

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Joan Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Oct. 1887

Cold — Winter is a little previous. A prairie fire last Thursday destroyed W. C. McGonigal's pasture.

The foundation for the Methodist parsonage is complete.

Jim Mintier is opening a store at Achilles.

Frank Lockhart is the new clerk at the Oberlin Land Office.

The Original Boston Double Uncle Tom's Cabin will appear at the Opera House on Monday, Nov. 1.

This issue of the Herald carries a 2-column write-up of Oberlin by Harry Root, in the Atchison Champion. He had the following to say of population figures for Decatur County and Oberlin: In 1886 Decatur county 6,360; Oberlin, 1,101. In March 1887 Decatur County 8,621; and Oberlin, 1,793.

100 YEARS AGO — Oct. 1912

Frank Meier was frightfully injured yesterday at the home of John Nitcher southwest of Oberlin. He stumbled while helping with a sorghum mill and his arm was caught in the cogs of the mill, badly mangling his arm.

Sheriff Griffin has moved to the Fox property in the southeast part of town.

Allison Items: Billie Wilson, carrier No. 1 from Lucerne, had a leg broken and the other seriously injured by a clevis breaking and the suddenly released doubletrees hitting him just below the knees.

Jennings Items: Mr. Moore, the new depot agent, has moved into the Bainter property.

Decatur High beat the Atwood football team Friday 13-0.

W.S. Langmade and George Bigelow are holding a big dissolution

sale next Wednesday.

75 YEARS AGO — Oct. 1937

Our community will have a new high school building — the plans have been made and approved, and the bids will be opened on Nov. 9, after which the actual construction will begin.

Social Welfare Director Raymond Cilek has been receiving congratulations and passing out cigars owing to the birth of a baby daughter at his home in Jennings last Thursday.

Large crowds attended the homecoming celebration of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Oberlin Methodist Church last Sunday. The historical presentation by Alfred Miner was one of the highly interesting presentations of the day.

Frank Ellis, a member of the football squad, underwent an appendectomy at the hospital last Thursday and is reported to be recovering nicely.

Olive Chapel: Mr. Otto Johnson's three little girls spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Southard and Mrs. Neta Tritt was an all night guest Thursday.

Cedar Bluffs; "Practical Points on Blankets" was the lesson of the Cedar Bluffs Farm Bureau Unit which held a regular meeting on Oct. 14 at the home of Mrs. Grace Hawkins.

Prairie Dog: Mr. and Mrs. John Simonsson and June Belle and Carl Simonsson went to Gothenburg, Neb., Sunday to see about their cattle. They started Monday to truck them down to wheat pasture.

The Sappa Valley 4-H Club met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rea Simpson on Oct. 23. The following members were initiated into the club: Lowell Simpson, Rob-

ert Ohmie, Duane Olson, Clarice Brainard and Alice Jean Leonard. Marguerite Morton was elected as pianist.

50 YEARS AGO — Oct. 1962

Five pretty Decatur Community High School girls are candidates for football queen for 1962 and the queen will be crowned Friday afternoon. Queen candidates are Linda Pavlicek, Cheryl McKay, Cheryl Bryan, Christy Bryan and Helen Pelkey.

The story of the Oberlin Halloween Clean-up, which was started from an idea by Caleb Smick, former administrator, in 1925, was picked up by the New York Times and was publicized throughout the nation. It is the best-known activity of the youths of the Oberlin area.

In a recent business transaction, John Ward Sr. purchased the half interest of Charles P. Stevenson of Stevenson Drug Store and became the sole owner. It had been in the Stevenson family for 72 years. John Ward Jr. assists his father in the drug store. The Wards also own Sandy's Shop, a few doors south of the drug store.

Gene Lindemann has opened his new Service Center, a TV and radio repair business located in the old post office building. He purchased the building from Mrs. Mike Roach.

Births: Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Brown, Jennings, girl, Kara Beth, 10-18-62, 7 pounds, 13 1/2 ounces, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Stoney, Herndon, girl, Mary Ellen, 10-21-62, 7 pounds, 10 1/2 ounces, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Russ, Oberlin, girl, 10-22-62, 7 pounds, 15 1/2 ounces. Mr. and Mrs. Duane Witt, Oberlin, son, Mark Reed, born 10-12-62, 8 pounds, and 9 1/2 ounces.

