

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1885

Upon the removal of the Herald building to new quarters, the old stand will be taken possession of by the new republican paper.

"Iowa weather" last week. The M.E. organization of Lenora will dedicate a new church building Dec. 13th.

There yet remains unsold 3400 acres of school land in Decatur County. Of the above amount only 460 remain unappraised.

W.D. Street has disposed of the Kenneth Sentinel. We understand that he contemplates starting a daily paper at this place.

Married, at the residence of the bride's parents, Nov. 26, 1885, by Rev. John Wilson, Mr. Henry A. Simpson and Mrs. Gertrude A. McDowell.

Catholics will meet at T. Crowe's next Sunday at 2 o'clock to make arrangements for the building of a Catholic Church.

Mrs. Esprey, a woman of means, will commence the erection of a number of dwelling houses, for rent, in this city at an early date.

A new town called Leonard has been located in the center of Sherman County.

Colby and Rodehaver and E.E. Stewart will have their large business establishment lit with gas.

100 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1910

Oscar Lohofener and Sina Jorgensen were married Thanksgiving Day at the home of the bride's parents.

El Vernon shipped out a car of horses Tuesday evening.

Marshall Tilden left Tuesday evening for Washington State where he has a position with his brother in a store.

J.W. Tibbels, J.R. Conquest and Tom McKay came over with Lee Conquest in his new Oakland automobile and as they floated around town they looked a lot like heavy capitalists.

Kanona Items: Wayne Landau is the owner of a new motorcycle.

Jennings Items: The first snow of the season fell Sunday morning but soon vamoosed. Clint Carper was sick the first of the week.

O.C. Milleson received 100 pounds of raisins from his son in California last week that make mighty good eating. Now is the time for his neighbors to visit him.

F.A. Boulls and son, Charlie, John Nellans and Will Carper motored up to this city from Jennings on Friday afternoon. Boulls said the auto has taken several hours off the trip as now they make it in half a day while formerly it was considered a pretty hard all day's work with a team.

75 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1935

Decatur High retained the Northwest Kansas League title by defeating Norton in the Turkey Day game 38-0. This victory enabled the Red Devils to close the league's schedule without a single defeat or tie game. Norton's Brill received a neck injury in the second quarter which placed him on the bench for the remainder of the game.

A fine rain covered the county last week which did an immense amount of good. Total rainfall for the year now stands at 14.12 inches, more than 6 inches less than the 48-year average.

Actual work has started on Sappa State Park and 67 workers have been assigned to work at the quarry at the Louis Ruzicka farm getting out the material which will serve as the rock core of the dam across the Sappa.

Funeral services were held at the Presbyterian Church for one of Oberlin's earliest residents, Mrs. I. O. Wear, who came to this county from Wisconsin in 1880 with her parents. For three years she assisted her father, Levi Morrison, in his general store in the new three-story

building he had built and in later years worked as a clerk in the Oberlin Cash Store. After her husband's death in 1918 she has continued to live in her own home.

John Willcoxon of Oberlin has been elected to membership in the Seventh Calvary, an honorary leadership fraternity at Fort Hays.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Claude Brainard on Nov. 29, a 7-pound son named David Claude. Mrs. Brainard and baby are in the Verna Plotts home.

Arthur Hamilton, 7-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Hamilton underwent an appendicitis operation at the local hospital Monday morning.

On Nov. 28, 1935, Miss Marguerite L. Carpenter and Mr. Denzel D. Reist were united in marriage at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elam Reist with the Rev. J.D. Bowles officiating. The bride graduated from Hoxie High School and is employed at the Hotel Oberlin as a dining room waitress. Mr. Reist graduated from DCHS and attended college in Hays. They will begin housekeeping on the bridegroom's farm in the Lund neighborhood.

A wedding of interest occurred Nov. 8 at Norton when Miss Fern Towery, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Towery and Alvin Jording, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Jording, Traer, were married by Judge Hendrickson. They will be at home at the W.A. Soderlund farm at Norcat until spring.

50 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1960

One of the oldest houses in Oberlin located on North Penn Avenue was moved this week by Dean Soderlund to the southwest part of town. The house was built by attorney, J.C. Wilson more than 75 years ago according to D.G. Addeleman and had the first bathtub in Oberlin. It was later owned by the Walter Smith family. R.F. Landau plans to build a modern home on the lot.

Hilltop Grocery operated by Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Eckhardt, will cease business and hold an auction of unsold merchandise. In explaining his decision Mr. Eckhardt said they were tired of a 7-day a week business and they plan to move to Missouri in the Ozark area and fish and rest.

