'r 3rd Dist., W.P. Noone, d., A. Alstrom, r.; County Treasurer, T.M. Anderson,

d; J.W. Smith, r.; County Attorney, J.F. Peters, d.; L.M. Parker, r.

**75 YEARS AGO — Aug. 1937**

School will begin in Oberlin on Sept. 6 and five new teachers have been added to the staff, three in the City School and two at the high school.

Lowell "Alex" Francis will teach physical education and coach football having taught at both Mankato and Holton. He graduated from Fort Hays State College and attended the University of Missouri this summer.

Wendell Kellogg will teach English, Social Studies and Journalism and succeeds Mr. Ralph Martin. He received his A.B. Degree from Colgate University at Hamilton, New York, and this summer took work at Fort Hays State College.

Miss Gladys Smith who has taught five years in a rural school after graduating from DCHS will teach in the City School as will Miss Joy McKie of Salina who has two years of college work at Fort Hays State.

R. Leigh Bell, who comes here from Cedar Bluffs where he was principal and has several additional years of experience teaching in the county, will be the third new member of the teaching staff at Oberlin City School.

Biology has been added to the curriculum at DCHS this year and will be taught by Russell Anderson. Superintendent Charles Hawkes is expected back from New York City this week where he had completed work for his Master's degree.

Damage was held at a minimum at the dam in Sappa State Park last week when the heavy downpour of rain up the Sappa Creek watershed sent that stream on another rampage, and furnished the third or fourth filling of the lake in the new state park. The water reached close to the top of the dam, some splashing over, but the great bulk of the water was drained out through the supplementary channel recently made by the WPA and workmen from the county engineer's office.

Dr. Don Smith of Wilsonville, about 50, was seriously injured in a

dust storm when his car crashed into an embankment at a curve which he could not see. He later died of chest injuries while en route to the Norton Hospital. He was a native of the Clayton area and had lived in Wilsonville about 20 years. He is survived by two children, his mother, and a brother, Dr. J.L. Smith of Norcatur. Funeral services were held in Kansas City.

Mrs. Virgil Nelson entertained last Thursday evening at a 7 o'clock dinner honoring the 16th birthday of her son, Dennis. Those present were Mrs. Cora Patton and Dixie Lee, Orville Vernon, Mrs. G.E. Cody, Mrs. McCalla and Mrs. Nelson and family.

John Nitsch left Sunday night for Kansas City and returned Monday driving a fine new Buick which he delivered to John Screen.

Jennings: The Cilek family enjoyed a picnic at the golf grounds Sunday.

**50 YEARS AGO — Aug. 1962**

An increase in the enrollment at Oberlin Elementary School of 56 pupils brought the total to 590 plus the enrollment of 245 students at DCHS brings the total enrollment figure to 835. Kindergarten enrollment is 84.

New teachers at OES are Mrs. Rex McGowne, Mrs. Robert Cambron and Mrs. Gailord Bellamy, first grade; R. G. Blakeman, vocal music and Robert (Bob) Campbell, physical education; and Miss Doris Minney, language arts.

A short pre-school vacation trip to Colorado was marred by the tragic death of Diane Machart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Machart, due to a fall while climbing Cheyenne Canon on Mt. Cutler near the Seven Falls area of Colorado Springs. She would have been a freshman at DCHS this fall. Her sister, Marie, was rescued from a narrow ledge by a military mountaineer team.

Gary Coulter, son of Mrs. Sylvia Coulter, has accepted an instructorship in sculpture at the Fine Arts Department at the University of Kansas where he will work toward a master's degree.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Arlo Wurm, daughter, Shawna Lea, 8-25-1962.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Henningson have returned from a vacation in Banff, Canada and Seattle, Wash., where they attended the World's Fair.

