

# Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

## 125 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1881

The ladies of the Presbyterian Church will give a grand festival at the new land office on Wednesday evening, Nov. 9.

The following mail routes have recently been established and service will begin July 1, 1882: Oberlin to Atwood; Oberlin to Gettysburgh; Oberlin to Achilles.

Report of Oberlin school for the first month: number enrolled, primary grade, 23; intermediate, 15; advanced, 14.

The following pupils have been perfect in department: Frances Hitchcock, Anna Kelley, Carrie Bridle, Mary Cole, Clara St. Clair. Sheriff Ayer arrested a man at Red Willow, Neb., who was accused of stealing horses.

## 100 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1906

Marriages: By Judge Patchin, at his office:

Oct. 24, Franz Nelson and Mrs. Mary Peterson; also Harry Dilly and Miss Mable Cutshall.

Oct. 17, Harry Alexander and Nellie Reubesam. Mr. Patchin also issued a marriage license to Joseph Fiala and Miss Maggie Janousek.

Last Thursday afternoon, the cornerstone of the new high school building was laid under the auspices of the senior class. The class purchased a desirable stone weighing about 1,000 pounds with a cavity 6x4x8 inches in which a copper box was placed. It contained a copy of the History of the Decatur County High School written by Miss Norma McCuen; a copy of each of the county papers, including the *Decatur County Socialist*; a class roll of each of the four classes, tied with a ribbon of the class colors; a card containing names of each student, member of the faculty, board of education and contractors; a

piece of wood taken from the first school building in Decatur County, in which a part of the early legal business of the county was transacted.

The key to this box is to be handed down from the class of 1907 to 1908, from the class of 1908 to 1909 and so on down to eternity.

## 75 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1931

A new grocery store is opening in Oberlin. It will be known as the Oberlin Cash Grocery and will be located in the D.G. Campbell building formerly occupied by the Selby grocery store. E.L. Hall is the owner and Mr. and Mrs. Hall and their two grown sons have come here from Menlo, where they have been in the grocery business for the past 13 years.

School News: The G.A.A. girls hiked 8 miles Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. H.A. Griffith will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary at their home on Sunday. Miss Sylvina Dixon and H.A. Griffith were married Nov. 1, 1881, in Boulder, Colo., and moved to Decatur County and homesteaded land located 5 miles east of Jennings where they made their home until 1895, when he was elected sheriff.

After serving two terms, he purchased the livery business of John Love and operated it until 1905, when he bought the Tilden and Lathrop furniture store which he still operates with his son, V.H. Griffith.

Playing their second league game of the season, the Decatur Red Devils marked up their second victory by defeating the Goodland Cowboys 19-6.

The three touchdowns were scored by Nels Anderson.

Mrs. John Emahizer (nee Helen Ruth Geiger) of Topeka died Oct.

20.

Born at Tipton, Iowa, she attended Cornell College where she graduated with high honors in vocal and instrumental music.

She was married in 1891 to J.C. Emahizer and they operated the Emahizer Furniture Store in Oberlin for about 10 years before moving to Topeka, where the furniture store became one of the leading enterprises in Kansas.

Dresden: Mr. and Mrs. Bill Krizek are the proud parents of a baby boy born Oct. 25.

Lyle: Oscar Daffer trucked over \$1,000 worth of alfalfa seed to market for Ben Johnson.

The dust storm here Monday evening, while bad enough in Oberlin, was much worse at Sidney, Neb.

According to newspaper reports, where dense clouds of dust driven by a 50-mile-an-hour wind paralyzed business.

## 50 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1956

A large vote is expected next Tuesday with five local issues on the ballot in addition to the presidential and governor races. Undoubtedly the most local interest has been generated in the swimming pool bond issue of \$58,000 on which Oberlin voters will decide.

Jack Kelley, Judy Magers, Richard Carman and Janiece Brown were key award winners at the annual 4-H banquet.

Decatur County's first traffic fatality of 1956 occurred Oct. 26 when Mrs. Wiley J. Fox, 29, of Herndon, was killed in a one-car accident west of Traer.

Pheasants are very scarce throughout the state. Sportsmen in Rooks and Russell counties have requested no season for 1956 but the state Forestry, Fish & Game Commission, which depends upon license revenues for much of its budget, has decided to keep the three-day season.

Jack Fortin of Hill City, son of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Fortin of Oberlin, is recuperating after being bitten on the hand by a black widow spider. Black widow spider serum was speeded across the plains of Kansas in less than 4 hours to save his life.

Norcatur: Jay K. Locy, Norton city policeman, has received an appointment as a state highway probationary patrolman. He will leave for Lawrence for a two-month schooling. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Locy of Norcatur, graduated from DCHS with the class of 1950 and served in the U.S. Navy four years.

Dresden: Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Miller announce the birth of a son, Lawrence Wilfred, on Oct. 25 at McCook Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Goltl and

Dana Rae arrived here Sunday from Chicago, where they have been making their home. He has received his discharge after serving two years with the U.S. Army.

