

# Events of Yesteryear

By Joan Betts

## 125 YEARS AGO — May 1887

Decatur County will raise double the crop it did before this season. A fine frame schoolhouse is being completed in District 35. A.H. Hollister has disposed of his windmill business to S.J. Morrish of Sheridan County.

The firm name of the proprietors of the new flour and feed establishment on Hall Street is Whitnah & Sears.

That old landmark, F.F. Bliss' barber shop, has been torn down to make room for improvements contemplated by L.G. Parker. F.F. has disposed of his chair and furniture to McCune & Banks and will retire from tinsorial labors for a while.

U.O. Hickel and Richard Benner have purchased the Chas. Ayers homestead 3 miles west of town.

Peyt Goss is putting up a laundry building in the rear of the Crystal Restaurant.

## 100 YEARS AGO — May 1912

A rain of .60 Saturday night and Sunday made everyone feel fine.

J.S. Cromwell and daughter, Grace, left for the State of New York Saturday evening.

Frank Railsback, Ivo Heitmann, Ross Riley, Bard McMullen and Bill Crawley all left for the east Wednesday evening.

W.H. McMullen moved out to his farm Monday.

Raymond Wolfe left Saturday evening for Canton, S.D., where he will work for his brother Homer.

Rev. J.P. Clark was chosen Moderator of the Presbytery meeting recently held at Phillipsburg.

W.J. Marvin has moved his stock into the old Co-op building.

Joseph H. Conley, a pioneer of the Jennings neighborhood, died April 27.

## 75 YEARS AGO — May 1937

Yes, sir, it was one of those "million-dollar" rains that happened over the county and most of the state

Monday when dry fields and dust-blown areas caught a slow all-day fall of moisture that measured from nearly half to three-quarters of an inch in this county.

Drs. John and Carlotta Rummel accompanied by Mr. Ross Riley are planning to leave Friday for Chipita Park, Colorado. Mr. Riley will finish a summer cabin belonging to the Rummels.

Mr. and Mrs. E.R. Woodward, accompanied by E.W. Coldren and Ed Hall, drove to Hill City last Friday to attend a meeting and luncheon in company with other Rotarians of Western Kansas at the Spring Creek Park 10 miles north of Hill City.

For the 10th time in 11 years, the Decatur High School shop team won first place in the state contest held at Manhattan. Thue Jorgensen is the shop instructor and participants were Elwood Mines and Elbert May.

Funeral services were held at the M.E. Church in Jennings for a long-time pioneer woman, Letty Lyons Rees who died April 12, 1937, at her home in Longmont, Colo., at the age of 78. She came to Decatur County in 1874 with her parents and located near Shibboleth where they homesteaded. On Nov. 11, 1883, she was married to Solomon Rees and they lived many years at "Old Jackson" where they had a general store, post office and a flour mill run by water power nearby. Mr. Rees was known over the western plains having been hired by the U.S. Government to help subdue the Indians during the raids.

About 35 babies were entered in the Girl Reserve Baby Show. Winners included: Under one-year old: Jimmie McGee and Jean Marian Ritchie; Under two years, Carol May Welsh and Jackie Kump; Under three years, Shirley Ann Castle and Lemoin Raulston.

Lyle: A fine 8-pound baby girl, Beverly Jean, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Rex Cozad April 24 at the Bert

Cozad home in Lyle.

## 50 YEARS AGO — May 1962

John Bearley was installed as president of Oberlin Lions Club replacing Wynn Horney.

Following church services Sunday morning, the congregation of Faith Lutheran Church, by unanimous ballot, gave a "go" sign to the construction of an educational wing and parish hall addition.

New Arrivals; Mr. and Mrs. Laverne Rippe, Traer, daughter, Christine Ann, 4-30-62; Mr. and Mrs. James Marshall, Syracuse, daughter, Tami Lynn, 4-26-62; Mr. and Mrs. Kleo Swift, Oberlin, daughter, Elaine Kay, 4-25-62; Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Shepherd, Oberlin, son, Gregory Thomas, 4-25-62; Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Kolsky, Jennings, son, Leland Charles, 4-7-62; Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Foster, Jennings, daughter, Lori Louise, 4-22-62; Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Koerperich, daughter, Linda Marie, 4-23-62; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Votapka, son, Daniel Lee, 4-9-62.

Larry Law arrived home Sunday evening to visit his mother, Mrs. Irene Law. He will go to Oakland, Calif., May 25 to be shipped to Japan. He is serving in the Army.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Van Vleet were honored April 29 at the home of their son, Kenneth VanVleet, in observance of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Funeral services were held May 9 at St. John's Lutheran Church for Mrs. Otis (Edith Metcalf) Relp who died May 5 in Detroit. She is survived by her husband of Cedar Bluffs; two daughters, R.D.V. Shinn, Boise, Idaho; Carolyn Parish of Detroit, Mich., and one son, Lowell, of Oberlin.

