

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — July 1884

J.E. Bebb and family now occupy the Bliss property.

The Lenora mills have already ground some new wheat.

Coard & Douglass have put down hitching posts in front of their drug store.

J.J. Jackson and John Pressler were the first to set a threshing machine in operation. They threshed for Uncle Bob Riley.

Eleazer M. Coldren, who recently purchased Jim Redd's timber claim, left Monday for Lenora to meet his family. (The senior editor of the Herald, E.W. Coldren, noted that this is when he first came to Decatur County, age 4 years.)

Freighters are in demand, not half enough teams could be had Monday to go to the railroad for the immense stocks of goods our merchants are bringing in.

The organ ordered sometime since for the church arrived last week.

Miss Jennie Hayward's school in the Addleman's district closed Friday.

Married, July 23, 1884, Mr. J.E. Bebb and Mrs. Rosa McCatley, both of Decatur County.

100 YEARS AGO — July 1909

A Frenchman has flown across the English channel and alighted without injury. It begins to look as if the flying machine is to come in the near future.

George Schroer Jr., and Miss Katherine Meitl were married on Wednesday by the Catholic priest of Leoville.

The big Glidden automobile procession that passed through Oakley yesterday was said to have been quite an imposing affair. The manager of the tour sent word several days ahead asking the people to keep all children, dogs and pigs out of the road while the cars were passing.

The Oberlin ball team lost two games to Kensington last week, 9-0 and 5-1.

Jennings Items: Brick for the bank building arrived last week and the work will be rushed to completion.

75 YEARS AGO — July 1934

Tragedy at the end of a family picnic Sunday afternoon at the state lake north of Oberlin claimed the life of Ed. W. Woolley. After finishing the picnic dinner, Mr. Woolley and Harry Armstrong, accompanied by John Woolley, 7 years old, and Lowell Simpson, about the same age, walked from the grove to the spillway just west of the dam near where several men were swimming. The two boys asked if they could go in swimming and he consented telling them to stay near where they were as the water is not very deep there. The boys slipped off to the south end where the old creek bed is about 8 feet deep and when the

Simpson boy called "Johnny can't get out" Mr. Woolley, in attempting to rescue his son, slipped in the deep area and came to the surface only once. A human chain of Mr. Armstrong, Frank Ufford, Walter Hatch, and S.B. Straley was formed to rescue the boy and later the body of Mr. Woolley was recovered.

The Oberlin Herald will serve as a collection agent for voluntary contributions to Mrs. Woolley and her 10 children, ages 4 to 16 years.

Decatur County is in the path of tree planting by the Department of Agriculture from Canada to the Texas Panhandle which will consist of 25 or 30 swaths of trees running north and south across the states. The program is planned to decrease the blowing of soil.

Hostinky's band will present its regular Friday night concert at the swimming pool. A week from Friday will be the last concert and it will be held at Peter's Park and will be a "request" program and anyone having a request should get them to Mr. Hostinsky early.

Norcatur News: Several Norcaturites enjoyed a picnic at the Clayton Park Sunday. This park is within easy driving distance and that with the swimming pool makes it a very popular place for nearby towns.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Campbell left Saturday for Chicago to attend the Century of Progress. Mrs. Randall is staying with the Campbell children during the absence of their parents.

50 YEARS AGO — July 1959

An estimated 14 families and four single persons are in the process of moving into Oberlin for seismograph work for Amerado Petroleum Corporation of Tulsa. An employee reported that 82,000 acres of land had been leased here for oil exploratory work. Biggest problem for the Tulsa group is housing and Charlie Corcoran with the Area Chamber of Commerce has issued a plea for any one with available rooms, apartments or houses to make known the vacancies.

Charles Macy, Cedar Bluffs, was elected vice-president of the Kansas State Auctioneers Assoc. at the group's annual convention in Pratt recently.

Funeral services were held in Denver for Robert Beardsley, a 1935 graduate of Decatur Community High School, who died of a heart attack at a business conference. He is a nephew of Henry Beardsley of Oberlin.

Dr. and Mrs. Ned Noll of Wichita arrived recently in Oberlin and he has begun practice at the Oberlin Clinic. Dr. Noll served a preceptorship in Oberlin in April and May of last year before graduating with an MD degree.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. George Brown, Kansas City, Mo., son, Eric Bryon, July 14.