Out with the Hillbillies — It took the combined efforts of the family and the neighbors to get us off, but they finally got the job done, and here we are in Seattle. The World's Fair is just waiting for us, and after we've seen it and shaken hands with President Kennedy — ahem — we'll be home. He'll be here Sunday and

we start home Monday.

25 YEARS AGO — Oct. 1987

The fall harvest is overflowing storage bins. At Decatur Co-op Pam Harmon reports that a half million bushels of sunflowers have crossed the scales and milo yields have ranged from 35 to 120 bushels per acre. Stan Shaw at Garvey Elevator in Selden reports the fall harvest is very close to being done.

Key award winners announced at the 4-H Achievement Banquet Sunday evening were Angie Krizek, Kayla Unger and Blake Vacura.

Dawn Tongish, daughter of Denis and Wilma Tongish of Herndon, and classmate Bob Kealing of Leawood, won first place national award in the Mark of Excellence contest sponsored by the Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi.

Jennie Hooper, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Allen Hooper, delighted those in attendance at the piano recital of Wanda Frickey's students at Sappa Valley Manor on Sunday, Oct. 25, when she played "Inspiring Autumn," which was her own composition. She is a fourth grader at Oberlin Elementary School.

The congregation of Prairie Chapel Church invites the public to an open house on Sunday Nov. 1, to view the remodeled and refurbished sanctuary.

Oberlin PRIDE committee recognized the renovation work Elmer Kathka has done at his business, 5th Wheel One-Stop, located at the intersection of U.S. 83 and 36 highways. Kathka was presented with the Spirit of Pride Award by Marie McVay, PRIDE chairman.

DCHS Kayettes received the highest gold award for the fifth consecutive year at the Regional Kayette Conference on Oct. 15 in Stockton. Ryneck Morgan of Oberlin is president and Dea Macfee is vice president. Others attending the conference were Angie Lintner, Kayla Unger, Kristy Unger, Beverly Gee, Jodi Gaskill, Amanda AraSmith and sponsor Mrs. Violet Shaw.



NATASHA GRIFFITHS HELPED Betty Carswell draw a name for the door prize during the Rexford Museum fundraiser Saturday evening. — Herald photo by Gwen Griffiths

Rexford News

By Gwen Griffiths

It was a big weekend here in Rexford!

My family started off the week by helping pack meals for hungry children through the Feed My Starving Children food pack event in McCook on Friday afternoon. We went up with a group of home school families through Christian Family Educators. Many others from the area participated throughout the weekend.

Friday morning a group of Rexford residents got together to make noodles for the Lions Club Pheasant Hunters Dinner in November. They estimated it would take four or five hours to make all of the noodles needed for the event.

Shepherd's Staff hosted two events this weekend. Women from the High Plains Baptist Church in Hays came for a weekend retreat and stayed in the Lonesome Dove Boardin' House and Historic Philip Houston House. Lutheran youth from all over western Kansas stayed in the Main Center and Hall while learning biblical truths and playing

paintball. Saturday night there was a fundraiser for the Rexford Museum, held at the Red Barn. A good group of people came to play Bingo and enjoy cake and ice cream. Proceeds from the event will go towards replacing the roof on the museum.

Sunday, Rexford Community Church hosted Greg Strange, who sang a number of songs and spoke to the congregation. Following the service, members of the church ate lunch together, and then wrapped and packed over 100 shoe boxes to be given as gifts through Operation Christmas Child.

There will be no Kids Club today.

Keep the opening of pheasant season Saturday, Nov. 10, on your calendar and plan to attend the Pheasant Hunters Dinner. More details will be coming next week.

That's the news for the week. Please feel free to contact me with news by calling (785) 687-2076 or e-mailing griffithsgang@gmail.com. Have a great week!

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

We would like to encourage anyone dressed in a Halloween costume to stop by Cedar Living Center on the 31st. We will have plenty of candy for the children.

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

The Reading Buddies from the second grade classes at Oberlin Elementary School visited on Tuesday morning. The dining room was filled with students and residents, all with smiles on their faces.

The bingo players were out in full force on Tuesday afternoon. Those joining in on the fun included Audra Duncan, Juanita Eckhart, Irene Fringer, Vern and Wanda Heller, Helen Helm, Lois Lamb, Wilma May, Joan Noble, Alice Shirley and Mary Votpaka.