Mr. and Mrs. P.W. Page announce the engagement of their daughter, Mary Ann, to Gary Erickson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elof Erickson of Rexford. A wedding date has been

set for July 22.

A letter received by Mr. and Mrs. Art Chambers informed them that their son, Dr. Dwight Chambers, had arrived in West Africa where he is teaching English at Cotonou, Dohomey. He is a 1944 graduate of DCHS.

## 25 YEARS AGO — May 1987

Deanell Tacha, 10th Circuit Judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals, has accepted an invitation to speak in Oberlin on May 19 at a joint meeting of Oberlin Business and Professional Women and Oberlin Rotary Club to be held at the Oberlin American Legion. She is married to John Tacha, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Tacha, Jennings and the family resides in Lawrence.

Rusty Addleman will head the Oberlin American Legion Post #70 as commander taking the reins from outgoing Legion commander Lloyd Corcoran.

The local Legion post was notified this week that Kansas Gov. Mike Hayden has accepted an invitation to attend the May 25 Memorial Day Avenue of Flags ceremony.

New Arrivals: Mary and Charlie Myers, Oberlin, daughter, Laura Jane, 5-1-87; Teresa and James Bird, Leoville, son, Toliver Levi, 5-2-87; Debra and John Spresser, Jennings, son, Thomas John, 5-3-87; Dale and Tammy Musgavve, Indianola, daughter, Erin Marie, 5-22-87 at McCook Community Hospital.

The DCHS girls track team won the Colby Invitational with a score of 126 points. Freshman Jody Gaskill set a new record in the 3200-meter run, Jeni Peter won the 100 and 200-meter dashes, Laurie O'toole won the long jump and Karla Krause won both the 100 and 300-meter hurdles. In the boys events, Kent Winder won the shot put with a toss of 48'9".

## Norcatour News

Norcatour News Committee

Plans are underway for the annual Norcatour Memorial Day celebration on Sunday, May 24. The Avenue of Flags will be put up at 7 a.m. Lunch will be served in the multipurpose room of the city building from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The parade will form at 1:45 p.m. at the main gate of the cemetery. All veterans, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts and school children are invited to march in together. Services at the cemetery will begin at 2 p.m.

Phillip Young has been hospitalized for four weeks to repair his kneecap. He would appreciate hearing from friends. His address is Liberty Hospital No. 363, Glen Hentren Drive, Liberty, Mo., 64068.

Howard Anderson, a 1941 Norcatour graduate, celebrated his 90th birthday on May 5. He would enjoy hearing from friends. Mail will reach him at 1244 9th St. No. 6, San Pedro, Calif., 92625-3130.

Church family friends from Lyle and Clayton shared a potluck meal on April 29 at the Norcatour United Methodist Church Educational Building.

Happy Birthday wishes to: Veda

Wood, May 2; Linda Hunt, May 3; Howard Anderson, May 5; and Dave Stapp, May 6.

The Bible study group at Norcatour United Methodist Church is still studying the book of Romans. The group meets at the church's educational building at 7 p.m., Mondays.

Senior Citizens pinocle will be at 1 p.m., Thursday, <May 19>??? at the Norcatour Methodist Church Educational Building. ???

The Norcatour Senior Citizens will be planting three memorial trees in the cemetery for additional shade. These trees are to honor all veterans buried in Norcatour and in memory of Allen and Lillian Sebaugh. If you are interested in donating a memorial tree, contact any member of the Cemetery Board. They are: Wayne McCallister, Charles Hixon, Troy Marshall, Gary Anthony and Bee Nelson.

Evelyn Lyon will be 95 on May 1. She lives at the Andbe Home, 201 W. Crane, Norton, Kan., 67654.

Troy and Deb Marshall and Inez Jackson attended the State Music Festival in Salina on April 28.

## Museum Matters

By Sharleen Wurm

Memorial-Alumni weekend is coming soon! Once again, the museum will be holding its Alumni Social from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 25 and 26. There will be all kinds of activities going on both days.

The Oberlin Business Alliance will be grilling up hamburgers and polish sausages in front of the Museum from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, and new this year, the museum board and staff will be serving breakfast from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Saturday morning in the Bohemian Hall. Both events will be by donation, with the proceeds going for a new highway sign directing people downtown which will be up in time for the weekend.

The Decatur County Area Chamber will have a root-beer-float stand set up in front of the Museum on Friday in conjunction with the Oberlin Business Alliance burger-and-brat fry. The proceeds will go for community projects.

The museum will be the place to be on Alumni Weekend. We invite all alumni and the public to make it their place to socialize.