The Kansas Corporation Commission has announced that it is taking the Jennings telephone dispute under advisement. At the hearing were a group which wishes to sell, a group which wishes to maintain and improve the present company and the Rural Telephone Co. of Lenora which wishes to buy out the Jennings company.

The mysterious animal (mountain lion?) spotted here must prefer sunny Kansas to Colorado. Just another example of how Kansas progress induces out-of-staters to migrate here.

The DCHS wrestlers were outscored 28-26 by Norton and 34-15 by Goodland. Coach Parker's basketball team opened the season with a 50-47 loss to Almema and by a 62-25 score to wa speedy and experienced Hill City team.

An open house Dec. 4 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C.A. Barrett honored George and Margaret Gardner on their 40th wedding anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Morton, Myrtle Point, Ore., are the parents of a son, William Kirk, born Dec. 1.

Stanley Chapin spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Chapin. He had attended a convention in Denver and was en route to his home in Springfield, Mo. He is a salesman for a pharmaceutical firm.

25 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1985

Drivers would do well to notice the new Emergency Snow Route

signs which were posted last week. The red and white signs indicate that streets so marked are to be free of parked vehicles until snow-clearing crews have a chance to plow them open.

Nearly 80 children and parents gathered at Oberlin American Legion to view a Christmas play presented by the Decatur Area Theatre Association followed by refreshments and a visit from Santa Claus. The event was sponsored by the Farmers National Bank and The Bank.

Gerald Fencil, Jennings, superintendent of Prairie Heights USD 295, submitted his resignation Monday evening to be board of education, effective June 30, 1986. He has served as superintendent of the district, principal of Jennings High School and the Jennings and Clayton grade schools for the past eight years and has served as a school administrator for 43 years.

New Arrivals: Nancy and Richard Nichols, Danbury, twins, daughter, Rebecca Dee, son, Ryan Lee, 12-5-85; Steve and Janet Myers, son, Ian Mykel, 11-26-85; Bill and Carol Wessel, Dresden, daughter, Amy Rose, 11-28-85 at Sheridan County Hospital.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

We were saddened by the loss of three residents during the past week, Fern Wenger, Marie Jean Vavroch, and Karl Wendelin. They will all be greatly missed. Sympathy is extended to their families.

Cedar Living Center will be hosting the annual Family Christmas Party on Sunday, Dec. 19, at 2:30 p.m. We hope to have a large turnout of family and friends as we celebrate. The party will include entertainment, a visit from Santa, and lots of holiday treats.

Monday afternoon residents gathered for a game of penny cards. The group included Dale Butler, Darlene Fisher, Irene Fringer, Elsie Goodnight, Ira Kolsky, Wilma LaSalle, Edna Mott, Agnes Pruitt, Mary Votapka, and Doris Gilbert.

Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack led the sing-along time before supper on Monday afternoon. Everyone enjoyed singing holiday tunes.

Dale Butler won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon. The blackout game ended in a tie between Bob Keller and Irene Fringer.

Several residents met on Wednesday afternoon to play word games and answer trivia questions. Later in the afternoon Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson.

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

The baking group met on Thursday afternoon this week. They

Nearly 200 hospital employees attended the hospital's annual Christmas party at which Ren Whitaker, M.D., was honored with a presentation of a plaque denoting his 16 years as chief of staff. New hospital administrator Charlie Myers made the presentation to Dr. Whitaker and to other employees for their years of service.

Mr. and Mrs. Phyll Cramer have returned from a three-week vacation trip in which they visited Mr. and Mrs. Evan Wenger, Mark and Eric at Dallas before going to Palm Beach, Fla., where they were Thanksgiving guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cramer, Betsy and Bridget. While there they witnessed the launching of the Atlantis.

The DCHS wrestlers coached by Tom Alstrom defeated Oakley 53-11 in dual action and placed second in the Hoxie tournament. In basketball the Oberlin boys coached by Dan Buchanan downed Oakley 56-50 with Marquis Sauvage leading the scoring with 20 points. The Red Devil girls basketball team coached by Duane Dorshorst won the first game of the season by defeating Oakley 45-33. High point scorer was Kristin Richards with 14 points.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

A fun time was enjoyed Saturday at the Community Hall. The Jennings Lions Club served delicious chili, vegetable soup and pie from 11 a.m. till 1:30 p.m.

Children anxiously awaited Santa's arrival. After visiting with Santa and receiving a sack of candy, the children gathered around the table waiting for their name to be drawn. Each of them then chose a gift.