Bill Kelley of Oberlin is among

the 21 recruits who recently began an 8-week training program for the Kansas Highway Patrol at the University of Kansas.

The Rev. Fred Lawson and family of Marquette will move to Oberlin next week where he will become minister of the Oberlin Covenant Church. He is a graduate of North Park Seminary, Chicago. The Lawsons have three children, Bruce, 10, Nancy, 8, and Michael, 6.

25 YEARS AGO — July 1984

It will be the 48th running of the Decatur County Fair and the 11th year of operation for the home-owned carnival and everyone expects this year to be one of the best. Decatur County Extension Agent Allen Dinkel predicts that a record number of livestock entries will be shown at the fair with more than 50 market hogs, 60 steers and 20-25 lambs to be judged the first two days of the fair beginning Tuesday, Aug. 7.

Area farmers are urged to work together this summer and fall in hopes of combating a rapidly spreading weed problem, musk thistle. Control should be done before seeds are scattered by the wind.

New Arrivals: Paula and Adrian Tadlock, Oberlin, daughter, Allison DeeAnn, July 19, 1984; Mr. and

Mrs. Bill Buxton, Brighton, Colo., daughter, Amanda Dawn, July 14, 1984; Dan and Delores Juenemann, Selden, daughter, Michelle Ann, July 3, 1984; Greg and Melanie Purvis, Louisville, Colo., son, Beau Tyson, July 23, 1984.

A birthday party at Oberlin United Methodist Church on July 14 honored Jennie (Diehl) Brown on her 97th birthday.

Oberlin Swim Team captured fifth place in the league swim meet held at Colby Friday and Saturday. In the 15-18 age group, league champs included Andy Matson in the 100 free, 100 fly, 200 free and 400 free. In the 13-14 age group Bridgette Ostmeyer 200 individual medley, 200 free, 100 back, 100 fly and 50 free. Both Matson and Ostmeyer were recipients of the league meet high point awards trophies and Ostmeyer received a plaque as girls outstanding swimmer in her age group. Coach Steve Beaumont commented that the meet was by far the best of the season.

Dr. R.A. Peterson of Norton will open Peterson Clinic of Chiropractic of Oberlin located at 181 South Penn beginning Aug. 1. He is a graduate of Palmer College of Chiropractors and has practiced in Norton for the past 12 years and will continue his practice there

Let's Go to the Museum

By Sharleen Wurm, director

The fourth annual commencement exercise of the Oberlin High School was Friday evening May 27, 1892, at the Opera House. "Everett Sawyer, a member of the class, in his essay, drew a very striking picture of our country in the year 2000. Some, if not many, of the pictures may yet come to be realities." I sure would like to find a copy of this essay and see how close he had come looking ahead 108 years.

Members and history of the Class of 1892.

Mattie Barratt: She married Ralph Stearns and they were the parents of Celia, Orion, Clarence and Winifred. They lived in Silver Creek, Wash., where Mr. Stearns was postmaster.

Samual Hull: He married Grace Bayne and they were the parents of Harlow, Isabelle, Edgar, NeEtta, Florence, Margaret and Robert. They lived in Aurora, Neb., where he was head postmaster.

Lizzie Mills: She married A.W. Gibson and they were the parents of two children. They lived in Mountain View, Calif. Lizzie was a trained nurse.

Harry Peters: He married Philippine Weiland and they had no children. Harry worked for the U.S. postal service and the U.S. Navy Department in Washington DC.

Everett Sawyer and Nellie Sterns: They were married and

lived in Colorado Springs. They were the parents of one daughter. Everett taught school, proved up on a homestead, farmed and operated a lumberyard.

Fred C. Wilson: He married Etta Bennett and they were the parents of Mildred, Fred C., and Freeman. They lived in Morgan Hill, Calif., and owned a fruit ranch and store.

Joseph Young: He married Cora D. Jackson and they were the parents of Josephine, Theo, Joseph C., and James H. They lived in Oberlin where he was one of the early photographers of the area, and later became an official court reporter for the seventeenth judicial district of Kansas and dealt in real estate. He acted as court reporter under District Judges Bertram, Geiger, Langmade, Sparks and Kite. He was also president of the first Kansas City to Denver Airline Highway committee (now known as Highway 36).