Taken in part from Oberlin Times...February 7, 1902

"On, Wednesday evening January 22, 1902, Mr. Robert Tutt, of

Oberlin, Kansas was married to Mrs. Ida Briggs, of Chicago, at the residence of the bride.

The wedding was a quiet affair and only a few of their large acquaintance of the high contracting parties were present. The spacious parlors (yes plural) were decorated with ferns and flowers.

Mr. Tutt is a gentleman of means of Kansas and Mrs. Briggs is one of Chicago's best known women, being connected with the Woman's Relief Corps and many other worthy and noble societies. The bride was attired in steel gray silk, diamond ornaments, and carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley; the groom wore conventional black. Their only attendants were Mr. Charles W. Johnson, son of the bride, and Miss Anna Tutt, daughter of the bridegroom. This part of the ceremony was indeed unique and was commented upon by all present as one of the loveliest weddings ever witnessed. Mr. and Mrs. Tutt will be home to their friends until March, when they will remove to their permanent home in Oklahoma."

So ends our story of the Robert Tutt family: Robert, Jennie, Annie, Mary, Calvin and John; three being buried in our own Oberlin Cemetery.

## Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

Floyd Lotker attended funeral services on Friday morning for his wife, Dottie Lotker, who passed away at Cedar Living Center on Monday. Sympathy is extended to Floyd and his family.

Our front flower boxes are looking festive after being filled this past week. Nora Bell Manning, with help from Mabel Bailey, planted the boxes with assorted colors of vincas. Mrs. Manning has been planting the box for many years in honor of her late mother-in-law, Babe Manning. We will look forward to many months of lovely blooms just outside our front door.

Mothers everywhere will be honored on their special day this Sunday. The many mothers of Cedar Living Center will be receiving cards, flowers, gifts and phone calls as part of the celebration. We will be serving cookies and tea in honor of all the moms after church next Sunday at 3:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to stop by and join us.

National Nursing Home Week begins each year on Mother's Day. We have a week of festivities planned with a carnival theme. We are still looking for clowns, jugglers, other special acts to help make our week special. If you would like to take part in our celebration, please call Cedar Living Center at 475-2276 and ask for Earla.

Several residents met on Monday afternoon for a game of dice. There were many winners and snacks were

served after the game.

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

The bingo players were out in full force on Tuesday afternoon. Everyone reported having a good time.

The bowling group met on Wednesday afternoon. Fr. Mark Berland brought Communion for the Catholic residents on Thursday morning.

Residents met to test their skills with trivia questions on Thursday afternoon. Ice cream bars were served after the game.

Residents continue to meet for games on Thursday starting about 6:30 p.m. Guests are always welcome to join us.

The baking group made oatmeal cookies with butterscotch chips on Friday afternoon. They disappeared before some of us had a chance to steal one.

Recent visitors: Earl Lawcett, Red Leather, Colo.; Candace, Joshua, Abbagail, Pierson Blick, Barbara, Nick and Rachel Ward, Wichita; Mike, Deb, Matthew and Timothy Helm, Norcatour; Martin and Ceanne Rinehart, Colby; Jim and Yanis Helm, Kathy Shaffer, McCook; Susie Youngblood and Linda Files, Atwood; Linda Bosler, Herndon.

Marilyn Farr, Bill and Carol Duncan, Ila Ray, Robert Fringer, Marilyn Gamblin, Jim Gamblin, Dewaine Stapp, Oberlin.

## Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Sympathy is extended to the family of Jack and Mary Gutchewsky following the death of her sister, Phyllis Zeller, 70, of Ravenna, Neb., on Sunday. Immediate survivors include her husband, Richard, and two sons, Lonnie and Larry Zeller.

The above item, which was printed last week, incorrectly listed Mrs. Gutchewsky's sister as Phyllis Axtell.

Congratulations to four high school graduates who attend the Herndon Covenant Church. They include: Noah Jones, son of Greg and Gwen Jones, who will graduate on Saturday from Cheylin High School at Bird City; Blake Bergling, son of Mark and Gail Bergling, who will graduate Sunday from Rawlins County High School in Atwood; Samantha Anderson, daughter of Richard and Maureen Anderson, who will graduate on Saturday, May 19, from Decatur Community High

School in Oberlin, and David Noren, son of Steve and Connie Noren, who was home schooled.

Those who attended the barn tour, sponsored by the Oberlin Arts and Humanities Commission on Sunday, viewed the barn at the farmstead of Steve and Arian Arnold and enjoyed refreshments there. Richard and Maureen Anderson's barn was also on the tour.

Sara Conner and her daughter, Alyssa, of Colorado Springs, visited her grandmother, Daisy Schmidt, on Saturday afternoon. They also visited her grandfather, Keith Barnett, in Atwood.

