

# Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

## 125 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1886

A very severe storm of snow set in Monday night and continued all day Tuesday. Roads are almost impassable and trains are blockaded.

Corn sells on the local market at from 18 to 20 cents per bushel with little demand.

The big masque ball sponsored by the Knights of Pythias was not as well attended as hoped for, possibly on account of the inclement weather. Over 50 masquers had a gay time until well past the midnight hour.

Mr. Charles E. Bayes and Miss Carrie Patching were married Nov. 11.

The officials and clerks at the U.S. Land Office are overcrowded with work.

## 100 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1911

D.P. Gilbert and W.J. Marvin went to Nebraska Saturday evening to husk corn, or so they told us.

Mr. and Mrs. Alf Woolley of Otis, Colo., visited relatives in this county the past 10 days.

Norcaturn Items: Mrs. Belle Wimer left last week for Scottsbluff, Nebr., to join her husband who is teaching school there.

Allison Items: Mr. and Mrs. Phil Wallack will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary and quite a celebration is being planned by their neighbors and friends.

Jesse Carter living south of Jennings is feeding 400 head of hogs. He is one of the most successful hog raisers of that section of the county.

Pleasant Valley Items: Last Thursday Henry Hickert had a narrow escape. He and Peter Paul went to tear down an old sod house when the wall caved in on Henry, covering him up. Mr. Paul had to dig him out and take him home and Henry is a very sore man since. If Mr. Paul had not been there Mr. Hickert would have suffocated under the sod.

## 75 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1936

Last week at a group meeting of representatives of various organizations, it was voted to rent a room to be used as a nursery school for children who need to be cared for while their mothers work as well as a play school for school-age children after school hours. The room next to the city office in the Masonic Temple has been rented for this purpose and the activities will be under the direction of Miss Bertha Leshner and the NYA.

Construction work continues on the 440-foot dam across Sappa Creek at Sappa State Park and about 250 feet of piling has been sunk across the site. Dale Macy is the work supervisor under superintendent "Shorty" Weir.

According to resident engineer Francis Barclay, 40 men are now

working on the final five miles of highway in the south part of Decatur County on U.S. 83. Twelve miles is already completed and graveled and when the last gap is finished this north-south highway will carry a surprisingly large amount of traffic.

Mr. and Mrs. Logan Plotts left this week for St. Maries, Idaho, where he will work with Mrs. Plotts' brother, Paul Bates. Mr. Plotts recently resigned his job at the Kent Filling Station and Mrs. Plotts gave up her work as cashier at the J.C. Penney Store.

New Arrivals: The Rev. and Mrs. David Cunningham, a daughter, Lillian Margaret, Nov. 18; Mr. and Mrs. John Schultz, a son, Theodore Leonard, Nov. 10.

Dresden: Digging up dead trees that have died from the effects of the dry weather and grasshoppers has been the latest thing around town. Most of them are being made into firewood.

On Monday, Nov. 16, in the evening at the Rectory of the Church of the Sacred Heart at Oberlin, Miss Anna Thummel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George B. Thummel and Mr. Leonard Schrauner were married by the Reverend Father Bernard Dickman.

Leoville: The D. of I. Circle gave a miscellaneous shower for Miss Mae Weaver whose marriage to Julius Diederich will take place this week.

One of the largest crowds ever to attend one of the Masonic-Eastern Star dances were present at the guest night on Armistice Day. Refreshments were served to about 130 guests at the close of the evening.

Joseph D. Roberts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Art Roberts of Olive Township and a graduate of DCHS, left Seattle Nov. 5 on a trip to the East coast which is being made entirely by airplane. He is a prominent writer in Seattle, Wash., and was recently re-elected to the Washington State legislature. He will spend a week in Philadelphia, a week in New York City and several days in Washington, D.C., before coming to Oberlin on his way back.

## 50 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1961

Two McCook truckers escaped with their lives the evening of Nov. 15 when their truck hauling a semi-trailer of steel pipe from Oberlin to McCook crashed into a Burlington freight train at the Cedar Bluffs rail crossing. It was 18-year-old Donald England's first day with the Neff Trucking Company of Sterling, Colo., and one which he is not likely to forget as he was asleep in the front seat of the cab of the truck being driven in a blinding snowstorm by Donald Killingsworth, 20, of McCook.

