

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — April 1883

L.G. Parker has given his office a renovating. The autograph of W.H. Pratt, judge of the 17th Judicial District, appears on the Oberlin House register Sunday.

Coard and Douglass are painting a mammoth sign for their drug store.

Jackrabbits are destroying gardens. Every settler should use his best endeavor to destroy these pests.

John and Billy Love left this week for Fort Robinson, Nebraska, where they will work with cattle this summer. Two years ago the editor of THE HERALD was one of a trio that left Oberlin one bright spring morning for that far off country of mountains, bad lands, cowboys, soldiers and Sioux Indians, but we are not one of the party this spring, however, much we might wish to be. May success attend you boys is our best wish.

100 YEARS AGO — April 1908

Rural Route No. 6 will start June 1.

Mathias Haas and Alice Shaw were married April 20.

The ladies of the Christian Church took in \$133.60 at their chicken pie dinner last Saturday.

The formal opening of the Oberlin Mercantile Co. took place Friday evening. The store is one of the most commodious in this part of Kansas.

Jennings Items:

The Catholic Church at New Almelo burned down Sunday morning. Loss \$8,500.

A double wedding occurred at the home of W.E. Brinthal last Thursday. His two oldest daughters were married to Allie Elgin and Gilbert Hall.

Public School Notes: M.T. Barnett, superintendent. We will have to bid farewell to the old sod schoolhouse in Decatur County as the bonds for a new frame building carried in District 106.

75 YEARS AGO — April 1933

Probably no legislation passed by the recent Kansas legislature has caused more general concern than the laws governing the school system which limits the levy to be made in the district for school purposes. As applied in Decatur County it means the the maximum levy that can be made for common schools is 6 mills. In one of the rural school districts in the county that will produce \$214 so it is possible that some rural districts will not be operated or the term will be cut short.

Editor E.B. DeWolf, who has given Dresden a mighty good little paper the past 18 months, decided last week that the struggle to maintain a paper in a city the size of Dresden in this time of depression

was too much for him and made arrangements with The Oberlin Herald to finish out the subscription list of the Beacon's subscribers who are paid ahead.

There were 1,200 people in the Sunday Schools of Oberlin on Easter Sunday, a new record. Numbers recorded were; Methodist, 503; Federated, 328; Presbyterian, 314; Christian Science, 19 and Nazarene, 16.

Coach Anderson sent Sam Francis, Leo Ridgway, Ed Smith, Fred Koehler and Bob Davison to the Fort Hays Relays last Saturday. Francis took first in both the shot put and discus and Koehler took second in the high hurdles. Oberlin placed fourth among the teams.

Court House News: A marriage license was issued on April 11 to Alfred Janousek of Ludell and Miss Esther Hafner of Herndon and they were married by Judge Kulp.

Norcat: Eldon Aufer will be Atwood's new athletic coach next year. Eldon's many friends are glad to see him get this position.

Jennings: A very solemn and impressive ceremony was the sunrise Easter service held at the Chenoweth farm and witnessed by about 100 people.

50 YEARS AGO — April 1958

At a meeting last week at Dresden attended by 52 subscribers and Southwestern Bell Telephone office manager Don Cowan, the Dresden folks agreed by a vote of 25-18 on a motion to okay regular toll service to Oberlin, Jennings and Kanona. The only alternative offered was to raise Dresden rates to that of Oberlin, then tack on a 90-cent monthly "lug" on all users of both exchanges.

DCHS student Duane Unger has become the Decatur's second young Future Farmer to win the American Farmer degree.

It is reported that fishing at Sappa State Park is better than it has been in years.

Funeral services were held at the Presbyterian Church in Oberlin for Ilnoka Hambleton, 47, who died in New York. She was a graduate of DCHS, Washburn College and did graduate work at Columbia University and later taught at Herndon Rural High School and in Topeka. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Phil Hambleton of Amesbury, Mass.; her mother, Mrs. G. H. Lippelmann, Oberlin; two brothers, Gustave, Oberlin and Raymond, Lyons and a sister, Joan Hedrick, Hays.