**25 YEARS AGO — Aug. 1987**

The Selden community formally welcomed a new addition to the business district last week with the opening of a medical clinic. Staffing the clinic will be Certified Nurse Aide Tammy Shaw and two physicians from Decatur County Hospital, Dr. Richard May and Dr. Allen Hooper.

Road and bridge department crews continued to clean up a toxic spill that occurred nine miles south of the Rexford road. Bob Keenan, department foreman noted that the clean-up will cost several thousand dollars. A local farmer told Decatur County undersheriff Bert Cool that a truck denoted with skull and crossbones was seen pulling away from the location, an eighth of a mile south of the Bassettville Cemetery and advised authorities of a strong odor which was thought to be a chemical compound. Further investigation revealed the owner and operator of the truck and the information was reported to the State Department of Health and Environment.

Mr. and Mrs. Laverne Corpstein, Tipton, announce the engagement of their daughter, Diane, to Robert Muirhead, Oberlin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Atley Muirhead, Oberlin. The bride-elect is a graduate of Fort Hays State and is currently employed as a nurse at St. Anthony's Hospital, Hays. Her fiancé is also a graduate of Fort Hays State and is employed by Kansas-Nebraska Energy, Hastings, Neb. An Oct. 24 wedding is planned at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Tipton.

Winners of the Bantam slow-pitch league with a season record of 7-2 were: Jenny Brown, Jessica Long, Lana Jones, Jill Votapka, Sherri Elwood, Lori Braden, Traci Elwood, Summer Bryan, Jennifer Pachner, Melissa Chaffin and Bobbie Jo Elwood. Coaches were Becky Ayers and Kem Bryan.

Hemdon Covenant Church, which had its beginnings 100 years ago in a sod church constructed by pioneer families, will observe its Centennial year on Sept. 5-6, 1987, according to current pastor, the Rev. Tom Garretson.

Sappa Valley Golf Classic champions were Brian Moore, Oberlin, and Chris Gomez, Manhattan. Fifty teams competed in the two-day event held at Oberlin Country Club.

## Rexford News

By Gwen Griffiths

The weather is cooling down, and Golden Plains students are preparing to head back to school this week.

The teachers are getting ready, too, attending an inservice on Monday held at Shepherd's Staff. The teachers also got to tour the Historic Philip Houston House during their lunch break. The Historic Philip Houston House will have its official Open House and Dedication from 4 to 7 p.m. on Sept. 12, with dedication and ribbon cutting at 4:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend this event.

If you've driven down Main Street during the past week, you've probably noticed the activity surrounding the Ranch House. For years, the stone foundation has been crumbling, and now Shepherd's

Staff is in the process of removing the old foundation, leveling the building, and pouring a new foundation.

The Spuds and Splits group met on Thursday evening. This is a fun time for the "40-and-over" crowd to hang out and enjoy baked potatoes and banana splits.

The Golden Plains Soap Scrimmage will be on Friday. Bring a bar or two of soap (or other locker room supplies) and then watch the volleyball and football teams play each other. Volleyball players will scrimmage against each other at 5:15, then the football team will play at 6:15. There will be a free barbecue following the football game. This event is sponsored by the Rexford Lions Club and the Golden Plains Booster Club.

## Lyle News

By Veda Wood

The older I get, the more I appreciate how much funerals emphasize the good things about the deceased and make it a celebration of life that offsets the sorrow we necessarily feel. The funeral of Virgil Price on Monday was one of those. I felt when the banjo music played, and his son's group sang, how much he would have loved it. We wish Joyce and their family much comfort and rest from their recent sorrow.

Joyce Sumner is gaining from her recent illnesses; still not all well; but she looks great and is able to be out to important things. Her son, Ward, had back surgery. We hope he will be feeling his usual self soon. Amy Archer, Joyce's granddaughter, who had been in great pain all week, found the cause was a kidney stone, and she is better.