The slow, soaking rain of last

week, and subsequent snow, is expected to take the wheat crop into the winter in excellent condition.

Elwood M. Brooks, chairman of the board of Central Bank and Trust, is the new president of the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults.

Jennings: Funeral services were held for Mrs. Anna Shimmick, 85, who came to Jennings from Czechoslovakia as a bride in 1896. She is survived by one son, Arthur, Jennings, and two daughters, Lillian Shimmick, Jennings, and Mrs. Maurice Ehrlich, Colorado Springs. Burial was in Big Timber Cemetery.

Audrey Lemmer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Lemman, Oberlin, and Murry Pavlicek, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Pavlicek, also of Oberlin, were united in marriage Oct. 26 at the Oberlin Covenant Church.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Benny Krizek, Jennings, son, Tony Alan, 11-16-61; Mr. and Mrs. Francis Tauber Jr., Oberlin, daughter, Tonya Sue, 11-21-61.

## 25 YEARS AGO — Nov. 1986

Dignitaries expected to attend the official re-opening of an 8-mile stretch of U.S. Highway 83 south of Oberlin include Gov. John Carlin, John Kemp, secretary of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration Division Director, Robert Morrissey. U.S. 83 has been closed since spring with the major reconstruction project.

Key Award winners at the Decatur County 4-H Achievement banquet went to Jade Morford, Maverick; Keli Brown, Rock Island Rockets and Dea Macfee, Star Valley. The awards were presented by

Decatur County Extension agent Mick Glaze.

Phil Kirk, a 1985 graduate of Prairie Heights High School, Jennings, and a sophomore at KSU, was awarded the Amerian Farmer Degree at the National FFA Convention held in Kansas City. He is the son of Bill and Stevie Kirk of Clayton.

The Kansas Corporation Commission is currently accepting public comments/protests concerning the proposal by Trailways Lines to abandon most of its bus routes in Kansas as of April 1, 1987.

Ann Lynette Mines and Pat John Salvo were married Oct. 4, 1986 at Victory Lutheran Church in Mesa, Ariz. Parents of the couple are Don and Ann Mines, Oberlin and Samuel and Davy Salvo, Avoca, Pa. The bride is a graduate of DCHS and the University of Kansas and the bridegroom is a graduate of Pennsylvania State University and served in the Air Force for seven years. They are making their home in Mesa, Ariz.

A literacy program is now available through the Oberlin Library according to librarian Kay Jones which is designed to improve adults' reading skills. Five trained volunteers and their coordinator, Hazel Nichols, recently completed a tutor training program at Colby Community College.

Decatur County officials who attended the Kansas Officials Convention in Wichita were Ralph and Norma Unger, Jack Noone, Dennis Sloan, Mildred and Fred Waldo, Marilyn and Steve Horn, Pat and Robert Whetzel and Jim Baxendale.

## Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

The Thanksgiving-Christmas season is here, and I hope it is a pleasant one for all of you. It looks like I will be cooking for family on two different days and I will probably eat way too much. Maybe it will get me in the exercise mood.

The Parade of Lights kicks off at 6:30 p.m. Friday at the south end of Main Street. Line up time will start at 6 p.m. We have a few entries, but please let Gary Walter or the Chamber office know about yours. There is no charge for being in the parade, but you need to fill out a form so the announcer can tell about your entry.

Immediately following the parade, go look for the orange paper turkeys hung in participating businesses. The person that finds each turkey will win \$25 in Santa Bucks from the Oberlin Business Alliance. Merchants will be having specials in their stores that night as well.

The Chamber's Holiday Craft Show has nearly 60 vendors, who will be setting up for the show at the Gateway Civic Center on Friday night. The show will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. Many previous vendors are back, along with several new ones. A nice variety of items will be on display, including leather craft, jewelry, Tupperware, kitchen items, needle crafts, baked Christmas goodies, knife sharpening and much more.

