

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1884

Some of our citizens are burning corn for fuel.
A 46-inch vein of coal has been discovered at Cawker City.
Howard Carpenter, G.G. Bailey, W.T. Campbell and J.A. Hughes returned Saturday from a trip to Sheridan County where they had been on an antelope hunt.
Kenneth narrowly escaped destruction by prairie fire last week. It is estimated that \$10,000 worth of damage was done in the county by the fire.
Hollister bought 25 dozen chickens in one bunch last week.
J.W. Allen & Son formally opened the skating rink Saturday evening. The Oberlin Cornet Band discoursed sweet music during the evening.

100 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1909

Sunday it cleared up and looked as though we might have better weather, but by Monday morning it was snowing again and it was evident that winter was here for certain.
The freight that left here Monday morning got stalled in a snow drift near Kanona.
O.B. Towne left Oberlin last week and Lester M. Parker has taken up the white man's burden of managing the Times.
G.A. Steele bought out the furniture and fixtures of the Benton-Smith Hotel Monday of W.K. Eubanks and took possession Tuesday morning.
As our gasoline engine was out of order, Charley Blickenstaff turned the press to run off the issue last week.
Jennings Items: Bobsleds, gas pipe runners and old fashioned sleds are all in use since the snow.

75 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1934

Football games Thanksgiving Day resulted in a decidedly satisfactory manner to most local folks. In the first place Decatur High defeated Norton for the championship of the Northwest Kansas League; the Kansas Aggies captured the Missouri Valley championship by turning back the strong Nebraska Cornhuskers; KU won over Missouri; and Hays College, with Jack Riley, former Decatur coach, defeated Salina Wesleyan for the college championship of Kansas.
Playing at Norton in the mud

and snow with the temperature below freezing and a large crowd of spectators on the sidelines, Rex Gill received the opening kickoff and ran it back for a touchdown for the Red Devils on the first play and they went on to win 19-0.
What a treat it would have been for Supt. Charles Hawkes, who for the past 7 weeks has been laid up in the Hays hospital, to witness his boys out there in the snow and mud giving all they had to defeat the strong Bluejay team and win the league title.

Eldon Aufer of Norcat, the celebrated pitcher of the Detroit American League baseball team, made an interesting talk at the Tuesday noon meeting of Oberlin Rotary at the Hotel Oberlin. An added feature was the presence of the Decatur Community High School football team as guests and landlord Olson did his share by providing a real turkey dinner for all present. Members of the football squad and their coaches were also honored guests at a turkey dinner arranged by the Alumni Association.

Dec. 1934: A new produce station, the seventh in the city, was opened for business this week in the old Wigwam theatre building next to the J.C. Penney store. Ivel Chilson, a young and well-known Oberlin man is the manager of the new business.
Sherman: This vicinity received about an inch of rain. With a little warm weather our wheat may make the grade yet.
Anyone who has driven out on US183 north of Oberlin will notice that trees and shrubs have been planted along the roadway for a distance of three miles.

50 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1959

The farm supply store at Jennings operated by Decatur Co-op Assn. is expected to be open for business today. Julius Tacha of Jennings is manager of the new enterprise.
The Selden Wildcat football team recently completed their second consecutive undefeated football season. The Wildcats defeated Jennings, Ransom, Winona, Edson, Weskan, Herndon, Bogue and Grinnell and tied Norcat. Earl Barber is head football coach at Selden. He is assisted by Don Schultz.
Avis Morton, 17, of Sappa Valley 4-H Club, has been named to receive

a state gold achievement award.
Evald Rydquist has decided to cease farming and will sell his farm machinery and other items at a public auction.
Piano students of Mrs. Maye Banta will present a recital Sunday at the grade school gymnasium.
Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Wolfe moved last week into their new home purchased last spring from Mr. and Mrs. H.G. Mahon who now live in Overland Park. The Wolfes redecorated almost the entire home.
Mrs. Ruth Hayes of Lindsborg arrived Sunday evening to spend a few days visiting friends and relatives.