Two former Decatur County officials and longtime residents died this week: Jenne Barnard who served as county treasurer from 1919 to 1922 and again in 1924 and was later city clerk; Iva Milten of McMinnville, Oregon, who was clerk of the district court from 1917 to 1933 and was employed as

a typesetter at The Oberlin Herald for a number of years.

Dresden: Mr. and Mrs. Jim Campbell are the proud parents of a baby girl.

Hospital News: Mr. and Mrs. Cloyce Harold, son, Ward K., April 14; Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Meitl, Dresden, son, April 14.

Oberlin's champion discus thrower Bob Vernon warmed up for the KU Relays with a 166 ft., 2 inch throw at the Fort Hays Relays and a 166 foot, 11 inch throw in a dual held here with Hoxie.

25 YEARS AGO — April 1983

The merger of Columbia Savings Association, which has headquarters in Emporia, and Reserve Savings Association of Oberlin and Sunflower Savings Association of Colby has been approved by state and federal regulatory authorities. The size of the combined association will place Columbia among the 10 largest savings and loans in Kansas. Boyd Bainter, former Reserve Savings president, and Larry Barrett, former Sunflower Savings president, will become vice presidents.

Mike Hayden, Speaker of the Kansas House and 10th District representative, told those attending a meeting at Herndon Saturday morning that this session had been the toughest in years. "We don't have the money to fix roads, increase salaries, and continue to provide state-funded services to the same degree we have in the past.

Dr. Robert Manley, widely-

known educator and historian, will speak at the April 29 dinner meeting of the Decatur County Historical Society.

Herndon: A bridal fashion show will be held at St. Mary's auditorium April 24. The show will include bridal party and prom dresses as well and wedding dresses, some over a half century old, will be modeled as well.

Joe Mines, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Mines, has been employed as a staff accountant with Lindburg & Vogel in Hutchinson. He will receive a degree in accounting from Kansas State University in May.

Randall and Rozanne Braden are scheduled to return from Boston this week where he participated in the Boston Marathon. He commented that a race with 6,700 other persons is no place to set a personal best as he was placed several thousand back in line and it took him 18 minutes to go the first two miles but added that running in the Boston Marathon "was all that he had hoped it would be."

The weatherman smiled on the Oberlin Relays with Colby winning first place in the boys' division and Oakley in the girls. Taking firsts for DCHS were Brad Erickson in the high jump, Tom Berkheimer in the high hurdles and Jamie Shirley in the 440-yd dash.

The DCHS Stuco officers for the 1983-84 school year will be: Tom Berkheimer, president; Ed Bateman, vice president; Diana Horn, secretary and Ron Juenemann, treasurer.

Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurn, director

This year marks a great milestone for the Museum — its 50th Anniversary! So many people need to be recognized and thanked for making this anniversary possible.

Looking back through history the first article taken from *The Oberlin Herald* dated April 3, 1958: "A tremendous downtown response with donations to start a Decatur County Museum as an archive for the pioneer lore of this county and as an attraction for visitors has changed a long-time dream into a reality." I wonder if that dream included 14 buildings and thousands and thousands of items housed within them.

The tremendous effort of three local men, Ward Claar, Ben Miller, and Milton Nitsch were responsible for sparking the campaign to raise money for the start.

George Nellans and Ira Laidig, avid amateur historians, had urged for years that Decatur County should have a museum for relics and records of pioneer life in Western Kansas.

The campaign for funds bloomed suddenly in late March 1958 when it became known that a particularly good location for a museum, the Foster Lumber Company, (formerly Redman-Paddock Lumber) was for sale.

Four days of solicitation produced pledges of over \$25,000. The group had figured that \$30,000 was needed to buy the building and lots, collect and display items donated, build a sod house and other attractions, prepare the building for the opening, and promote the attraction.

During the year I will be including more history in newsletters and in my weekly column in *The Oberlin Herald*. I hope all of you will find time this year to tour the Museum and see what 50 years of growth looks like.