Events to mark your calendar include the Chamber annual banquet and meeting on Thursday, Jan. 12, at the Golden Age Center, and Saturday, Feb. 18, for the Farmer-Rancher Appreciation Banquet. Weldon Sleight from the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis will speak.

Have a happy and safe Thanksgiving weekend!

## Rexford News

By Gwen Griffiths

Gwen Griffiths has taken over as correspondent for the Rexford Community. News can be left in the jar in the Red Barn, which she will collect on Fridays, or residents can call her at (785) 687-2076, or send e-mails to griffithsgang@gmail.com.

Congratulations to the Todd family, Jay and Brandy, Taylor, Tylor and Tanner, who were selected as the 2011 4-H Family of the Year at the Achievement Banquet recently.

Rexford is sporting a brand new coat of yellow paint on all the street corner curbs, thanks to a group of 37 men from Celebration Community Church in Hays. They came to the Shepherd's Staff for a weekend retreat and wanted a service project.

They also cleaned dirt out of gutters, hauled and split firewood, cleaned up various properties and helped winterize a home, all in the space of

two hours. A big thanks to them. Shepherd's Staff also held the Country Keepsakes quilting retreat recently.

Another week has come and gone with scarcely enough time to note its passing! We have been so blessed with beautiful fall weather; even as the days get colder, it is still a joy to be outside.

The Eileen Dible family (Eileen, Ron and Jeannette) was honored by the Farm Bureau with the Century Farm award. This program recognizes Farm Bureau families who have retained ownership of at least 80 acres within the same family for 100 or more years. Congratulations to the Dibles from all of Rexford!

Tim and Gwen Griffiths went to the Heartland Christian School Endowment Banquet on Friday night. We enjoyed good food and conversation, then got to hear speaker

and author Eric Ludy of Windsor, Colo., who spoke on the subject of education.

The Rexford Community Church has prepared 135 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child and will be taking them to the processing center in Denver on Friday. Four adults and nine Golden Plains students will work a four-hour shift in the Operation Christmas Child processing center. The boxes will be processed for overseas delivery.

The pheasant hunters at Shepherd's Staff really had a good first week of pheasant season. Many of them have already informed us they intend to come back to Rexford next year. We'll have more hunters joining us after Thanksgiving.

## Lyle News

By Veda Wood

Helen Helm and daughters, Ceanne Rinehardt and Kathy Brashears, went to Washington to visit Helen's son John.

While there, Helen was hospitalized with pneumonia. We hope she is well soon and can return home.

Kathy VanMeter and Lloyd Frandsen attended a supper and meeting at the Beaver City Community Building, given by the Furnas County Livestock Feeders on Nov. 16 and the Farm and Ranch Expo at McCook.

June Jolly entertained her KT Club at the Eagles Center Thanksgiving dinner on Thursday.

On Friday she went back to the Bobby-Soxer Karaoke and played

Two youth groups from Leoti and Sidney, Neb., spent the weekend at Shepherd's Staff. Not only did they experience good worship and learning times, they also found time to stargaze and make s'mores. They asked for a service project, and since the weather was cold, they worked indoors at Shepherd's Staff, deep cleaning and working on holiday decorations. We are so thankful for their help and look forward to seeing them next year!

I'd love to put your news in this column! You can leave it in the jar by the door at the Red Barn, call it to (785) 687-2076, or e-mail it to griffithsgang@gmail.com.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

cards in her bobby sox and rolled up jeans.

The great-grandson they are expecting has not yet made his appearance.

Jane Engelhardt visited Toots Magers on Sunday, had lunch with her and cut her hair. Kathy VanMeter visited in the afternoon.

Joyce Sumner's granddaughter has been in Kansas City undergoing tests in preparation for a hopeful transplant. Joyce and Jackie Porter have been going to check on Eleanor Jensen and have missed her, so haven't found how she is.

All Eleanor's friends are hopeful for a quick return to good health.

## Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

The Decatur Health Systems staff will be hosting a benefit soup supper, from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday at the Golden Age Center. The menu will include homemade chili or chicken noodle soup and assorted desserts. The money raised from the supper will go toward updating the decorations in the Cedar Living Center dining room. Please join us for the supper and then stick around for the light parade, shopping in downtown Oberlin, and a visit from Santa.