25 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1984

The ponderosa pine tree which decorates the Decatur County courthouse this Christmas season was cut down at the Jim Schieferecke tree farm near Selden and decorated by the interior design class at DCHS.
Gary Bartels was elected to head a booster club for the Oberlin school. Rusty Addleman will be vice-president and Sue Rome, secretary-treasurer.
Three area girls, Pippa Stanley, Joani Guy, Oberlin and Christina Green, Herndon, are members of the

Marymount College Spartannes, who perform as pompom girls at the men's basketball games.
Funeral services were held at the Oberlin Evangelical Covenant Church for John Holmberg, 83. He attended Agenda High School and Kansas State University, taught school several years and farmed in the Brantford area before moving with his wife to a farm south of Oberlin in 1949. He is survived by his wife, Mabel; a son, Lowell and a brother, Arthur Holmberg and wife, Lucille.
New Arrivals: Donna and Jack Fortin, Oberlin, daughter, Angela Dee, Nov. 29, 1984; William and Mary Carroll, Burlington, Colo., son, Joshua William, Dec. 2, 1984; Diane and Thomas Aumiller, Selden, daughter, Tarina Renae, Dec. 9, 1984.
The Red Devil boys basketball team won the Brewster Liberty League tournament last week while the girls won the consolation championship.
Brig. Gen. Philip Finley, Colby, has retired as commander of the Kansas Army National Guard and assistant adjutant general (Army). He was a former county agent in Decatur County.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

Sympathy is extended to the family of Carmie Wickham who passed away on Friday.
Holiday music was on the play list for a game of "Name That Tune" on Monday afternoon in the dining room. Several residents joined in on the fun on Monday afternoon. Refreshments were served.
Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack led the sing-along time before supper on Monday.
Chas. Janousek and Agnes Pruitt tied for the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon. Dale Butler won the blackjack game.
Wednesday afternoon residents enjoyed a program of Christmas music presented by Marlin Lillich of Atwood, who played guitar and sang.
Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson on Wednesday afternoon.
Fr. Mark Berland brought Communion for the Catholic residents on Thursday morning.
Thursday afternoon residents gathered in the dining room to decorate the Christmas tree. Christmas music played in the background while everyone took turns placing the ornaments on the tree. Roberta

Petracek donated the cookies and punch served after the tree trimming. We still have a tree to decorate on the patio and a few odds and ends to place, but most of the holiday decorations are up now.
An enthusiastic group of bakers met in the dining room to make doughnuts on Friday afternoon. The smell of doughnuts frying always draws a crowd.
Dr. Elizabeth Sliter hosted the annual cookie decorating party in the dining room on Saturday afternoon. Around 15 children attended the party. Residents and the children frosted and decorated dozens of ginger bread and sugar cookies. The children took home the cookies they did not manage to eat. Everyone had a finger-licking good time.
Recent visitors: Carol Kompus, Cheri Kastens, Linda Bosler, Herndon; Lillian Sulzman, Dresden; Jim and Carolyn Plotts, Norcat; Gregg Sayer, Cambridge, Neb.
Lyle Gamblin, Opal Huntley, Marian Dempewolf, Ila Ray, Max and Veanna Carman, Eunice Richards, Connie Olson, Gage Scott, Oberlin.

Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

I guess we had to have snow sometime, but I was enjoying the clear footing while it lasted! And I think I am ready for spring already.
Just a reminder that I have the Santa Dollars in the office and ready for the Oberlin Business Alliance. They make a great gift to help keep shopping in Oberlin.
There will be a late night Ladies Shopping time on Friday, Dec. 18, from 9:30 to 11:30 p.m. A list of open businesses will be in next week's article. Refreshments will be available at the businesses. Come see what you might find!!
I receive information from our state treasurer Dennis McKinney quite often. One this week told of several books and pamphlets with titles about "Holiday Savings for Children's Education," "Patriots Property Program," "Homebuyers' Guide" and a "Guide for Smarter Fi-

ancial Decisions" that is designed to help young people learn wise financial responsibilities. There might be some very helpful information from these sources. I have the e-mail in my office if anyone is interested.
Another e-mail I received from the Kansas Sampler Foundation is a "Kansas Christmas Shopping Guide" and lists many shops for unique items for gifts; plus many which are made right in Kansas. I'll be happy to share this information if you wish; just stop in and read.
I also have for sale in the office pass booklets of tickets for the Sunflower Cinema. It includes three pass tickets for each month of 2010. This is a \$180 value for \$150. This would make a nice Christmas gift for that special grandchild.
Have a great week and stay warm!!

Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

"Star of Wonder, Star of Night, Star of Royal beauty Bright"
Town Square has been decorated to reflect the beauty and the message of the Star of Bethlehem. The Golden Ringers, Amy Rehm, Shirley Hayward, Evelyn Olson, Leone Porsch, Faye Miller, Dorothy Pryor, Betty May, Opal Bryan and Alice Bobbitt performed for our Lighting of the Tree Ceremony on Friday night. All the families were invited to our Christmas family potluck; 64 guests came to enjoy an abundance of good food and delightful fellowship.
Our week was filled with good times! Tuesday, the Vic Mowry band came from Hoxie for another evening of dancing! Marion Wenger, John and Dianne Bremer, Dolores Koerperich and Anita Hirsch came to dance with the residents. Lisa Paulson and Joey Hirsch danced the "Twist" to Rock Around the Clock. John and Dianne floated over the dance floor as they waltzed. Other dancers were Edla Olson, Eva Bryan, Marie McChesney, Doris Marintzer, Eileen Laird, Leone Porsch, Dorothy Pryor, Shirley Hayward, Dorothy Hunt, Opal Bryan, Alice Bobbitt, Nadine Anderson, Betty May, Faye Miller and Violet Schissler.
The STAR Ministry with the help of many local businesses set up "shop" for the residents to get gifts for their loved ones. Our thanks to all who helped make this a great shopping day!
Our Resident Prayer Team keeps growing! Twelve met in the Quiet Room to lift up the needs and concerns of Good Sam's family. If you would like to have them pray specifically for something on your heart, give us a call or send a note.

They are awesome prayer warriors. Edla Olson leads them in singing and they have adopted the song, "I'll Fly Away" as their theme song.
On Saturday, cute little mice with candy cane tails were scurrying about. Dietary Aide Corrine Walter helped Alice Bobbitt, Emma Sanford, Amy Rehm, Betty May, Evelyn Olson, Opal Bryan and Edla Olson make ornaments for a tree.
Besides all the happenings here, Walt and Betty May went to see the Oberlin Area Concert Band and to the farm to get in on the fall harvest.
Helen Derby went out with friends Delores Deppersmidt and Roberta of Dresden.
Stop by to see a unique Christmas display in the Quiet Room. "The Modern Manger" is there with a musical theme.
Visitors included Erin and Sue May and Norma and Ralph Unger for Walt and Betty May. Erin read to Amy Rehm. Elsie Wolters for Dorothy Pryor and Mary Lemman. Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem) for Doris Marintzer and Hubert Mumm. Alberta Ritter also for Hubert. Max and Veanna Carman for Myrtle Waldo. Jim and Reva Marshall and Ron and Dixie Snyder (Colby) for Dorothy Hunt. The Smith family (North Platte) for Dorothy Pryor. Marvin and Sharon Slabaugh and Laurene Van Otterloo for Opal Bryan. Elden and Detta Anderson and Donna Kelly for Eva Bryan. Peggy Carman, Diana Alstrom, Angie and Kendall Long for Nadine Anderson and Myrtle Waldo. Lisa Leichliter, Chris Dempewolf, Sharee Dempewolf and Hayden, Shelby Brown and J.D. Forbes for R.D. Thornton.

Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

Sharon Ecker traveled to Hays to celebrate Thanksgiving with Troy, Brandi and Bart Ecker. A family friend spent the day with them. Sharon returned home on Saturday with her family.
Bob Irvin, Indian Hills, Colo., and friend, were guests of Cheryl Timm for a few days enjoying some hunting.
Last Saturday Laverne and Sharon Frick celebrated the 95th birthday of this mother, Viola Frick of Trenton, Neb., at the Nebraska Sports Café in Trenton. Other guests joining the party were Trevor and Jackie Frick, Denver, and Matt, April Green and boys, Atwood.
Aaron, Sarah and Gideon White, Norton, and Adam and Angela Ketterl, Atwood, were guests over Thanksgiving weekend of Dave and Judy Ketterl.
Scotty Cavanaugh, Britton Anderson and Holden Watson of Meriden, Kan., were visitors of Bob and Julie Hafner Friday morning.
Gary Nemeth of Severn, Md., spent from Tuesday until Sunday with his parents, Bob and Geraldine Nemeth and family in the area.
The Herndon senior citizens will meet Wednesday, Dec. 16, at noon at the center for dinner with meeting and games following. All higher-ranking residents are invited

to attend and share in an afternoon of fun.
With church attendance on a decline in the country, Fr. Stephen stressed the importance of the Advent season at St. Mary's Sunday Mass. Families should engage more fruitfully in this season, preparing for Christmas and the birth of Our Lord. He spoke of the real gifts that please Our Lord; our time, our talents in helping one another and the love in our heart towards each other. Our Lord is not interested in the x-box and video games, DVDs, cell phones or big screen TV's. Mass was held on Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 9, celebrating the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.
Dean, Deb and Marcus Portschy hosted a birthday supper for Neil Portschy's 13th birthday on Sunday evening. Enjoying soup, turkey sandwiches, cake and homemade ice cream were Pete and Eileen Portschy, Gene Kleidosty, Cheri Kastens, Greg and Rita Marintzer, Justin and Lori Marintzer, all of Herndon and Emily Chessmore of Atwood.
The Belles of St. Mary's entertained at the Santa brunch following Mass on Sunday. Santa arrived bearing gifts to young and old while the Belles sang traditional and spiritual Christmas carols, under the

direction of Theresa Rippe. PRIDE members provided cinnamon rolls, muffins, breakfast casseroles, hot chocolate, coffee and juice for a large gathering. Santa and Rudolph were seen leaving Herndon amongst the big snowflakes.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

The Jennings Lions Club will hold its annual Soup and Dessert Lunch on Saturday at the Jennings City Hall. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. A freewill offering will be taken. Santa Claus will arrive at 1:30 p.m. to visit with all youngsters and oldsters present. He will hand out treats provided by the Jennings Lions Club and the City of Jennings. A community drawing will be held and the Jennings American Legion will hold its gun raffle drawing.
The Jennings Book Club met on Nov. 30 at the rural home of Joan McKenna. "The Help," written by Kathryn Stockett, was discussed. Gathering for the meeting were Patty Foster, Julie Carter, Lynn Tacha, Helen Rhodes, Kathy Nauer,

Kay Brown, Carla Latimer, Terri Hanke and Joni Metz. The next book to read is "Eat, Pray and Love" by Elizabeth Gilbert. New members are welcome. Contact the Jennings Library or any member.
A small group attended church in Jennings Sunday. The snow started falling about 9:15 Sunday morning. It snowed most all day with an accumulation of about 6 or 7 inches of fluffy snow. We were thankful there wasn't a lot of wind with it.
Rachel Carter has been a patient in the Oberlin hospital this past week with pneumonia. She was to come home this Tuesday. Allan Carter, Overland Park, has been visiting his mother and other relatives in Jennings.

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