

Events of Yesteryear

By Joan Betts

125 YEARS AGO - July 1888

There were 74 schoolma'ams enrolled at the Normal.

The Oberlin school board has decided to move the old frame school building to a location in the eastern part of town.

Our genial conductor, Harry Ryan, has been promoted to a through run, St. Joseph to McCook.

Beardsley & Lippincott opened up their butcher shop last week.

Joseph and Austin Bailey arrived in Oberlin Wednesday with a bunch of 80 Oregon horses.

Messrs. Parker and Leib, Hitchcock and Watson went over the line of railroad survey from Oberlin to Lenora last week to see what could be done toward securing the right-of-way.

Jennings Echo: Mr. Krider, the cashier, has taken charge of the bank here. He has purchased several residence lots and will erect a dwelling at once.

100 YEARS AGO - July 1913

Elwood M. Brooks, who has been employed to teach the city schools, was up last week and took in a part of the teachers' examination.

Gilbert Deupree and wife are spending their vacation at Superior, Neb.

The baseball boys went to Cedar Bluffs on Tuesday and came home with the long end of a 5-2 score.

The 12-year-old son of Clarence Fowler was run over by a car and quite severely bruised, but luckily no bones were broken.

Norcat: The windstorm Sunday evening damaged the wheat stacks badly. The headed grain was scattered to the four winds on many farms.

Swede Home Items: A surprise party was held at the home of Claus Anderson on the evening of the 17th to celebrate Elmer's 20th birthday. West Liberty Items: The Lohoefer boys have bought the Bill Houser threshing machine.

75 YEARS AGO - July 1938

Funeral services were held this past week for two prominent Oberlin businessmen. V.C. Murphy, 65, a partner in the Murphy farm implement business and Homer J. Hitchcock, 59, a partner in the Lohoefer-Hitchcock grain and feed elevator business.

Mrs. Angie Everist, Decatur County treasurer, reports that the payment of personal taxes is fairly good, with a noticeable increase since farmers have received money for wheat.

Among the names of the 80 students who will be admitted to the School of Medicine at the University of Kansas next fall was one from Decatur County, Norris M. Reist, a 1935 DCHS graduate. On the list all but six are from Kansas and three are women.

The Kolsky relatives held a picnic at the Jennings Lake Sunday in honor of Mr. George Kolsky and son Harwood, of Lawrence, formerly of Oberlin. Attending were the Bill, Ernest and James Petracek families, Mrs. Rosa Hess, Arthur, Rudolph and Daniel, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Vavroch, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Tacha, the Joseph Machart family, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Steffen and Gustave, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Krizek and Benny, John Kolsky, Effie Orr, Bertha Boulls, Donald Amberger, Mrs. Vavroch and the Joseph Kolsky family.

Miss Helen Rose Thummel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Thummel and Mr. Merle Kenneth Smith of Downs, were married at 7 a.m. July 8 at Sacred Heart Church in Oberlin with the Rev. Bernard Dickman officiating.

50 YEARS AGO - July 1963

Frank Priest became the sole owner of Oberlin Appliance and Hardware when he purchased from Francis Anderson his half-interest in the store.

At a joint meeting, the DCHS and Oberlin OCS school boards took into consideration the inevitable crowded conditions which would prevail by moving the 7th and 8th grades into the high school building. Agreeing that the first consideration must be given to the welfare of the students, the board decided to alleviate the problem by providing a temporary mobile classroom.

The DCHS board of trustees voted to purchase a new 49-passenger activity bus which will be used as a standby route bus and to transport students on long trips. Supt. John G. Nettleton will accept bids on the bus.

Mr. and Mrs. Elden Black were honored on the evening of July 19 on their 25th wedding anniversary when 33 friends and relatives called at their home with ice cream and cake.

25 YEARS AGO - July 1988

After serving this community and area for nearly 20 years, Dr. Ren Whitaker announced this week that he will close his practice here effective Sept. 30. The local medical doctor, who has earned a great

amount of respect from his associates as well as the citizenry through the years has been a health-care provider in Oberlin since July 1969. He has accepted a teaching position and will be employed by the Farrell-Gundeson Clinic located in the city of Prairie du Chien, south of LaCrosse, Wis.