There were several winners at the dice game played on Monday afternoon in the dining room. Residents joining in on the fun included Darlene Fisher, Irene Fringer, Lyle Gamblin, Donna Kent, Ira Kolsky, Joan Noble, Lee Ploussard and Mary Votapka. Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack led the sing-along time before supper.

There were lots of laughs at bingo on Tuesday afternoon. Volunteers assisting with the game included Marian Dempewolf, Caroline Jacobs and Ila Ray.

The craft group met on Wednesday afternoon to make decorations for Thanksgiving. The group made mobiles out of twigs and leaves. They look wonderful hanging over the tables in the dining room.

Fr. Mark Berland brought communion for the Catholic residents on Thursday morning.

We celebrated Homemade Bread Day on Thursday by making some fresh bread in the bread machines. The bread was served warm with butter and jelly during the social time in the afternoon. It smelled great and tasted even better.

The baking group made chocolate cookies with M&M candies on Friday afternoon. Needless to say, it proved to be a very good

combination.

The annual Thanksgiving potluck dinner was held at noon on Sunday in the Cedar Living Center dining room. Around 80 guests joined residents, staff and volunteers for the turkey dinner. The dietary department prepared the turkeys, ham, potatoes and stuffing. The guests brought an amazing assortment of salads, vegetables, and desserts. There were deviled eggs, green bean casseroles, fruit salads, baked beans, cakes, pies, bread pudding and just about everything else you could think of.

Lots of people pitched in to make the day a success. The tables and chairs were loaned to us by the Decatur County Health Department. Judy Ploussard let us borrow table decorations. Many staff members came in on their day off to help with setting up the tables, serving the dinner and cleaning up afterward. Bill Duncan said the blessing before the meal. The residents really enjoyed having an opportunity to share a special meal with their families and we are so appreciative of family members for giving their time to participate.

Recent visitors: Marilyn Fisher, Topeka; Carol Weibert, Manhattan; Tony and Michele Krizek, Tyler; Krizek, Layne Krizek, Hays; Tara Larson and Becky Fringer, Colby; Susie Youngblood, Linda Files, Delpha Sis, Jesse and Juliann Sis, Atwood; Doug Bobinmyer, Linda Bosler, Herndon; Chris Krizek, Jennings.

Carol Kompus, Kary Miller, Jamie Miller, Marilyn Gamblin, Lonnie, Mary, Ryan and Shane McEvoy, Connie Miller, Bill and Carol Duncan, Oberlin.

## Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Ann Graner, Bethany, Mo., came Thursday to spend the weekend with her mother, Rachel Carter. Sunday afternoon they went to visit another of Rachel's daughters, Jane Wahlmeier, at Concordia. They will go to Overland Park for family Thanksgiving at the Allan Carter home.

Jane Wahlmeier had hip surgery Wednesday and is getting along real well. She came home on Saturday.

Bob Morel was taken to Norton hospital by ambulance early Friday and transferred on to Hays. He had several stents put in his heart.

Sue Long spent the weekend in Overland Park visiting her daughter, Lori and granddaughter, Katlyn Schiefel. She was there to help Katlyn celebrate her 15th birthday.

Russell Cressler, Bison, called on his parents, Wayne and Louise Cressler, over the weekend.

Wednesday card players at the Sunflower Senior Center were Eleanor Morel, Agnes Wahlmeier, Wayne and Louise Cressler, Diane Carter and Carol Carter. A fun time was had even as we made up our own way of playing. Come join us at 1:30 p.m. on Nov. 30.

The Midwest Energy crew put up the Christmas street lights on Thursday. We thank them for doing this each year.

Norton Correctional men had been in Jennings Thursday and Friday cutting and trimming trees. We appreciate these men working in the city.

On Nov. 15, 19 members of the Tuesday Study Club and two guests ate lunch at the Broken Wheel Bar and Grill. They participate in a local version of "Antique Road Show" and enjoyed a tour of the Czech Museum.

