

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — April 1887

Friday afternoon during the high wind a fire started on the east side of Main Street in Norcat and burned every business house on that part of town. The following suffered losses: C. Jörn, furniture, \$400; J.C. Nossler, blacksmith, \$700; H. Woods, hotel, \$2500; J.R. Aggson, bank, \$2000; J.D. Riggs, p.o. and store, \$1400; Penn Hotel, \$1000; S.O. Tolle, hardware, \$2500; Dr. Creoran, drugs, \$600; J. Shorp, furniture, \$600; J.T. Worley, land office, \$600; Hoskins, Register office, \$400.

Friday, April 8, the most destructive prairie fire in the history of Decatur County swept across the county from south to north and reached the Republican River before being stopped. The entire male population of Oberlin was marshaled along the Sappa and by good generalship and hard work the flames were kept from crossing at that point which threatened the destruction of the town.

It is estimated the fire did \$50,000 damage in the county. There was a fire on a hundred hills Friday night and the spectacle was grand, but its grandeur was poor compensation for the losses sustained.

The steel cells for the county jail have arrived.

Clayton had a narrow escape from a prairie fire last week.

100 YEARS AGO — April 1912

Glenn Gierhart, who has been teaching in Cheyenne County, came home Saturday.

A large class of boys and girls were confirmed Easter morning at the Catholic Church.

Corn has reached 77 cents per bushel.

Long strings of geese are now seen wending their way to the lakes of the north.

Leon Brouquet foreclosed on the Norton light plant Monday.

Our electrician, Mr. Byers, went down to inventory the stock and machinery.

75 YEARS AGO — April 1937

Oberlin's band was one of the 12 bands to attend the Band Day at the Colby Tractor Show last Friday and they came home with a first prize of \$75 in Class A. The Band director, Bert Hostinsky, is to be complimented as is the entire personnel of the band.

With the passage by the state legislature of the act to legalize 3.2 beer in Kansas, local county, state and county officials are receiving instructions for proper regulatory procedure.

The city of St. Francis has organized a Rotary Club sponsored by the Oberlin Rotary. The first meeting is next Monday and a carload of Oberlin Rotarians will attend. Smith Center, Phillipsburg and Stockton have also established new clubs within the past few months.

During the past week a number of young trees have been set out in the courthouse lawn which were selected by County Clerk George Jörn and County Engineer Lester Moody.

The oldest couple in the county recently celebrated their birthdays. Craig Cathcart was 92 years old and his wife 82.

Cedar Bluffs: Along comes the month of April and spring and also comes the news of the birth of a baby daughter at the Walter Dean home.

Norcat: The Norcat High School band carried off a \$50 prize in the band marching contest in Colby in Class B.

Funeral services were held for Louis P. Jaderborg, 80, who came to Decatur County from Sweden in 1885 homesteading in what is now known as the Lund community. He was married that year to Elizabeth Nord and they made their home on the homestead until 1925 when they moved to Selden. They were the parents of five children, Edward, Emmanuel, Elmer, Elizabeth and Hulda.

Gerald Dale is the name given to the eight and three-fourths pound boy born to Mr. and Mrs. Walter

Torluemke on Monday, April 12.

On Easter Sunday, the girls in Mrs. E.R. Woodward's Sunday School class at the Presbyterian Church brought an Easter lily to decorate the church for the morning service. They later presented it to Miss Theresa McKague and each girl had her picture taken with her.

Vallonia: Decatur School is in session again after being closed nearly two weeks on account of the mumps.

50 YEARS AGO — April 1962

Construction was to start Wednesday afternoon on the new Oberlin post office at the southwest corner of Hall and Griffith streets.

The Brown Motor Co. safe, stolen from the motor company April 7, was found by a fisherman in the Saline River, north of Hays, according to the Ellis County sheriff. The safe was ruined.

The Rev. Emil Sinner, pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Oberlin, is to be transferred to Holy Cross Church, Pflieger, according to an announcement by the Most Rev. F.W. Freking, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Salina.

The annual meeting of the U.S.-36 Highway Association held at Hiawatha April 18 was attended by 225 members and boosters.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Foster, Jennings, girl, Lori Louise, 4-22-62; Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Koerperich, Oberlin, girl, Linda Marie, 4-23-62.