June Jolly did her usual things, the KT Club, cards, and swimming. She went to Cambridge on Saturday where a lady gives lessons and talks about quilts advertised on her

machine. June checked out some frames she could have used for \$15 per hour. She came to Oberlin on Monday to Virgil's funeral, as did Toots Magers, Kathy Van Meter and Lloyd Frandsen, Joyce Sumner and many Norcatur and Lyle friends and neighbors.

The Lyle Community picnic was held at the Powell picnic grounds Sunday. The ones eating, visiting, and soaking in the sunshine on as near perfect day as you can find were: Gary and Cathy Anthony, Keith Anthony and daughter, Sissy; Kathy Van Meter and Lloyd Frandsen; Toots Magers; Charlie and Judy Easton; Wayne Filley; Tim Archer, Joyce's granddaughter, who had been in great pain all week, found the cause was a kidney stone, and she is better.

I, personally, thank everyone who have been so good to me while I am semi-dependent. My leg is doing all right, just have to stay off of it a while longer.

## Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

Decatur Health Systems is gearing up for the road work scheduled to start this week on Columbia Street. We anticipate an increase in traffic on Cedar Street and around the back of Cedar Living Center and the clinic. We may see an increase in staff parking on the Cedar Living side of the building, but we do not want that to discourage any visitors. We will continue to have the paved parking area available for guest parking.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Sam Steinmetz who passed away on Thursday at Cedar Living Center.

Several residents gathered to play cards in the dining room on Monday afternoon. Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack led the sing-along time before supper.

Irene Fringer and Lois Lamb were the big winners at bingo on Tuesday afternoon. Matthew and Timothy Helm assisted with bingo one last time before they had to head back to school. Ila Ray continues to be our always-faithful bingo volunteer, but we are in need of one or two additional helpers on Tuesday afternoon.

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

There were lots of laughs at the domino game on Wednesday afternoon. Joan Noble and Laverne

Heller were the winners for the afternoon.

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

Earla Connell and Teresa Shaughnessy hosted the August birthday party in the Cedar Living Center dining room on Thursday afternoon. Myrna Jones provided the musical entertainment. Wanda Heller and Willie Peters were recognized for having August birthdays. Root beer floats were served.

The baking group made chocolate chip cookies on Friday afternoon.

Joan Noble traveled to Herndon on Saturday with Julie Hafner to visit family members.

The dietary department joined forces with the activity department to make ice cream sundaes on Sunday evening. Residents selected from a variety of toppings for their made-to-order ice cream treat.

Recent visitors: Marsha and Christine Seck, North Platte, Neb.; Jim and Yanis Helm, Kathy Shaffer, McCook; Tara Larson, Martin and Ceanne Rinehart, Colby; Juliann, Jaelynn, Anna and Delpha Sis, Atwood; Julie Hafner, Herndon; Mike, Deb, Matthew and Timothy Helm, Norcatur;

Oberlin visitors: Wayne Larson, Connie Olson, Robert and Penny Fringer, Marilyn Gamblin, Dorothy Moore, Sherri Shuler, Laurie Wasson, Bill and Carol Duncan.

## Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

At the Decatur County Fair Aug. 6-11, Erin May won Grand Champion Market Beef in her division, Grand Champion in photography, Reserve Grand Champion in buymanship, purple and blue ribbons on her cooking and arts and crafts projects, and won the Decatur County Farm Bureau kid's Pedal Pull in her division.

Ryan May won Grand and Reserve Champion on his buymanship in clothing and modeling at the Decatur County Fair and will compete at the Kansas State Fair in September. He also won blue ribbons on his cooking projects.

Gerry and Darlene Schaffer visited the Roger May family Aug. 8, and attended the Decatur County Fair. On Aug. 10, the Schaffers joined Walter and Betty May at the 4-H Style Revue to watch their grandchildren, Ryan and Erin May, model their award winning outfits.