Following the resignation of Ken Lines as county ambulance director, the Decatur County commissioners appointed Jo Larson as interim director until Oct. 1 and Roxie Pomeroy will continue as assistant director. They noted that the volunteer ambulance system is in a state of crisis with the depletion of the number of trained volunteers in both Oberlin and Jennings.

Renell Erickson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Erickson of Rexford, captured the Miss Frontier title at the 22nd annual scholarship pageant. She will be a junior at Wichita State where she is a business major and will compete in next year's Miss Kansas Pageant in Pratt.

Summer ball results: Farmers National Bank, winners of the PeeWee league; The Bank, winners of the Pee Wee tournament. Wee Wee winner was CarQuest.

In the men's championship the Selden men, who also won the league, won 14-0 over Farm and Ranch.

In women's action, Rogers took home the league trophy with a season record of 9-1 while the Selden women whipped Ludell 15-3 to win the league tournament championship.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

We are busy working on our activity calendar for the month of August. We would appreciate hearing from anyone who has a special talent or a program they would like to share with us. We would enjoy hearing about travels to exciting destinations around the globe, seeing a special collection of dolls, spoons, or other items, or being informed about any interesting subject. Of course, we always enjoy music programs and dance recitals. Please call Connie Miller or Teresa Shaughnessy to get on the schedule.

The new schedule for birthday parties at Cedar Living Center and Good Samaritan Center will be coming out soon. The schedule goes from September to August. We no longer have enough groups to fill both spots at each facility every month. Any groups or individuals willing to host a party may contact Teresa Shaughnessy to get on the schedule or you may contact either facility at any time during the year to schedule a party.

We started off our busy week with a lively game of penny cards on Monday afternoon. Myrna Jones led the sing-along time before supper on Monday.

We had a great group of helpers at bingo on Tuesday afternoon including Dolores Koeperich, Becky Cox and Mike, Deb, Matthew and Timothy Helm. Goldie Stapp had the first bingo. Juanita Eckhart and Helen Helm won the first blackout game. Vern Heller was the big winner on the second game of bingo.

Residents continued working on

a display for the fair on Wednesday afternoon.

Hank Juenemann brought Communion for the Catholic residents on Thursday morning.

The July birthday party was held in the Cedar Living Center dining room on Thursday afternoon. David Shepard was recognized for having the only birthday in July.

A lively game of bingo was played after supper on Thursday evening. Ann Szweistis and Helen Helm won the blackout games. Dewaine Stapp assisted with the game.

The baking group made oatmeal raisin cookies on Friday afternoon. The group shared the cookies with all of the residents and staff. They managed to save just enough to serve with coffee at the social hour held after bingo on Saturday afternoon.

The Herndon Covenant Church held their Sunday service in the Cedar Living Center dining room on Sunday morning. A large crowd of residents and church members joined together for prayer, scripture, hymns and an informative sermon. The residents especially enjoy the wonderful old hymns.

Recent out-of-town visitors: Vicki and Ray Karnes, McPherson; Kathy Brashears, Curtis, Neb.; Kathy Shaffer, McCook; Shirley and Roger Emigh, Selden.

Oberlin visitors: Jasen Pelkey and family, Rick and Gail Smith, Cameron Colgan, Robert Fringer, Ray Kennedy, Bill and Carol Duncan, Ron McDougal.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Dorothy Jones observed her 92nd birthday on July 23. She enjoyed the cards, phone calls, visits and the cake in her honor and wishes to say thanks to everyone for remembering her.

There will be an American Red Cross blood drive at the United Methodist Church in Jennings on Friday. If you would like to give blood, contact Marge Hartzog (785) 678-3010 to set up a time. If you would like to furnish cookies or sandwiches for snacks bring them to the church Friday morning.