25 YEARS AGO — April 1987

A \$2.7 million general obligation bond issue for an addition to Decatur County Hospital and Long Term Care Unit and an extensive remodeling project was handily approved by voters Tuesday.

In other election results Oberlin elected Idella Frickey as its first woman mayor. Top vote getter was Kurt Vollertsen who was recently appointed to fill a vacancy on the city council and was elected to a full term. Three U.S.D. 294

candidates running for re-election, Stan Morgan, Lee Martin and Pam Harmon retained their positions and Connie Grafel, a board member from 1977-81, defeated Arlo Wurm for Pos. 3.

The engagement of Holly Suzanne Stannard to Kirk Charles Young has been announced by their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kjelland, Sarasota, Fla., and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Young, rural Selden. The bride-to-be is a sophomore at the University of Central Florida and her fiance is a graduate of DCHS and the University of Kansas. A July 4, 1987, wedding is planned in Oberlin.

The DCHS choir, directed by Susan Nelson, spent the weekend in Denver where they attended the musical "The Sound of Music," performed at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church on Sunday morning and later attended the Denver Symphony.

Cabinetland Industries, which has been located on a farm northeast of Oberlin, is moving this week to the former Gambles building on North Penn Avenue. The building has been leased by Merle Gilliam, McCook, and his son, Lee Gilliam, rural Oberlin.

Sacred Heart Church, Selden, was the setting for the Feb. 28 marriage of Jaclyn Pauls and Daniel Schreiner. Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Richard Pauls, Selden, and Mr. and Mrs. Mike Schreiner, WaKeeney. The couple is residing in WaKeeney where the bride is a kindergarten teacher and the bridegroom is self-employed at Schreiner Transport.

New Arrival: Elaine and Brad Marcuson, daughter, Sarah Elaine, 4-12-87.

The Oberlin girls swept their invitational track meet with a team score of 128 points followed by Colby with 96, Hoxie 93, Atwood, 85, Hill City 60 and Goodland 28. The boys fell short of taking first by one point losing to Atwood 148 to 147.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

This is National Volunteer Week (April 15 to 21). Volunteers make a difference in the lives of the residents at Cedar Living Center every day. We salute the many individuals who give of their time to help in making the day a little brighter for our residents. We have volunteers who come every week like Myrna, Mary Ann, Ila and Marian and some who come less often to help with a party or special program or to assist with the Sunday Worship Service. Each and everyone gives that extra special "something" that money just cannot buy.

Several residents met on Monday afternoon to try their luck at the dice game. Snacks were served following the game.

Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack led the sing-along time before supper on Monday.

The Reading Buddies from Mrs. Tacha's second grade class visited on Tuesday morning in the Cedar Living Center dining room. Many of the residents came out to hear a story from our charming young friends.

There were lots of winners at the bingo game played on Tuesday afternoon. Marian Dempewolf and Ila Ray assisted.

Several residents joined playing penny cards last Wednesday afternoon. The players included: Irene

Fringer, Alvina Gamblin, Helen Helm, Ira Kolsky, Wilma May, Joan Noble, David Shepard, Alice Shirley, Mary Votapka and Wanda and Lavern Heller.

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

The Eastern Star hosted the April birthday party in the Cedar Living Center dining room on Thursday afternoon. Those being honored with April birthdays were: Violet Brown, Ira Kolsky, Dale Young and DeeAnna Krizek. Each received a birthday balloon. The hostesses included Sara Orr, Karen Bruning, Carol Morford, Mary Ann Amack and Myrna Jones.

The baking group made chocolate chip cookies on Friday afternoon. Nearly every resident and most staff members sampled the cookies.

Recent visitors: Kathy Shaffer, McCook; George and Mary Castelli, Germantown, Tenn.; Kelly Olson, Manhattan; Mike, Deb, Matthew and Timothy Helm, Norcat; Ceanne and Martin Rinehart, Bailey Wolf, Colby; Linda Bosler, Herndon; Susie Youngblood and Linda Files, Atwood.

Robert and Penny Fringer, Sherri Shuler, Jim and Laurie Wasson, Bill and Carol Duncan, Mary McEvoy, Oberlin.