If you have additions or corrections to this information please contact me at (785) 475 2712 or by email at lirm@sbcglobal.net.

If you have not updated your information for the new 2010 Alumni Directory you can go to the Decatur Community High School website, www.usd294.org, click on the Alumni tab, fill in the information and submit. We appreciate all who have gotten their information to us already.

Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

Vacationing in Herndon this week to enjoy family and country relaxation were Les and Myrna Pettera of Loveland, Colo., and Keith, Tress, Alyssa and Matthew Pettera, and Matthew's friend, Kurt, all of Lakewood, Colo. They spent the week with Edie Pettera, Cedar Living Center, and visited family and friends at Good Samaritan in Oberlin. Bob and Julie Hafner were Thursday evening dinner guests and Myrna chatted with her Aunt Esther Pennington Thursday morning and visited Chris and Kent Wood.

Helping at the Bob Hafner home Wednesday morning for a remodeling project were Les, Keith and Matthew Pettera and friend Kurt; Alan Solko and Ron Sattler. Over-seeing this project were Cindy Sattler, Ann Solko and Julie Hafner. Brunch was served following a job well done.

Things got a little boring at the David Franke house last week with several visits to the doctor. It was go here in the van, go there in the van, so on Sunday David decided to spice up his life a little. He wanders his way into the hospital in Oberlin and convinced the doctor to give him a ride to Kearney in an ambulance with the lights and siren going instead of riding the stuffy old van nobody notices. Things got out of hand when they put in an electronic device. I think it is a GPS so Bonnie can tell where he is. (Now you have to read the following paragraph to find out what really happened.)

David Franke recently received a pacemaker at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney, Neb. His

visitors at the hospital were Brenda and Aaron Van Horn of Ottawa, and Dale and Gwen Needham of Campbell, Neb. Sunday dinner guests of Dave and Bonnie were Chad and Carolyn Franke of Keenesburg, Colo.; Don and Joan Grafel, and Kyle, Cindi, and Sarah Grafel of Herndon.

On Wednesday, Joan Grafel, Herndon, treated Violet Shaw, Oberlin, for her birthday at the LandMark Inn in Oberlin. Guests joining the two were Makenzie and Susan Nelson and Anna and Tami Shaw, all of Oberlin. After birthday lunch, the women enjoyed touring the new home of Tami.

Jan Alexander of Arvada, Colo., was a Thursday to Sunday guest of her mother, Laverne Niemeth. On Thursday, they celebrated the birthday of Jan. On Saturday, Laverne and Jan visited Francis Janousek at Cedar Living Center and Doris Marintzer at Good Samaritan in Oberlin while Jerry and Kim Niemeth traveled to see son, Jesse, in Hays. While shopping at Wal-Mart, they visited with friend, Troy Ecker. The birthday celebration ended with Jan, Jerry and Kim sharing Sunday dinner at Laverne's.

Word was received this week of the death of Veronica Niemeth Goff Orin of Ruidosa Downs, N.M. She was born in 1923 to Henry and Elizabeth Versch Niemeth and graduated from Herndon High in 1941. Funeral Mass and burial was held Tuesday at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in McCook.

Edith Arden, Herndon, had two

longtime friends from Colorado visit over the weekend. Linda Rogers of Niwot, Colo., and Mindy Rogers, Wingo, of Broomfield, Colo.; spent the night at the "It'll Do Motel" in Atwood. Edith showed them around Herndon, Atwood, Oberlin, and they were very impressed with the area charm. Linda had never seen fireflies before and found them delightful. Sunday morning Lloyd Arden served green eggs and ham, hash browns and biscuits before the ladies returned home. They plan to make another visit soon as they agree their friends live in a good town. The women previously all worked together.

A little excitement popped up after Julie and Bob Hafner enjoyed Sunday with their aunts, Edie Pettera and Joan Noble, at Cedar Living Center in Oberlin. A little visit with

the aunts on the patio seemed like a nice idea but when a little visitor snapped and bit Julie on the toe before the staff hollered out the window to watch out for the snapping turtles! Yep, that's right; not one but two turtles to watch out for, but the staff did offer a band-aid. The moral of this story is "Don't wear sandals on the patio at Cedar Living!"