Residents worked on decorating treat bags for Halloween on Wednesday afternoon. The Bible study group met before supper on Wednesday.

A pancake supper was held in the Cedar Living Center dining room on Wednesday evening. Margee Wilson and Charlie Myers flipped the hot cakes in view of an appreciative audience of residents and guests. The dietary and activ-

ity departments provided backup assistance for the supper. Several residents of the Wheat Ridge Terrace Apartments joined us for the supper. They included Marguerite Bailey, Merle Shirley, Doris Sloan, Doris Gilbert, Ivis Hanson, Luetta Pollnow, Norma Richards, and Max and Veanna Carman.

Several residents met on Thursday afternoon for trivia games. Snacks were served following the game.

The baking group made oatmeal raisin cookies on Friday afternoon. We had more who wanted to help eat the cookies than who showed up to help with the work.

Jan Matheny delivered some homemade doughnuts sent from the United Church. What a lovely treat. We also received a gift of gourds for the dining room and books for our library from Peggy Ream.

Recent visitors: Pat Marintzer, Idalia, Colo.; Dale Blake, Danbury; Kathy Shaffer, McCook; John and Joan Shirley, Scott City; Linda Bosler, Herndon; Sally Henningson, Marilyn Gamblin, Connie Olson, Catherine Neal, Dewaine Stapp, Bill and Carol Duncan, Robert and Penny Fringer, Jody Shike, Sherri Shuler, Oberlin.

Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

As you may have noticed, I haven't been around for about two weeks. Or maybe you haven't missed me. That's OK, too.

I was privileged (with the help of my other children) to take a vacation to Germany to visit my son Lewis and help him celebrate his 40th birthday. His wife Tina and planned it, and it was one heck of a surprise.

Now I am attempting to get back in the swing of things. Maybe by next week I will be there.

I would like to share an issue with you. When a thought is in your mind, it can be hard to decide how to convey it to others in the right way, but I am going to tell it very bluntly:

Our Chamber office is in danger of closing.

I am telling you this because I feel that it would be a huge step backward for Oberlin's future. I know Chamber in some tow operate all or part on volunteer time, and it works for a while, but volunteers stray away for various reasons. Where does that leave the Chamber?

Most active Chambers get money from the city, everywhere from \$2,000 to \$10,000. Our city pays the regular business dues of \$200 (\$125 for the Chamber and \$75 for the Oberlin Business Alliance). Fund-raising projects have helped,

but the economy has had a hand in that the past few years.

Our Chamber is also unique in that it is a countywide Chamber. Board members have approached our City Council and county commissioners the past two years for help maintaining the Chamber office but never received any commitment.

A committee of Chamber board members is working to rearrange the membership process to build our membership, but what will the outcome be? Time will tell.

Some may think I am just looking out for my job. Yes, that is a part. I applied for this position when I needed employment, but I have come to enjoy most of the work. There have been times I was ready to throw in the towel, but I took a deep breath and a night's sleep, and changed my mind.

If circumstances point me in another direction, I will probably weather the storm as I have in the past, and Oberlin will probably survive, but will it be the best for Oberlin?

If you have thoughts or ideas on the situation, please contact one of our Chamber board members or Oberlin Business Alliance members.

Have a great week!

Lyle News

By Veda Wood

Toots Magers and six others played pinocle on Thursday. Jane Engelhardt and Judy and Charlie Easton ate dinner with her on Sunday, then they all came to the wiener roast at the Norcatur firehouse in the evening.

Emily Bader visited me Sunday evening, brought me a nice picture she had painted, then took me to the wiener roast. We had good hot dogs, beans, cookies and popcorn balls. Those who didn't mind the cold weather went outside and roasted marshmallows and names were drawn for gifts.

Kathy Van Meter and Lloyd Frandsen attended a firemen's benefit for a friend at the Holbrook, Neb., Community Building.

June Jolly went to the "Taste of Home" show in McCook. She and a few McCook ladies are organizing a new card club which will meet every other week. Her son, Carroll Jolly, and a friend came back to do some pheasant hunting.

Betsy Jakowski took Jody Lyon and Veda Woods to the beautiful

luncheon at Oberlin's LandMark Inn, given by *The Oberlin Herald* for their country correspondents. Besides the visiting and wonderful food, I even won the door prize of an autumn table arrangement. Afterward, we spent some time admiring items in the quilting shop and took the long way around to Jennings where Betsy picked up some books.