Rexford News

By Gwen Griffiths

It's been a busy week in the Rexford community, with many organizations holding or participating in events.

Shepherd's Staff had turkey hunters from Fort Scott in this week. They experienced the full gamut of Kansas spring weather and eventually each shot a turkey. They really enjoyed their time here.

The Rexford Community Church held its annual missions conference this weekend, with plenty of activities for everyone. Youth came to meet missionaries during a pizza dinner on Friday night, and then the entire community was invited to a pancake breakfast cooked by the church men on Saturday morning. There was also a dinner on Saturday night while people got to know the missionaries better. Finally, the missionaries shared in Sunday school classes and the morning worship service on Sunday, followed by a carry-in dinner. Rachel Walker and Geoff and Tina Casteel were the missionaries present at this conference.

Saturday night was prom for Golden Plains High School and from what I've heard, everyone had a good time. Saturday night was also the last Bingo night for this school year. On Sunday a number of Rexford residents traveled to Oakley to see the Spencer Theatre of Illusions, brought in by the Western Plains Art Association. The Girl Scouts from Rexford and Selden met on Sunday afternoon. The younger girls explored famous paintings, then tried different painting techniques. Middle-sized girls planted flowers, dyed flowers, and made a bouquet of flowers from found household items. The oldest girls made a snack of tacos with homemade flour tortillas. Coming up this week is the Spuds and Splits event at the Red Barn on Thursday, April 19. This is a potato bar and banana split bar for the 40-and-older crowd. Don't forget to send your news to <mailto:griffithsgang@gmail.com>griffithsgang@gmail.com, call it in to 687.2076, or leave it in the jar by the door at the Red Barn. Have a great week!

Good Samaritan Center

By Lisa Paulson

This week was another busy one at Good Sam. Our routine activities are our structure and remind us of our daily chores we did when we were home. They bring stability and familiarity... but then there is always the added splash of something new. Here is a sampling of some of those splashes throughout the week that add color to our days.

Monday, the Drumsticks Club made a joyful, rhythmic noise as Amy Rehm, Loren Schrock, Alice Bobbitt, Mary Waldo, Evelyn Olson, Marylou Brown and Earl Brown took turns creating their own rhythm. During coffee time, the *Ideals Book of Poetry* was read.

Tuesday, our sweet little First Hand Friends came for their reading time. Sammy the squirrel was hiding - in the empty tomb! The 180 Boys were scheduled, but had a glitch; no worries, Loren, Amy Rehm, Marylu Brown and Connie Cramer met and had quite the lively discussion, and now are excited to share it with them on their next visit.

Song of worship was replaced with a Memorial service in honor of Emma Sanford. She was a dear, kind lady, who very tenderly touched our hearts. Bingo is Wednesday! Everyone loves it. Ange; Lane dining room is packed. The residents win treats to eat and quarters.

Recently, we combined Bible Study with Bingo winnings to raise money for the Feed My Starving Children Campaign. We met our goal this week, ahead of schedule. We raised \$70 in collected quarters to provide 240 meals for children!

We had an unexpected guest join us for Bible Study on Thursday. A young man new to the community who is searching for God! We were eager to share Jesus with him along with our stories of faith. Walt and Betty May, Amy Rehm, Eva Bryan, Myrtle Ross, Amy Rehm, Marylu Brown, Connie Cramer, Alice Bobbitt, Leone Porsch, Evelyn Olson,

Alice Bobbitt and Dorothy Pryor were there.

It has been awhile since we have recognized our many most loved and valued volunteers. We appreciate all they do every day and we want to again say, "Thank you." Dennis Brown, Barbara Dehlinger and Marilyn Horn help with devotions; Gladys Geis ministers through visiting; Larry Smith helps residents with their e-mails; Rosella Meitl, Dorothy Alstrom and Penny Fringer give manicures; Bernice Martin brings homemade treats for Social Hour; Marilyn Horn, Pat Fringer and Colleen Geihlsler host our weekly Bingo night; Carol Duncan reads current events; Max Carman and Jody Robertson deal Poker.