Our annual Rummage Sale will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday and from noon to 3 p.m. on Sunday. Spring house cleaning? Bring those unwanted items to the Museum this week until Friday.

Good Samaritan News

Have you ever been lost or homesick? Do you remember the horrible feelings of helplessness and loneliness? Last week I introduced you to three new residents, this week I observed how they adjusted to their new home. One lady told me early on, "I feel lost." When a person is lost, they need to be found!

It is our mission here at the Good Samaritan to provide a "home-like" environment for those who join our family. We want to meet all their needs: physical, emotional and spiritual. We spent much time helping her to find her way around, placed a pretty welcome flag at her door so she could recognize her home and introduced her to others, some she already knew, and some she quickly befriended. But then, we invited her to Bible study. It was there she began to relax and feel "at home".

As Christians, we belong to a universal family, and when we gather to worship, pray and open God's Word together, we come into His fold and He meets our every need. *Luke 15:4-7*

Compared to last week, this week was rather routine. Routines sustain us and celebrations refresh us! The Lyle Gals were our celebration this week. Toots Magers, Kathy Van Meter, Coleen Rippe and Joyce Sumner came to play pinocle with Pooch Portschy, Lora Zwickle, R.D. Thornton, Kathryn Post and Lucy Schissler. They always bring homemade cookies and lots of laughter to their games. The residents look forward to the first Monday with great anticipation!

The 1st Hand Friends made their way over on Tuesday. After they leave, the residents excitedly chatter

about how much their reading has improved since the last time they visited. Our year with them is almost over. We will have their Teddy Bear Picnic on Tuesday, May 13, to end our time together.

The 180 Boys came Thursday night. We had an interesting discussion about what things and attitudes are holding us back from taking hold of our dreams. With the help of some duct tape, we demonstrated that we do have control of our future. The residents pray for the boys after they leave. This is a very meaningful time for them.

Recent visitors were: Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem), Ken Mumm and Eleanor Rogers (Selden), Delores and Olive Aumiller, Roxanne Baker, Loretta Meitl, and Pat and Clem Mumm (Colby), Delores Raih (Hoxie) and Alberta Ritter for **Hubert Mumm**; Sharon Slauch, Brian and Pam Simonson and Detta and Elden Anderson for **Opal Bryan**; Ron and Dixie Snyder (Colby), and Reva Marshall for **Dorothy Hunt**. Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem), Stan, Becky, Muriel and Heather Faimon (Stratton, NE) for **Doris Marintzer**; Marian Thornton, Dean and Eloize Thornton (Ingalls), Don and Laverne Allmer (Madera, Calif.), Bob and Vada McDonald (Logan), and Linda Spencer and Addison Schlep (McCook) for **R.D. Thornton**; Daisy Rhein for **Jeanette Conway**; Mert McEvoy for **Lucy Schissler** and **Eileen Laird**; Alyce Avery for **Amy Rehm**; Beverly Eiler (McCook) and Barbara Castor for **Elaine Thomas**; Rhonda Skibbe and Marilyn Horn for **Myrtle Ross**; Detta and Elden Anderson for **Edla Olson** and **Eva**

Bryan; Janice Baer (Topeka) and

Jerry Olson for **Evelyn Olson**.

Selden News

By Jacque Boultinhouse

A Big Thanks goes to the Harvester's 4-H Club. They spent most of Sunday afternoon cleaning the roadside park. The group picked up trash that had blown in or was left behind by travelers, and branches that were damaged due to winter storms. Thanks everyone — your assistance has been appreciated.

On Thursday at Senior Citizens, Edna Schiltz won high, Jeanie Spesser took second, Shirley Emigh got low and Lola Cook had the most Jack's. Other members present included: Helen Karls,

Betty James, Ann Hazlitt, Gail Mumm and Bernita Aumiller. Due to the storm, some members felt it better to stay home that day.

Birthdays and anniversaries - April 17 - Dan Benoit, Danielle Spesser Brown, Shelly Nordyke, Mike and Linda Spesser, Jaci Shaben, Vicky Ray. April 19 - John Paulson. April 20 - Sandy Koerperich, Rob Schiltz, Bingston Rogers. April 21 - Mike Peter, Heith Sauvage. April 22 - Linda Spesser, Layn Bruggeman. April 23 - McKayla Bainter.