## 25 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1981

Fall harvest appeared to be gaining momentum at midweek as moisture content of milo was steadily dropping and some picking of corn is in progress in the county. Milo yields vary from a 70 bushel-per-acre field near Jennings and a 124 bushel-per-acre field in the northeast part of the county, but Decatur County Extension Agent Allen Dinkel indicated that though a number of fields are hitting 100 bushels, some are having a hard time hitting 40 where greenbugs have damaged the stalks, causing the crop to go down.

Jennings: An explosion Thursday afternoon at 1:05 vibrated the town, leaving one building demolished and some \$15,000 in total damages. No one was injured in the incident that totally destroyed Fran's Dairette, a business in the northeast part of town owned by Henry Kaspar. Ted Dodson, city fire chief, said a propane tank located near the building had reportedly been filled with fuel earlier in the day.

Dr. T.M. Pillow will open the Oberlin Chiropractic Clinic Nov. 9 at the site of the former Oberlin Medical Clinic at 504 N. Penn. Dr. Pillow and his wife, Beverly, are coming from St. Charles, Mo., where he has served as a chiropractor the past 14 years.

In district football action, Trego downed Oberlin 17-6. Jennings defeated Golden Plains 24-22 and Cheylin beat Herndon 37-30.

Hospital News: Mr. and Mrs. Kent Grafel, Herndon, daughter, Kristyn Rebecca, Oct. 21; Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Walters, Danbury, son, Ryan Jacob, Oct. 13.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Stapp visited over the weekend at Ord, Neb., with the Garry Stapp family and made the acquaintance of their new twin sons, Kevin and Kyle, who arrived on Oct. 24.

The Rev. and Mrs. James Carmon, Oberlin, announce the engagement of their daughter, Janet, to Wylie Anderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Waynard Anderson of Milburn, Neb.

The engagement and approaching marriage of Jan Robertson and Ronnie Deringer of Pratt has been announced by their parents. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Robertson, Oberlin, and her fiance is the son of Harry Deringer, Shawnee, and the late Mrs. Pauline Deringer. A Jan. 16, 1982, wedding is planned at the United Church of Oberlin.

## Cedar Living News

We have a new fall decoration in the Cedar Living Center dining room. Roberta Petracek donated a scarecrow that she won in a contest downtown. It is a colorful addition.

We have received beautiful flower arrangements from several recent funerals in the community. These are always appreciated and enjoyed by everyone.

Dennis Brown of the Forget-Me-Nots hosted a party in the dining room on Monday afternoon. Residents, staff, and visitors enjoyed trying his homemade chocolate pudding cake. The cake received excellent reviews from everyone.

Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack led sing-along time on Monday afternoon.

Fern Moore hosted the reading time on Tuesday morning.

Mildred Cochran won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Don Shaw won the blackout game.

Sandra Young assisted the pinochle group on Wednesday afternoon.

The craft group met on Wednesday to make Halloween bags for candy to give the children on Halloween. Lloyd Harden and Margaret Stanley assisted us.

Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson on Wednesday afternoon.

The Methodist youth group delivered several jack-o-lanterns on Wednesday evening.

Father Henry brought Catholic mass for residents and other members of the community on Thursday morning. Rosella Meitl led the group in praying a rosary before the mass.

Mathilda Bollig attended funeral services on Thursday morning for her husband, Gilbert Bollig. She had many visitors in to see her during the week.

The dietary department hosted a buffet lunch on Thursday. Choices for the main course included ravioli, ham and potato casserole, and/or a

chicken breast patty. The nursing and activity departments assisted with serving.

Barb Solko played Scrabble with Wynemah Cox on Thursday afternoon.

The bowling group enjoyed a game on Thursday afternoon. Soft drinks and other snacks were served following the game.

The Tuesday Study Club from Jennings visited on Thursday afternoon with Naomi Carter and Mildred Tacha.

The baking group made applesauce drop cookies with lots of raisins on Friday afternoon. The group shared them with other residents and staff.

Staff members worked all week learning a new computer charting system. Much of our charting will now be done electronically instead of on paper. The hospital made the switch to this paperless system a few months ago and we are excited about joining them.

Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler of Faith Lutheran Church was in charge of the Sunday service.

Recent visitors: Lillian Sulzman, Helen Muirhead, Dresden; Marj Law, Lakewood, Colo.; Rose Domsch, Meredith and Gene Hrnchir, Atwood; Ann Martin, Herndon; Jerry Temple, Dorothy Ward, Norcatur; Marlene Wolfram, McCook; Margaret Lund, Laura Staab, Hays; David and Penny Bodenhamer, Carmel, Ind.; Rachel Carter, Lynn Tacha, Joan McKenna, Helen Rhodes, Vendla Tacha, and Neoma Tacha, Jennings; Lloyd Harden, Goodland; Mike and Marie McVay, Colby; Richard and Bernadine Samson, Ludell; Carol Shaw, Rick and Tammy Shaw, Selden;

Opal Huntley, Lyle Gamblin, Karolyn Muirhead, Ella Betts, Orlin Beneda, Elvin Beneda, Phyll and Connie Cramer, Sandra Young, Oberlin.