This is not a complete list. There are many others who help us out and we want to officially thank one and all who give generously of their time and talent. If you volunteer or if you would like to; please join us at 2:30 p.m. Saturday for our Volunteer Appreciation Tea. Please respond by Thursday at 475-2245.

This week's guests were: Pat Fringer for **Margaret Vacura**, Jennifer Sabatka and kids and Pauline Micek for **Vera Kacirek**, Cheryl Miller for **Loren Schrock**, Max Carman for **Myrtle Waldo**, Mert McEvoy for **Earl Brown**, Jerry Hill and Brett, Erin and Jordan for **Cheryl Hill**, Reva Marshall, Penny Fringer, Tami Cook and Eric Kuhlman (Norcat) Dixie Snyder (Colby) for **Dorothy Hunt**, Marvin and Sharon Slobaugh for **Opal Bryan**, Murry and Audrey Pavlicek for **Mary Lemman**, Gerald Bender for **Eulaine Benda**, Connie Simonsson for **Amy Rehm** and **Marylu Brown**, Marilyn Horn for **Myrtle Ross**, Wendy, Gage and Wyatt Scott and Kelly Olson (Manhattan) for **Evelyn Olson**, Ralph and Norma Unger and Mert McEvoy for **Lucy Schissler**, **Earl Brown** and **Betty May**.

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Anna Shaw left April 2 for Wilson Lake, where she met her mother, Alfreda Seeber. After camping there overnight, they drove on to Perry Lake, where they camped overnight and then drove on to visit Casey and Jennifer (Shaw) Harshman and Isaac in Cedar Point. From there they traveled to Kanopolis Lake to meet Anna's sister and brother-in-law, Drs. Amy Seeber and Kyle Tipton, and their children Anna, Andrew, Louie, and Jay. Saturday, April 7, Anna and Amy ran in the Rocking K 50 mile trail marathon at Kanopolis State Park with Anna placing 7th among all the women running in the race. After spending Easter camping in Kanopolis with her mother, Anna returned home Monday, April 9.

Decatur Community High School placed second overall at the Inter-High Scholastic Competition at McCook Community College on April 4. Zach May placed second in Algebra II, and Tyler Shields placed fifth in American government/history. The Theater Improv team of Cassidy Shields, Kiah Blau, and Matt Glading placed third; they were given a topic and 30 seconds to prepare a three-minute skit.

Dennis Euhus was an Easter Sunday dinner guest of Rocky and Teresa Diederich and family. En route to visit their son, Kirk and Christine Moore of Marysville, Stan and Deanie (Euhus) Moore, Montgomery, Texas, were Monday, April 9, overnight guests of Gaylord and Shirley Shields.

Gaylord and Shirley Shields, accompanied by Susan (Sloan) McCarthy of Gordon, Neb., attended the funeral of Gaylord's niece, Janet Winkler Waddell, at the Hays Memorial Chapel on Tuesday. Susan, a niece of Gaylord's, returned home with them and was a Tuesday overnight guest at the Shields home.

Forrest and Pat (Euhus) Junod, Sacramento, Calif., were Thursday overnight guests of Gaylord and Shirley Shields, leaving the next day for Wichita to visit their daughter, Jana and Brock Wilson and family.

Dante Robertson, son of Joel and Tami Shaw, was confirmed during Sunday morning worship services at the Oberlin Methodist Church, officiated by Pastor Linda Willey. There were seven youth in the Con-

firmation class.

Sunday noon dinner guests of Ralph and Violet Shaw to celebrate Dante's confirmation were Joel and Tami Shaw and Dante, Richard and Anna Shaw, and Garrett Moore.

Roland and Pam May, Zach and Hannah, were Saturday evening dinner guests of Mitch and Roxanne Bartels, Regan and Tatum, Phillipsburg. After dinner they enjoyed watching the Phillipsburg Prom in which Zach and Regan were one of the couples.

Mr. Johnson's eighth grade Oberlin history students portrayed historical figures at the third annual Wax Museum held Saturday in the Decatur Community High School gym. Among students participating was Alexandra Waterman, posing as Pocahontas. Students dressed as their historical character and gave the history of the person they represented. As visitors walked around the gym, they could listen to the students recite their biographies.