Lyle News

By Veda Wood

Veda Wood accompanied Bee Nelson and Dorothy Ward to the Lutheran Church in Oberlin for the funeral service for Alice Rohnke Bowman. Mrs. Bowman's brother, Ben was there, along with her two sons and several members of the family. Some of the Lyle people, and I'm sure others, were sorry that they didn't know about it in time to attend. Inurnment was in the Norcat cemetery.

We are glad that Leone Mapes Purton is out of the hospital and hope she is feeling better. Margaret Magers, June Jolly, Joyce Sumner, Ivy Rolland and Veda Wood tied a few quilts again on

Tuesday at Lyle. Veda Wood joined them after helping with the paper.

Sheryl Patterson and Veda Wood visited Alta May Van Gundy at the Perkin's Pavilion in Hastings, Neb. on April 5, and ate lunch with her.

Keith Anthony came home from Texas, where his granddaughter was married.

Gary Anthony came to church and the dinner, but was not feeling well, so hope he is better soon.

Dewayne Jackson brought the message at the Lyle Church, Sunday, April 6. His wife, daughters and son-in-law also came for the church service.

Cedar Living News

Sympathy is extended to the family of Don Meints who passed away on Thursday.

There were several winners at the penny card game played on Monday afternoon. Those playing included Helena Bruggeman, Mildred Cochran, Darlene Fisher, Elsie Goodnight, Mary and Ira Kolsky, Edie Pettera, John Schuhart, Frank Ward, Delores Wheeler, and Lyle Gamblin. Lyle donated the pennies for the jackpot game at the end of the afternoon.

Mary Ann Amack assisted Teresa Shaughnessy with the sing-along time before supper on Monday afternoon.

Ruth Leopold won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Elsie Goodnight won the blackout game.

Pam Anderson assisted volunteers Opal Huntley, Ila Ray, and Jeanne Isbell with managing the game.

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

Gisela Fisher led the exercise group on Wednesday morning.

Helen Juenemann served ice cream and cookies at the social hour held on Wednesday afternoon.

Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson. Sam Mack continues to host

the poker group on the patio. They have changed their nights to play to Tuesday and Friday. Anyone is welcome to join the group.

Father Henry Saw Lone brought Communion for the Catholic residents on Thursday morning.

Charlene Shields assisted residents with playing games on the Wii on Thursday afternoon. Several residents are gaining in their skills at bowling and we are slowly gaining on golf.

The baking group made pineapple cookies on Friday afternoon. They were served warm, along with coffee or lemonade, when they came out of the oven. Family members visited on Sunday to help Lloyd Beneda celebrate his 101st birthday, which was on Saturday.

Recent visitors: Les and Myrna Pettera, Loveland; Don Pettera, Mesa, Ariz.; Jan Sattler, Atwood; Julie Hafner, Herndon; Doyle and Kay Brown, Jennings; Leslie Ward, Norcat; Glenva and Tom Burrell, Max, Neb.; John and Julie Geisinger, Selden; Gordon and Kara Kuntz, Hays; Steve and Vonda Leopold, McCook.

Earl Brown, Ella Betts, Elvin Beneda, Orlin Beneda, Regina Stanley, Don Mines, Roxie Pomeroy; Jon, Ana, and Spencer Wishon, and Sandy Counter, Oberlin.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Sympathy is extended to the family of Virginia Leebrick, 87, of Colby, who died last Tuesday, April 8, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She and her husband, Wilbur Leebrick, were active members of the Herndon Covenant Church for many years. Memorial services were held Saturday afternoon at the Colby Wesleyan Church with Pastor Gene Rothfuss and Pastor Keith Reuther officiating. Private burial was at Stevens Chapel Cemetery.