June Jolly and Toots Magers attended the Clayton bazaar on Oct. 14. They played pinochle in Norton on Sunday.

Liberty Star Club met Wednesday, Oct. 18, in Lenora at the Barbeau House. Members present were Carolyn Plotts, Sheryl Patterson, Veda Wood, Carol Moye, Cathy Anthony, Angie Wilson and Toots Magers.

Lyle ladies sewed and tied the quilt Friday for the bazaar, which will be held at 2 p.m. on Nov. 12 at the Community Building at Lyle.

June Jolly and Toots Magers helped with the Prairie Land food distribution on Saturday.

They met on Oct. 23 with Joyce Sumner and Claudia Bridges and attended the funeral of Esther Miller in Oberlin.

Kathy Van Meter left Oct. 16 for

an Ireland tour with the First State Gold Club and Premiere Tours. She toured the mountains and countryside, a lot of castles, cathedrals, and enjoyed a medieval period supper. Shopping was literally wall-to-wall. She kissed the Blarney Stone for good luck.

Gas was \$6 a gallon, hamburgers in the pubs are \$16. They have 8 million sheep and 8 million cattle and small dairies. They also toured the Guinness Brewery and the Waterford Crystal Factory and a Woolin Store.

Kathy Van Meter, June Jolly and Toots Magers attended the Norcatur soup and pie supper and bazaar on Saturday.



## Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Mary Votapka heard from Betty Kelley, a former Jennings resident. She called to see how everyone was and to say hello to all.

The community extends sympathy to the family of Tom Bevington, who died at Hermiston, Ore. He was a former resident of Jennings and was a uncle of Violet Foster.

A benefit soup supper held Sunday evening for Tony and Marlene LaRue was well attended. We thank all who came and donated to this

worthy cause. Tony is at Good Samaritan Hospital, in Kearney, Neb.

Jennings City Council will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday evening.

Pheasant Hunters supper will be held from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on Saturday at the United Methodist Church. Everyone is welcome to come.

Remember to get out and vote on Tuesday, Nov. 7. Election will be held in the Sunflower Senior Center.

## Herndon News

By Carol Ginther

Sympathy is extended to the family of Loretta Leitner, 90, who died Thursday at Hillcrest Nursing Home in McCook. She was the daughter of Mathias and Emma (Kleidosty) Berger and graduated from Herndon High School in 1934.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Monday morning at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Herndon with the Rev. Galen Long officiating. Burial was in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

The 25th annual Heritage Day will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

on Saturday at St. Mary's Parish Hall, sponsored by the Herndon Chamber of Commerce. There will be a kids pumpkin decorating contest.

To celebrate 25 years, the committee plans a Heritage Day Madness event, where those attending the show can win from \$1 to \$50 by selecting a money sack. Peach Beims, a member of the committee, said two names will be drawn every half-hour to try their luck with the winning sacks. Lunch will be served.

## Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Covenant Women will meet at 9 a.m. Saturday at the Herndon Covenant Church. Norma Anderson will have the program and "thank banks" will be collected.

Weekend visitors of J.R. and Carrol Ginther were Brent and

Carolyn Ginther, Brandy and Brady of Menlo. On Monday the Gintners received word of the death of a friend, Gary Grice, 37, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Grice of St. Francis, in a farm accident.

## DECATUR COUNTY GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 7, 2006

Reminder - Ballots are to be marked with Blue Ink. Pens with blue ink will be available to mark the voting ballot. Black pencils will not be an option.

Voting machine Testing on 3rd Floor of Courthouse  
Public Testing for AutoMARK to be held on

Thursday November 2nd @ 5 p.m.

Public Welcome —  
According to KSA 25-1324

# Vote November 7



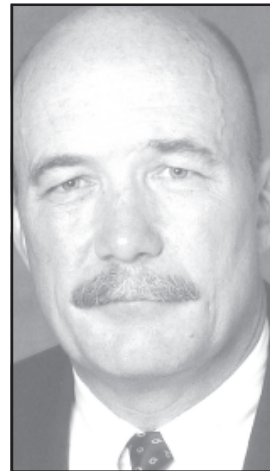
**Kathleen Sebelius**  
for Governor



**Mark Parkinson**  
for Lt. Governor



**John Doll**  
for Congress



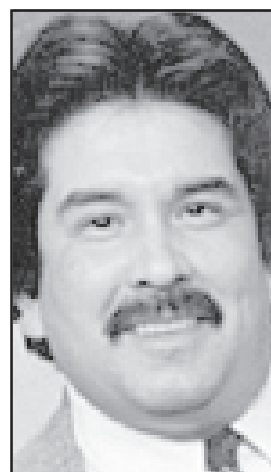
**Paul Morrison**  
for Attorney General



**David Haley**  
for Secretary of State



**Bonnie Sharp**  
for Insurance Commissioner



**Tim Cruz**  
for State Board of Education



**Brian Keahey**  
for County Commissioner,  
District 1

## Your Voice for the Future

Paid for by Decatur County Democrats, Terry Keahey, Treasurer