The high school play, "Jolly Roger and the Pirate Queen", was presented Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon at the Decatur Community High School in Ober-

lin. Among those in the cast were Cassidy Shields as Lady Huffington, Garrett Scott as Sneak, Ryan May as Captain Belvedere, and Elizabeth Nedland as Dandy.

Garrett Scott, Hannah and Zach May, and Tyler, Cassidy, and Caitlin Shields were among those competing in the track meet April 10, at the Atwood High School. Garrett threw the discus and shot put, and Hannah threw the javelin and discus and competed in the long jump and triple jump divisions. First place: Zach, 2 mile relay; Caitlin, 4x8 relay team and 1 mile race; Cassidy, 4x400 meter relay and 300 meter hurdles; Tyler, 4x8 relay team, 1 mile and 2 mile races. Second place: Caitlin, 2 mile race; Zach, 1 mile race and javelin; and fifth place: Cassidy, 100 meter hurdles.

Esther (Jording) Hoffbauer, a former resident of the Mount Pleasant community, will celebrate her 100th birthday May 13 and would enjoy receiving cards and letters. Her address is: Esther Hoffbauer, % Carroll Hoffbauer, 9303 Jonagold Court, Yakima, Wash., 98903-9616.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

J.R. and Carrol Ginther attended memorial services at Trinity United Methodist Church in Culbertson, Neb., on Saturday for his uncle, Warren Davis, 88, who died Wednesday. His wife, the former Enid Mann, is a sister of the late Ferne Ginther, mother of J.R. Ginther.

Weekend guests of Jack and Mary Gutchewsky were Brian and Krista Gutchewsky, Gavin, Jena and Jillian, Kearney, Neb., and Frank Gutchewsky, Omaha.

Additional Saturday supper guests were Kendal and Tammy Neal, Katrina and Jimmy, Oberlin. On Sunday morning, they all attended the first communion for Addyson Uerling at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in McCook, and the dinner which honored her at the home of her parents, Joel and Sarah Uerling and Hayden, in McCook.

Among out-of-town relatives and friends who attended funeral

services for Edla Olson on Thursday at Pauls Funeral Home in Oberlin were Mike and Nione Rhodin, Loveland, Colo.; Lee, Terri and Amanda Munsell, Lees Summit, Mo.; Cathy Lanus, Smith Center; Carla Barber, McPherson; Oran and Donna Bradley, Boulder, Colo.; Bill and Mary Beggs, Kimberling City, Mo.; Mick Helberg, Hamlet, Neb.; Larry Jones, Cambridge, Neb.; and Dude Drain, Trenton, Neb.

The church board will meet following morning worship services Sunday at the Herndon Covenant Church.

J.R. and Carrol Ginther and Blaine and Erin Ginther and family attended the Rawlins County High School Consort dinner theater, "The Time of My Life," on Saturday evening at the Atwood Grade School gym. Cameron Ginther was a member of the group.

Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

I know rain is always needed in this part of the country, but I was disappointed that the Oberlin Arts and Humanities Barn Tour had to be postponed. It will be rescheduled for sometime in May.

I will have the new Table Tents ready to send to the printer by the time you read this, but if you have a June tourism event, I can probably still add it on if you call the office by the end of the day. These tents will cover the May activities again plus some new ones for June, highlights of unique shopping places in town, plus promotion of a few projects in town, including the cemetery directory and new pool.

The Oberlin Convention and Visitors Bureau will meet Thursday at the LandMark Inn for lunch. Guests are always welcome to come join the meeting with ideas to help promote tourism to Oberlin and

Decatur County.

Reservations need to be in the Chamber office this week for the Professional Assistants Luncheon on April 25 at The Gateway upstairs meeting room. The DCHS Singers will perform for our entertainment.

I will be contacting businesses with a planter in front of the establishment about a flower arrangement again this year from Mona's Market. If I don't find you, please call if you want an arrangement. The price, \$20, is the same as last year.

Also remember the auction in front of Stanley Hardware on Saturday, May 5. Other businesses are invited to display and sell their items at the same time. Just call Joe at the store at 475-2331 or the Chamber office at 475-3441 so we can help promote your sale.

Have a great week!