Adult drawings followed this. Names were then drawn for the two turkeys and two hams purchased by the City. Rachel Carter and Scott Taylor each received a turkey. Joe Carter and Mindy Fleckenstein each

received a ham. The Lions Club had sold raffle tickets for a shotgun. The name of Allison Hartzog, daughter of Stacy Hartzog, was drawn for the gun. We appreciate all who helped decorate the Hall, donated gifts and helped in any way to make this community event a success.

Recent visitors at the Lawrence Jennings home were Steve Carlton, Oberlin; Dean and Dalene Gawith, Dresden; Brian and Westley Jennings, Solomon, and Bruce Carlton, Bakersfield, Calif. Weather permitting, water meters will be read Dec. 21.

Lyle News

By Veda Wood

I have another (dumb?) theory. I think the reason we get more absent minded as we get older is so we will get more exercise, having to make more trips to get things done, and looking for misplaced objects. I made three trips to my bedroom just to get my comb and take it to the bathroom. The first time I hadn't made my bed, so made it and went back. I don't remember what the next trip was for, but I know I made about 300 unnecessary (?) steps. Maybe it's not all a bad thing. I'm thankful my legs still work, and will try to use them as long as they do.

People who say it is too early to think about Christmas are probably the ones who don't have the respon-

sibility of gifts, cooking, getting to where we need to go, etc.

Jane Engelhardt took Toots Magers to Judy's bell ringing program on Sunday. She is having work done on her car.

Kathy Van Meter went to Good Sam at Oberlin to play pinochle with residents there.

An enjoyable bus trip was made by June Jolly and 40 other riders, some from as far as Torrington, Wyo. who met at North Platte and went on a bus tour to Texas, from Nov. 27 to Dec. 5. They saw the Alamo, went on the riverboat ride, saw Lyndon Johnson's home, and visited a submarine, among other things.

Good Samaritan Center

By Lisa Paulson

It seems that Christmas is synonymous with family and celebrations. It has been that way since the very first Christmas when God sent Jesus, Immanuel (God with us) as a baby to be born to a young virgin mother and carpenter step-father. Shepherds and Wise Men were the first to celebrate His birth.

More than 2000 years later, families still gather to worship the tiny King such as we do during this special season. For our Residents, family only becomes more and more important as years go by. They understand that all the gifts and possessions we spend our life accumulating hold no lasting value. In fact, most have been left behind. Family is what brings them fulfillment and joy, and yet they have already said good-bye to many of their loved ones who have gone before them.

The reality of Christmas takes on deeper meaning. They understand more clearly that the only gift that has eternal significance is the One that is wrapped in swaddling clothes. They know that when they received that gift, they were grafted into a forever family that will never pass away.

We want you to know how dear and precious you are to our Good Sam family. Your presence here is the best present you could ever bring!

This week the Prairie Dog 4-H Club came a'caroling. The sound of sweet voices filled the hallways.

The Lyle Gals came to play pinochle with Walt and Betty May, Leone Porsch and Lucy Schissler.

Betty May read the story of The Crippled Lamb to residents after devotions on Tuesday. In Art Class we decorated trees to reflect the "glitter" of the season; Evelyn Olson "Angel Tree"; Alice Bobbitt, "Fruit Tree"; Betty May, "Tree of Paradise"; Leone Porsch, "Heavenly Tree"; Faye Miller, "The Old Oak Tree"; Cheryl Hill, "Amazing".

Prayer Team met with Amy Rehm, Alice Bobbitt, Opal Bryan, Evelyn Olson, Faye Miller and Leone Porsch.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Sympathy is extended to the family of Fern Wenger, 88, of Oberlin, who died Wednesday, Dec. 8. She was a native of this community and was a sister of Eulaine Benda. Her parents were the late George and Olive (Feldman) Erikson. Funeral services were held Monday morning at Pauls Funeral Home in Oberlin with burial in the Oberlin Cemetery.

Losson and Leanne Pike, Ashland; Daryl and Shirley Maresch, Nekoma; Bev Messerly, Sublette; Gerald and Patti Benda, Ludell; and Mark and Barbara Olson, Hoxie, attended funeral services of their aunt, Mrs. Wenger.

A light breakfast will be served at 9:45 a.m. Sunday at the Herndon

Marilyn Horn has been such a blessing helping out with morning music, Songs of Worship, and Bingo.

Bernice Martin brought homemade goodies for the residents for Social Hour on Wednesday and Dixie Snyder, treats for the Staff!

The Modern Woodsmen Ladies came on Thursday to celebrate December birthdays: Earl Brown, Dorothy Pryor and Opal Bryan. Everyone sang carols and Loren Schrock and Marilyn Horn provided the accompaniment. They also presented four games of Jingo in honor of Make a Difference Day!