Survivors, besides her husband, Wilbur of Colby, include two sons, David and Sue Leebrick, Mechanicsville, Va., and Lance and Brenda Leebrick, Atwood, and their families; a daughter, Nicolee Jo Leebrick, Colby; a sister, June Neely, Cheyenne, Wyo.; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Among those from this area who attended the memorial services were Elma Lee Erickson, Melinda Carlson, Betty Hafer, Gayle Carlson, Dixie Green, D.J. Nelson, Dick and Donna Kelley, and Keith and Mary Lou Olson.

The recent birthday dinner at the home of Elden and Detta Anderson honored Richard, Maureen and Gary Anderson, but not Elden Anderson as was reported last week.

Weekend guests of Bob and Sally Olson were Rennie Olson, Irving, Texas; Scott Olson, Bay-St. Louis, Miss.; Bob and Annette Frenzli, Salina; Deb Marks and Amber, and two friends, Mulvane, and Ava Perkins, Wichita. Mrs. Rennie Olson also came, but she spent the weekend with her parents, Orville and Evelyn Roy, at Palco, as her father is recuperating from recent surgery. Scott Olson is serving in the Peace Corps in Mississippi, where he is helping build houses for those who lost their homes in Hurricane Katrina.

Relatives who enjoyed dinner together on Sunday at the LandMark Inn were Ginny Schneider, Walla Walla, Wash.; Phyllis Kirk, Palm Desert, Calif.; Norma Anderson, and Elden and Detta Anderson. Mrs. Schneider and Mrs. Kirk are nieces of the late Henrietta Bremer.

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Erin May, Mollie and Grace Tate, and Hannah May participated in a gymnastics meet Saturday in Atwood. Erin earned a gold in her optional routine, a silver in her compulsory routine, and a bronze in the synchronized routine she performed with Kennedy Jensen. Mollie earned a silver in her solo routine, a gold in the synchronized routine she performed with Dani Rouse, and Grace earned a medal in her exhibition routine. Hannah earned two bronzes in her two individual routines.

The seventh grade team of Zach May, Kade Brown, and Tyler Bruggeman took third place in the seventh and eighth grade 3 on 3 basketball tournament held Saturday in Oberlin.

Kristen Bremer, Colby, and John and Dianne Bremer and Jessica attended funeral services for Henrietta Bremer Saturday afternoon at Pauls Funeral Home in Oberlin. Also attending were Henrietta's nieces, Ginny Schneider, Walla Walla, Wash., and Phyllis Kirk, Palm Desert, Calif.

Saturday supper guests of Norma Anderson were Elden and Detta Anderson, Ginny Schneider, Phyllis Kirk, Kristen Bremer, and John and Dianne Bremer and Jessica.

Sunday afternoon guests of Lois Carlson for homemade cake and ice cream to celebrate Becky and Dakota Tate's birthdays were John and Edith Tate, and Jay and Becky Tate, Dakota, Mollie, and Grace.

Karen Eskew, Vice-President for Christian Life for the Kansas District, left Wednesday to attend a Lutheran Women's Missionary League convention in Topeka, returning home Sunday evening.

Don and Ann Mines traveled to McPherson on Friday and were Friday and Saturday overnight guests of their son and family, Joe and Chris Mines, Cori and Jared. Saturday morning they enjoyed watching Jared play soccer and Saturday afternoon they attended the wedding of Leigh Ann Lohofener and Clint Randall Johnson at the University Congregational Church in Wichita. They returned home Sunday evening.

MORTON BUILDINGS
800-447-7436

ASK ABOUT **GRAIN STORAGE**

INVESTMENT

8 offices serving Kansas www.mortonbuildings.com
April Special: 60' x 100' Country Craft, Staring at \$6.49/sf. Call for details (Not Shown)

Needed: Caring couples to be House Parents

Married couples create nurturing homes for boys, average age 12-17, on modern Omaha Home for Boys campus.

- Nationally recognized training
- Rewarding for couples
- \$43,200 starting salary
- Excellent benefits

The Omaha Home For Boys
4343 N. 52nd St., Omaha, NE 68104 • www.omahahomeforboys.org
Call 1-800-408-4663, Monday-Friday