I was thrilled to have a visit from my sister, Sheryl Patterson of McCook, a niece, Connie Boyer of Kirkland, Wash., and a nephew, Larry Vernon of Denver. Connie and Larry are the son and daughter of Leland Vernon and my sister, Twila Van Gundy of Arvada, Colo. Connie is doing a lot of work on family history and gave me a good bit of it. Leland (Lee) is a cousin to Dorothy Ward and grew up in Norcatur.

Tom Baker and Cheryl Parrish took me to Oberlin on Wednesday for a bone density test. We visited with Carol and John Moye and Skylar and with Sheryl, Larry and Connie.

Norcatur News

By the Norcatur News Committee

Norcatur once again has a cafe. Jerry's Bar and Grill opened last Wednesday. The restaurant will be open from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. You may call Jerry at 693-3370.

Gary and Cathy Anthony went to Brush, Colo., on their recent vacation. They visited her brother, Bill, and his wife, Phyllis. After their return, they took Keith Anthony to Kearney, Neb., for an eye appointment. They made the most of their time and had lunch at Valentino's and shopped at Hobby Lobby. The vacation was finished off with the benefit potluck at Lyle and the soup and pie supper at the Norcatur United Methodist Church.

The Norcatur Bazaar brought in almost \$2,500. It will be used to support different church programs.

Happy birthday to: John New, Oct. 26; Dee Magers, Oct. 27; and K.K.J. Ward, Oct. 28.

Happy anniversary to: Scott and Tracey Hartzog, Oct. 25; and Rex and Lidia Knapp, Oct. 28.

Norcatur Senior Citizens met Oct. 19 to play pitch with 16 players present. Winners were Gust

Foth, Kay Foth and Joyce Price. The next meeting will be at 1 p.m. on Friday at the Methodist Church Educational Building.

Joyce Price's brother, Max Thielbar, Lincoln, Neb., came for a few days' visit. During his stay they went to McCook for lunch with another brother, Melvin Thielbar and wife, Charlotte and daughters, Pam and Candy. They also visited a cousin, Rex and Joyce Remington. They stopped in at Mike Helm's to see Ceanne Rhinehart.

Keith Anthony took Sherri Regan and Joyce Price to Lyle for the annual potluck fund raiser.

The next Book Potpourri will be held Wednesday, Nov. 21, at the Norcatur Library.

New sidewalks were recently laid at the Norcatur United Methodist Church.

Eric Kuhlman is toleratng his chemotherapy treatments just fine, except for being tired. His treatments will be done by Thanksgiving. After that, he will have monthly blood work and a CT scan every three months for the next year. If all goes well, the port will be removed in February.

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Sophia Elizabeth Richards, infant daughter of Curtis and Jessica Richards, was baptized Sunday morning during worship services at St. John's Lutheran Church in Oberlin with Pastor Brad Rick officiating. Special music was provided by Erin May playing the prelude and the midweek school and confirmation children singing before and after the baptism.

The Decatur Community High School girls cross country team, Caitie Shields, Winter Polivka, Darbi Rouse, Brittany Urban and Ashley Witt, placed fourth as a team at State Cross Country in Wamego on Saturday. Caitie Shields placed 14th and medaled since she was among those individually placing in the top 20.

Tyler Shields, Manhattan; Paul

and Kelly Shields and Cassidy, and Gaylord and Shirley Shields attended the State Cross County meet Saturday in Wamego.

Gaylord and Shirley Shields were Sunday afternoon visitors of Eula Juenemann in Kearney, Neb.

Ryan May won the Most Valuable Player Award for the Oct. 19 Friday evening Decatur Community High football game.

Erin May won Junior Reserve Grand Champion in the Overall Home Economics division at the 4-H Achievement Social held Sunday evening at the Golden Age Center in Oberlin. Also at the social, Elizabeth Nedland and Zach May both received their 4-H Key Award, the highest achievement award in 4-H.



SEPTIC TECH

"EXPERIENCE YOU
CAN COUNT ON"

Licensed by NWLEPG

Maintenance
Contracts

- SEPTIC TANK PUMPING
- SEWER CLEANING
- JETTING SERVICE

111 S. 2nd, Norton, Kansas
785-871-TECH (8324)
Email: office@septictech.org

sell it in the classifieds

475-2206