Members present were: Lynn Tacha, Helen Muirhead, Helen Rhodes, Ruth Chance, Wilma Mader, Lila Jennings, Roberta McAllister, Joan McKenna, Shelley McKenna, Pat Foster, Patty Foster, Joan Metz, Violet Foster, Pat Hall, Neoma Tacha, Kathy Nauer, Rachel Carter, Sue Long and Carla Latimer. Glenda Harris and Bob Jones were guests.

Following lunch, the group moved to the museum meeting room for the club meeting and program. Appraiser Bob Jones provided information and the value of antique items brought by each club member for roll call. After the club meeting, museum directors were available as club members toured the museum. Anyone who has not visited the Czech Museum in Jennings recently should make time for a tour. The amount of information available and the quality of the exhibits are amazing. The museum directors are to be commended for their dedication and hard work. Thanks to Bob Jones and the museum directors for providing the club members with an informative and fun November program.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.

## Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Sympathy is extended to the family of Bessie Peterson, 81, who died on Tuesday, Nov. 15, at the Decatur County Hospital in Oberlin. She was a resident of Decatur County Good Samaritan Center. Survivors include two daughters, Connie and Charles Peckham, Atwood, and Tonya Hill, Mount Dora, Fla., and families. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Williams Funeral Home in Atwood with Pastor Keith Reuther officiating.

Harlan Ginther, 91, of Atwood died on Friday. He was an uncle of J.R. Ginther of Achilles. Sympathy is extended to the family.

Sympathy is also extended to the family of Tillie Henningsen, 100, who died in Atwood on Nov. 11. Funeral services were held Nov. 15 at Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church in Atwood. Burial was in Immanuel Cemetery at Ludell. She was an aunt of Andy Hanson and Tony Henningsen.

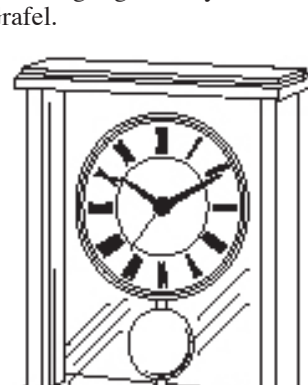
Pete and Kay Enna of Raytown, Mo., and Steve and Arian Arnold were Nov. 10 dinner guests of Galen and Lynne Olson for a belated birthday celebration for Lynne.

Congratulations to Orrin and Beth Holle who were recognized at the annual Kansas Farm Bureau As-

sociation meeting in Manhattan last week as the District 10 Farm Family of the Year. The Holles have four children, Henry, Eli, Maggie and Will. The couple will be traveling to California in March to visit other Farm Bureau farms.

Pastor Keith Reuther and David Noren have returned home after going on a mission trip to Thailand. Orrin Holle spoke at Sunday morning worship services at the Herndon Covenant Church.

Jill Bergling, a student at Kansas State University, and Sarah and Rachel Grafel, who attend Sterling College, are spending Thanksgiving with their parents, Mark and Gail Bergling, and Kyle and Cindi Grafel.



## Selden News

By Jacque Boulinghouse

Birthdays and anniversaries: Nov. 25, Dustin Juenemann, Dick and Betty Pauls, Troy Stanton, Mackenzie Carman; Nov. 26, Robert Koerperich, Rick and Dori Pauls; Nov. 27, Dan Juenemann, Stephanie Juenemann, Janice Kruse, Kane Washington, Heath and Sam Schulte; Nov. 28, Ruth Bainter, Katrena Murphy, Bud Rogers, Lola Wessel, Amy Wessel; Nov. 29, Jessica Koerperich; Nov. 30, Carl and Cheryl Ochs; Dec. 1, Mark Juenemann.

School Calendar: Nov. 28, Junior High Scholars Bowl at Grinnell,

3:45 p.m.; Nov. 29, Junior high basketball in Rexford with Triplains; Dec. 1, Junior high Basketball at Healy.

WinterFest in Selden will be Friday. Participating businesses will be open from 5 to 7 p.m. for shoppers to come in and see their merchandise and sign up for the drawing. Santa will arrive at the community center at 7 p.m. and the drawing will follow. Chili dogs and hot dogs will be served at the Community Center starting at 6 p.m.