A large group from the Herndon Covenant Church attended the installation services for the Rev. Roy Mathewson as new pastor of the Lund Covenant Church on Sunday. Officiating was the Rev. Rick Mylander of the Midwest Covenant Conference.

## Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

This month we will be celebrating "The Journey" in honor of National Nursing Home Week. Be watching the articles this month as we highlight different aspects of living.

Thanks to Cheryl Timm, our Physical Therapist, and our Restorative Care Staff, two of our residents, Vernon Haase and Marylu Brown, were able to return to their homes this week. As we said "So long" to them, we said, "Welcome" to two new residents, Phil Erickson and Amy Johnson.

Lovely May baskets filled with notes, flowers and candy were delivered by the grade-schoolers. Hillbilly Horseshoes was put on the calendar to get everyone outdoors for some fun and fresh air, but the weather didn't cooperate on Tuesday. Alice Bobbitt, first, Leone Porsch, second, and Betty May, third. Myrtle Ross, Earl Brown, Opal Bryan, Evelyn Olson, Connie Cramer, and Amy Rehm were also competitors.

The pretty lilacs in the May baskets were the inspiration for the Artsy Crafts Club's afternoon project. Using a drinking straw, Connie Cramer, Evelyn Olson, Betty May, Opal Bryan, Olive Arnold, Alice Bobbitt and Leone Porsch blew lavender paint to create the long random shape of their flower.

We are already preparing for our Annual Walkway of Flags. A special section of the Walkway will be devoted to soldiers who have served in Iraq or Afghanistan. Contact Lisa Paulson (785) 475-2245 for more information.

This week we were pleased to have so many guests: Pat Fringer, Reta Barratt and Amber Barratt for **Margaret Vacura**. Cheryl Miller for **Loren Schrock**. Max Carman for **Myrtle Waldo**. Jerry Hill for **Cheryl Hill**. Reva Marshall, Penny Fringer, Tami Cook, Eric Kuhlman, Alice Marshall (Manchaca, Texas), Rita Garver (Salina) and Dixie Snyder (Colby) for **Dorothy Hunt**.

Marvin and Sharon Slabaugh for **Opal Bryan**. Murry and Audrey Pavlicek for **Mary Lemman**. Gerald Benda for **Eulaine Benda**. Connie Simonsson, Becky Hunziker (Breckenridge, Colo.), Alice Marshall, Rita Garver (Salina) for **Amy Rehm**. 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** and **Earl Brown**. Marian Fraker and Rea and Dee Magers (Norcatour) for **Mary Waldo**. Stormie Caldwell for **Elden Haas**. Galen Olson for **Amy Rehm**, **Lucy Schissler**, **Violet Schissler** and **Eva Bryan**. Bob and Neoma Tacha, Nadine Tacha (Jennings) and Allen Tacha (Norton) for **Galen Tacha**. Rod and Glenna Copeland (Colchester, Vt.) and Eunice Martin for **Glenn Martin**. Brecklyn Jensen for **Violet Schissler**. Dick and Donna Kelley, Janice Sauvage (Las Vegas, Nev.) and Helen Jaderberg (Colo.) for **Eva Bryan**. Cathy Wenger (Aubrey, Texas) for **Connie Cramer**. Helen Brooks, Sharon Black and Darci Meitl for **Ethel Nemeth**.

## Decatur Health Systems

By Becky Wilson

A couple of new faces have showed up at the front lines of Decatur Health Systems and the Family Practice Clinic.

We are proud to have Angela Viglielmo joining the business office staff as our admissions representative, while Stephanie Chadwick is the new face over at the clinic.

The person sitting at the front desk has a lot of responsibility. Any questions or complaints about anything from payments to privacy concerns to scheduling can be taken to them, and they'll have the answers at their fingertips—or at least know right away who to call.

Their job is to make things easier for the patients and their families, so if you have any questions or qualms at all, let them know what's on your mind.

Ms. Viglielmo and Ms. Chadwick are getting started during an important month at the hospital. This is National Hospital Week and next week is National Nursing Home Week. There will be a potluck banquet for all the employees, plus

treats and other festivities through the week.

If the Community Walk was postponed because of rain on Monday, it will be held today.

The calibrations are now complete, and the new CT machine is up and running. The radiology staff is eager to see it in action. It really is an impressive piece of equipment.

As a bit of follow-up on last week's recruitment update, the hospital is now drafting a letter of intent to send to Dr. Ronald Stukeby of Indiana, who came here a few months back for an interview and tour. That is a key step in officially making a hire and getting the licensing machinery moving.

If all goes well, in a few months we'll have him, Dr. Stephen Albert and Dr. Alex Platz all practicing medicine here.