Ralph and Norma Unger traveled to Topeka where Ralph attended a Kansas Workers Risk Cooperative for Counties (KWORCC) monthly board meeting on Thursday. That evening, they were dinner guests of long time friends, Bruce Woner and wife, Patricia Reeder, of Topeka. The Ungers returned home on Friday.

Elmer and Margaret Waterman and Lisa, Bonaire, Ga., were in Oberlin last Friday through today, visiting family and friends. They enjoyed a potluck supper in their honor Saturday evening in the fellowship hall of St. John's Lutheran Church. Joining them for the potluck supper were Ed Waterman, Ponca City, Okla.; Pat and Dottie Mead, Topeka; Marty, Jane,

and Donna Waterman, Atwood; Terry Lippelmann, Selden; and Dale and Lenora Soderlund, David and Karen Eskew, Melvin Waterman, Scott and Kristi Waterman, David and Courtlyn, Heather Waterman, Lexi, Corbin, Kaden, Kiaya and Joseph, and Karen Nichols, Levi, Logan, and Lee, all of Oberlin. Later visitors were Mike and Susan Waldon, Wright, Lawrence, and Ron Bryan, Oberlin.

Elmer's family arrived Friday, and Ed Waterman arrived Thursday to spend time visiting their brother, Melvin, sister, Karen Eskew, and other family and friends.

Lyn and Linda (Bremer) Tomasch and Larry and Lisa (Tomasch) Sonsthagen, Olathe, visited over the weekend with Mildred Holmdahl, Janeil Jensen, and the John Bremer family. Lyn and Linda, houseguests of John and Dianne Bremer, arrived Friday evening and returned home Sunday afternoon. The Sonsthagens were Friday overnight guests at the LandMark Inn and returned home Saturday afternoon.

Additional Friday evening guests at the John Bremer home to visit with Lyn and Linda Tomasch were Kristen Bremer and Rowan, Colby; Jessica Bremer, and Larry and Lisa Sonsthagen.

Mildred Holmdahl, Lyn and Linda Tomasch, and John and Dianne Bremer enjoyed Sunday morning breakfast together at a local restaurant.

Cameron Nedland and Hunter and Rhiannon Nedland left Sunday for Kansas State University, Manhattan, since classes resumed on Monday.

## Decatur Health Systems

By Becky Wilson

We just had a busy weekend at Decatur Health, as people were working from the early morning hours to well in the evening Saturday to make our 12th annual golf tournament, benefit dinner and auction go smoothly.

The bustle continues into this week, as we all work to welcome our interim chief executive, Charlie Myers, and help him get up to speed on the workings around here, but first we need to catch our breath and thank everyone who helped make this weekend a success.

The golf tournament, auctions and dinner raised about \$13,500 after expenses, which is wonderful. The golf teams, corporate sponsors, area businesses that made donations, diners, auction bidders and every single person who bought a raffle ticket deserve our thanks for their generosity.

If you see Joe Stanley, Cliff or Bob Hartzog or Monte Hunt around town, congratulate them on the great game they played on Saturday, as they came away the winners. Cliff also won the drawing for the Junior Traeger Grill, and Sid Metcalf must have been holding his breath just right when he put his tickets in, because he came away with both the Orlimar golf putter and the three-

minute shopping spree at Raye's Grocery.

The purpose for the benefit this year was to raise funds for the hospital's new chemotherapy room. Plans for the room are coming together nicely. Nursing Director Amber Scott and the rest of the nursing staff have been working hard to get everything in order.

The University of Kansas Cancer Center and the Midwest Cancer Alliance are also helping, providing expertise and advice as nurses from Decatur Health undergo training to provide chemotherapy treatments. Undergoing chemotherapy is a draining experience, which is why we are striving to make sure that area cancer patients and anyone accompanying them during their treatments will have a welcoming, comfortable and private space to go to.

An additional reminder for everyone driving to the hospital on the clinic: Columbia Street will be under construction for the next month. The main parking lots for the hospital and clinic both remain open, but to get to them drivers will have to use Cedar Street and drive around our building. Don't worry - you can still come and see us. In fact, please do!

## Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

Dean, Deb and Neil Portschy helped Marcus move to the dorm on Colby Community College campus Saturday, then all headed to Stockton to watch their cousin and nephew, Adam Murchie, participate in the Rooks County Fair Demolition Derby. Marcus and roommate, Tyler Huettefl, returned to Colby Saturday night and Dean, Deb and Neil returned to Herndon on Sunday after brunch with family at the home of Scot and Denise Murchie.

Caitlyn Foxhoven, a senior at Regis Jesuit High School in Parker, Colo., and granddaughter of Bob and Julie Hafner, is now a columnist for the Junior Factor Nation, a website dedicated to the political world, spreading the word of conservatism. To read Caitlyn's articles or follow the broadcasting of Jayson Veley and Caiden Cowger, check out www.thejuniorfactoration.com on Facebook, Twitter or YouTube.

Visitors gathering at the home of Richard and Theresa Rippe over the weekend were Richard's niece, Holly Brockway and her husband, John, from Lonetree, Colo., Kevin and Megan Rippe, Lilly, Michaela, Allison, and Kimberly, Tim Rippe and Wyatt, and Ed Rippe, Ludell, Michelle Stevens of Atwood and Rodney and Katelyn Rippe, Hays.

Joan Noble of Oberlin was a Saturday morning coffee guest of her sister, Esther Pennington. The two shared family stories and sang some of the songs they knew as little Hartner girls.

Recent guests of Don and Joan

Grafel were Steve and Susan Nelson, Oberlin, and Makenzie Nelson and Matt Buesch of Wichita. They were celebrating the August birthdays of Makenzie and Steve.

Bob and Julie Hafner were guests of Janice Sattler and Jayme Saturday evening. They attended the Knights of Columbus annual barbecue in Atwood, celebrating the anniversary of Bob and Julie. Sunday, Bob and Julie met Jason Hafner and Raquel Frerichs of Lexington, Neb., in Cambridge for a buffet dinner at the Overtime Bar and Grill.

Mary Ellen Purdy and girls of Elm Creek, Neb., were recent guests of Roseanna Stoney. Lewis and Larry Stoney were also visitors.

Peach Beims and Reagan, Justin and Jennifer Davis traveled recently to Humboldt, Iowa. A baby shower was held for Jennifer, hosted by Lindsay Davis and Pam O'Donnell, sister and aunt to Justin. They had dinner with Jeff Davis Friday evening and spent time with Shelley Davis Saturday evening.

Rose Marintzer Hauptman is celebrating her 80th birthday Saturday. Mail may be sent to her at 5945 Francis St., Lincoln, Neb., 68505.

St. Mary's Church celebrated its Feast, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, last Wednesday evening. Following Mass, a potluck supper was held at the hall with members and guests enjoying fried chicken and a variety of salads and desserts. Thanks to Tim Rippe, the shop fan helped cool down the hall on this very hot August evening.

## Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Congratulations to Clint and Morgan Schmidt, who were married on Saturday at Peaceful Valley Ranch at Lyons, Colo. Officiating was Pastor Keith Reuther.

The bride is the daughter of Ray Higley and Myrna Mohr, and the parents of the bridegroom are Chris and Sherri Schmidt. The bride's grandparents are Melvin Meis and Earl and Gleneva Higley. Daisy Schmidt is the grandmother of the bridegroom.

Tepees on the Sappa, sponsored

by J. R. and Carrol Ginther, has been canceled this year due to the drought. Look for it next year the second weekend in June 2013.

The congregation of the Herndon Covenant Church will join the Lund and Oberlin Covenant Churches for a catered dinner at 6 p.m. on Saturday at The Gateway in Oberlin to observe anniversaries of the three churches. Sunday services will be held at 10:30 a.m., also at The Gateway, followed by a potluck dinner.