Sunflower Senior Center card players Wednesday were: Eleanor Morel, Diane Carter, Agnes Wahlmeier, Scott Taylor, Linda Spresser, Stan and Ramona Shaw, Wayne and Louise Cressler. You are always welcome to come at 1:30 p.m., Wednesdays to play cards with us.

The Rev. Ed Wood and wife, Linda, moved into the Jennings Methodist Parsonage the first of July. Linda has been taking treatments for cancer. On July 21, they went back to Chicago for another treatment. Some complications came up and they are still in Chicago. Our prayers are with them. He serves the Norcat, Clayton and Jennings congregations.

The Community Meeting held Friday evening at the Jennings Community Hall was attended by 29 people from the town and a few from the country. Mayor Bob Jones presided over the meeting. Mike McKenna brought information to share about the Neighborhood Revitalization Program the county is working on.

Mayor Jones brought up concerns for the future of the Outreach Clinic

in Jennings. Marge Hartzog said a local contact person is needed to be responsible to open the clinic and to do the janitor work. It was mentioned we need to have a schedule from the hospital so people know when the clinic is open. People of Jennings do not want to see it closed.

Plans are being made by a committee for a 125th anniversary celebration on Oct. 19 for Jennings. More about this will be printed in the future. Several spoke on what we as a community might do to better our town.

A fall clean-up date will be set by the city council. Refreshments of coffee, tea, lemonade and cookies were served by Pat Hall, Bob Jones and Louise Cressler.

Norcatour News

By the Norcatour News Committee

Mildred McCallister Schwab celebrated her 99th birthday on July 20 at the Andbe Home, Norton. Guests were Wayne and Norma McCallister, Robb and Dodie McCallister and son, Matt, of Holcomb; Michael McCallister, Palco; LaVerne Milner, the Andbe Home; and Bee Nelson.

Guests of Gary and Cathy Anthony and Keith Anthony on July 21 were Windy Kuhlman and her sons Jack, Tony and Dillon of Oberlin and Mrs. Shelli Farr and her son, Daxton of Ohio. They came to play in the park and to share sandwiches, cake and ice cream. Mrs. Farr and Daxton returned to Ohio by train on July 22.

Lila (Leichliter) Freshment, Kennewick, Wash., visited her grandmother, Dorothy Ward July 19 to 21. While she was in Norcatour they visited her aunt and uncle, Gerald and Judy Jackson and cousin, Charlotte (Jackson) Plotts. Mrs. Freshment had been visiting her brother, Ronald, at Colorado Springs and brother Rodney at Siebert, Colo.,

and her niece, Laci Leichliter and daughter, Alora at Goodland.

Happy birthday greetings go to: Ken McVay, July 24; Stan Miller, July 25; Kaitlyn (Stapp) Schamberger, July 28; Phyllene (Hansen) Weets, July 30.

Two Norcatour men have recently retired from long careers with the United States Postal Service.

Mike Helm delivered the mail for more than 33 years and retired May 31. Mr. Helm is campaigning for the position of National Commander of the American Legion.

After more than 32 years as a rural mail carrier, Dewayne Jackson will retire today July 31. Mr. Jackson will continue to operate his farm.

Recently, Gust and Kay Foth hosted a birthday celebration for their granddaughter, Hope Bristol's 13th birthday. Also present were Paul Foth, Monica, Josie and Jessie Bebb, Lenora; DeAnna Foth and Brylee, Oberlin; Noah and Morgan Bristol and Kimber Robinson.

Norcatour Senior Citizens met July 19 to play pitch at the Methodist

Education Building with 20 players present. Winners were Jackie Porter, Retta Hare and Darrel Barnett. The next meeting will be at 1 p.m., Friday.

The annual Liberty-Star Club's Homecoming Picnic is set for noon, Sunday, Aug. 11 at the Powell Picnic Grounds. Everyone is invited to attend. The club will provide the drinks, so all you need to bring is a covered dish, table service and a chair. If it is too hot, the picnic will be held at the Lyle Community Building. For more information call Carolyn (Kelley) Plotts (785) 475-4369.

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