Julie's Memory Juggers

Jan. 6, 1918

Swedish Baptist Church, located seven miles south of Herndon.

The following services next Sunday:

Sunday school at 10 a.m.
Sermon in the Swedish language at 11 a.m.
Bible study every Friday evening at 7:30 p.m.
A cordial welcome to all!

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

The congregation of the Herndon Covenant Church will meet for services at 10 a.m. Sunday at the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center in Oberlin.

Weekend guests of Jack and Mary Gutchewsky were his nephew and family, Danny and Kim Gutchewsky and Michael of St. Louis, Mo.

Recent visitors of Verol and Rosemary Bergling, and Mark and Gail Bergling, Jill and Blake were Barbara Lindell and Brooke, Overland Park; and Roger and Bonnie Leitner,

Molly and Megan, St. Augustine, Fla.

Spencer Beckman of Grinnell, spent last week with his grandparents, Frank and Margaret McEvoy, while his parents, Brian and Dawn Beckman, Ethan and Jordan were in Omaha for a locker meeting.

Mary Olson spent from Thursday to Sunday visiting her sister and her husband, Sarah and Brandon White, in Olathe.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

Cedar Living Center received some lovely gifts this week. Juanita Williby donated a statutory angel for the patio in memory of several friends who have passed away at CLC. The Lions Club donated a lectern for use during programs and church services. We also received new hymnals purchased with memorial money in honor of Tressie Samson. We are grateful for the many friends who provide for our needs and make the day a little brighter at Cedar Living Center.

Several residents met to work on a craft project on Monday afternoon. Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack led the sing-along time before supper on Monday.

The dietary department hosted a special meal of tacos and all the trimmings at noon on Tuesday. The meal was selected as the menu of the month by the Residents' Council. It was a big hit with residents and staff.

Donna Kent won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Aleen Van Vleet won the blackout game.

The Lyle ladies hosted the July birthday party on Wednesday afternoon. They served an assortment of desserts. Jim and Carolyn Plotts provided musical entertainment. Mary Votapka was honored as the only July birthday.

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

There were several winners at the penny card game on Thursday

afternoon.

Joining in on the fun were residents Darlene Fisher, Elsie Goodnight, Donna Kent, Ira and Mary Kolsky, Ruth Leopold, Jim Plotts, Agnes Pruitt, Aleen Van Vleet, and Mary Votapka.

There was a nice turnout of residents when the baking group made doughnuts on Friday afternoon. Several staff members also joined in on making and eating the doughnuts.

The dietary department joined forces with the activity department to serve ice cream sundaes on Sunday evening in honor of National Ice Cream Day. Toppings for the sundaes included chocolate, strawberry, and caramel syrup as well as nuts, bananas, pineapple, whipped cream and cherries.

Recent visitors: Beth Johnson, Veda Wood, Carolyn and Jim Plotts, Norcatur; Carol Kompus, Chris Wood, Linda Bosler, Herndon; Mildred Welter, Lillian Sulzman, Dresden; Tammi, Justin and Jared Engel, Colby; Keith Pettera and family, Denver; Les and Myrna Pettera, Loveland, Colo.; Chris and Alex Hosaka, Alpharetta, Ga.; Jeani Hengst, Mechanicsburg, Pa.

Lyle Gamblin, Paula Tadlock, Connie Miller, Marilyn Gamblin, Eunice Richards, Mildred Holmdahl, Max and Veanna Carman, Dolores Koerperich, Phyllis Screen, Ila Ray, Opal Huntley, Sharon Johnson, John and Dianne Bremer, Mary McEvoy, Oberlin.

Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

Are you ready for Game Show Madness? Then reader—Come on down!

Tuesday and Friday, the Wheel of Fortune was the game of choice. Beautiful Serena Stacy, dressed in a lovely sparkly violet gown, came to play Vanna and turn the letters for us. The hospital loaned us the wheel to spin and Town Square was filled with game show enthusiasts. Our contestants were Faye Miller, Alice Bobbitt, Earl Brown, Amy Rehm, Myrtle Ross, Dorothy Pryor and Myrtle Waldo.