On Friday, The Red Barn Gang came from Rexford! Oh my, what fun!! The dining room was filled to the brim with hands clapping, toes tapping and smiling faces!

Other visitors were: **Mary Lemman:** Murry and Audrey Pavlicek. **Dorothy Hunt:** Ron and Dixie Snyder (Colby); Reva Marshall. **Lucy Schissler:** Frank and Mert McEvoy, Ralph and Norma Unger. **Loren Schrock:** Cheryl Miller. **Nila Wesch:** Jack Wesch, Fairbury, Neb.; Jim and Pam Wesch. **Myrtle Waldo:** Max and Veanna Carman. **Evelyn Olson:** Gerald and Connie Olson. **Doris Marintzer:** Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem). **Opal Bryan:** Marvin and Sharon Slabaugh, Brian and Pam Simonsson. **Lois Carlson:** John and Edie Tate, Gladys Geis. **Walter and Betty May:** Sue May, and Rhonda Nedland. **Cheryl Hill:** Jerry Hill. **Hubert Mumm:** Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem) Jim Rogers (Selden). **Dole Metcalf:** Phyllis Metcalf. **Francis Janousek:** Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem); **Myrtle Ross:** Marilyn Horn. **Ben Jorns:** Ralph and Norma Unger. **Edla Olson:** Steve and Arian Arnold (Herndon); **Earl Brown and Opal Bryan:** Eunice Richards. **Fred Waldo for Aunt Mary Waldo. Forrest Jackson:** Deb Marshall, Inez Jackson (Norcat); **Mildred Burr:** STAR Committee from St. Francis. **Cheryl Hill;** Jerry Hill (Norcat).

Covenant Church, followed by the Sunday School Christmas program which will be presented during morning worship at 11 a.m.

Word was received of the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Shane Spanier of Alaska on Saturday. He is a former resident of Oberlin and Atwood.

Gary Erickson was hospitalized in Oberlin on Sunday.

Dick and Donna Kelley spent the weekend in Frederick, Colo., visiting Sheldon and Brenda Kelley, Kendra and Jessica and helped Jessica celebrate her 10th birthday. They also attended the Christmas program and play at the New Creation Church in Longmont, Colo., of which Jessica had a part.

Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

I have sent membership letters to all businesses in Oberlin, plus to all 2010 Chamber and Oberlin Business Alliance members.

Membership to the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce is open to anyone who would like to help support this organization, not just businesses.

New members are welcome, as the Chamber strives to benefit all within our county.

We are still looking for nominees to fill the four Chamber board positions for 2011.

If you are interested, please call the office at 475-3441.

The alliance is having Ladies Late Night Shopping from 9 to 11 p.m. Thursday. Refreshments will be available.

Also sponsored by the alliance

is a soup lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday at the Golden Age Center. Santa will be on hand to visit with anyone who has a last-minute Christmas wish.

A free Christmas movie will be showing at the Sunflower Cinema at 2 p.m. Saturday, also sponsored by the alliance.

New this year is the Men's Late Night Shopping the following Thursday, Dec. 23, for those guys who need a last-minute gift.

Judging for the Chamber Decorating and Lighting Contest will take place between today and Sunday.

The winners will be announced in next week's Oberlin Herald.

Coffee hour will be at Stanley Hardware from 9 a.m. to noon Thursday and at The Herald from 9 a.m. to noon Friday.

Rexford News

By Vicki Allison

The Red Barn held its annual Senior Dinner on Nov. 20 at the Rexford Community Building, serving roast beef to 48 people. I was unable to attend. This is something they do each year for those 50 and over in the Rexford area and those who are active with the Senior Center.

The Shepherd's Staff put on a Christmas dinner for the Rexford City Council on Wednesday. I did not attend this dinner either, but roast beef was served.

The Golden Plains Elementary Christmas program was Tuesday. Before the program, the elementary staff sponsored a soup supper with proceeds going towards the Golden

Plains Elementary Playground and Owls Project. Thank you for your continued support.

A Food Pantry Drive has been initiated by the Golden Plains Student Council for this week. All students and staff at the schools are invited to bring items to be donated to the Thomas County and Sheridan County food pantries. Items can be turned in to the office.

A sincere sympathy and condolences are extended to the families of Kyler Peterson. Our prayers and thoughts are with you during this time of grief.

Until next time, make your week memorable.

Food Drive

Goal is 2,000 by the New Year
Bring your non perishable food items into Stanley Hardware and watch the display grow!

All food will go to Food Pantry