Wednesday, Jim and Carolyn Plotts surprised us with an unexpected hour of song! I'm sure it was a surprise to the Lyle Gals too, who had booked them to perform for Cedar Living Center's monthly Birthday Party. Oops! We were so glad for the "happy accident," and I know CLC was happy to have them too. God used them for a double blessing! Bingo was played in the evening, so our game players didn't miss out either.

Thursday, was the Price is Right. By now the staff wanted to join the fun so they came to be the very excited, encouraging audience, shouting out help for the contestants.

Becky Alstrom, dressed in a flippy, flapper dress, was the able assistant who accentuated the prizes with her witty descriptions. Amy Rehm was our first contestant who played the "Shell Game." All she needed to do was to correctly match four price tags to a sewing machine, a cell phone, a CD player and a replica phonograph. For each correct match she placed a chip on one of four shells. To win, she turned over the shells hoping to reveal a winner's egg. She only had one correct answer and did not win.

Next was Myrtle Waldo. Her game was "Grocery Shopping." She needed to match six price tags to the six items on the table: salt, mustard, oatmeal, prunes, All Bran cereal and Hershey chocolate syrup. She only won a large box of oatmeal (even with the sneaky help of our flippy

assistant) so we called for Penny Smith. She did better and won that round. Next, Earl Brown was called to "Come on Down." His game was "Pushover." He was bidding on a completely renovated (model) 1957 Crown Victoria. With lots of help from the noisy audience he settled on a price that was too low. We all had a lot of fun!

We are busy getting ready for Fair Days! The ladies will be choosing their projects to be entered for judging. Sign-up sheets for transportation to the fair have been circulated and Cindi Sloan Sauder is finalizing plans for our second annual Fair Days Balloon Launch. It is scheduled for Tuesday, August 4! Balloon sales start at 5:30 p.m. and the Launch is at 6 p.m. Proceeds will benefit our Beauty Shop renovation. The Pet Parade will take place in the Court Yard at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 7. Plan to make Good Sam part of your Fair Day family tradition!

We were blessed to have lots of visitors this week. Mert McEvoy and Mabel McLaughlin (Sturgeon, Mo.) came to see Lucy Schissler. Elaine Thomas had a visit, from her sisters Barbara Castor and Beverly Eiler (McCook). Dorothy Hunt was part of a five-generation gathering! Her daughter, Reva Marshall; granddaughter Penny Fringer, great-granddaughter Sarah Fringer and great-great-granddaughter Bailey Wolf (Colby) visited on Tuesday. Dixie and Ron Snyder (Colby) and Mildred Black also came to see her this week. Hubert Mumm had Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem) who also visited with Doris Marintzer. Donna Kelley and Detta Anderson for Eva Bryan. John Ready was happy to see Pastor Doug Hasty. Marvin and Sharon Slabaugh were guests of Opal Bryan. Eunice Wenger visited Lora Zwickle. Jerry Olson, Eileene Grose, Mildred Holmdahl and daughter Jeani were here to see Evelyn Olson. Edla Olson saw her daughter and son-in-law Arian and Steve Arnold (Herndon).

Lyle News

By Veda Wood

Joyce Sumner and Margaret "Toots" Magers played pinocle at the Good Samaritan Center on Sunday, July 5. As usual, Toots had a busy week: Tuesday, quilting; Wednesday, club; Thursday, she took her car to be fixed, and (how could this happen?) she had a day or two off. Sunday evening was the benefit for Terri James and we all went and had a good meal.

June Jolly had a surprise visit from Sue Baird, Denver. She is the daughter of the late "Bus" and Annie Brown. She brought June some material for quilts, which I'm sure

were welcomed. June sewed on Tuesday at Lyle, and on Thursday she and Veda Wood went to Clint Hatfield's and picked cherries. He had a tree that was so loaded, we all hated to see them go to waste. Thanks, Clint! There are still a lot of cherries there.

The Liberty Star Club met at my home on Wednesday, July 15. Those attending were Toots Magers, Kathy Van Meter, Cathy Anthony, Carolyn Plotts, Deanna Sumner, Brooke and Brady, Carol Moye and Kylie Gruwell.

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