

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Joan Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1888

Italian skies, the weather is much too warm for comfort. Colby had its first disastrous fire last week.

W.D. Street has disposed of the last of his Oregon horses.

R.A. Marks has had the windows of his bank neatly lettered.

Born, Jan. 30, to Mr. and Mrs. W.D. Street, a son.

Geo. Hand has leased the use of the inside walls of the Opera House for placarding purposes.

H.D. Counter has sold the Star meat market on Hall Street to Oscar Hough.

Oberlin could have its own gas well if it so desired. At the Bogue artesian well in the west part of town, a liter of unsaturated free gas bubbles up through the 600 feet of water every 15 minutes. The gas burns with a clear, colorless flame and is colorless and has the odor of crude petroleum.

100 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1913

The U.S. mint will soon be coining a nickel with a new design — an Indian head on one side and a buffalo on the other.

Jerry Votapka, Arthur Muirhead and David Brown were up from Big Timber on Tuesday on peculiar business.

Mayor Morrish called at this office on Tuesday with a cottonwood limb on which the buds were swelling and the leaves almost ready to burst out, and this is the 28th of January.

Bishop Griswold of Salina preached to large audiences at the Episcopal Church both Sabbath morning and evening.

A family dinner was held at the home of H.Q. Banta on Sunday as several of the Banta family have birthdays this time of year and the dinner was something in the way of a celebration.

Norcaturn Items: O.G. Bell is assistant sergeant-at-arms at the state house and likes his work fine.

75 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1938

With a population of 8,182, Decatur County has slightly more than 10% inadequately employed according to an unemployment census in November. There are 385 totally unemployed and wanting

work; 226 working on WPA, NYA, CCC or other emergency work and 262 partly employed but wanting more work.

D.G. Campbell, president of the Decatur County National Bank since the organization of that institution to succeed the former Oberlin National Bank in October of 1934, has resigned his official position and sold his stock. The board of directors selected Ed Helmkamp unanimously for the position.

Among those from Oberlin who plan to be in Topeka for the Kansas Day celebration on Saturday, Jan. 29 are Dick Hall, Roy Kiefer, Dr. H.J. Morrison, Wallace Wolfe, E.R. Woodward, Clayton Diehl, Glen Gierhart, John Nitsch and Harry Simpson of Jennings.

Courthouse News: Probate Judge McLaughlin issued a marriage license Tuesday to Ray William Foster, 25, of Lucerne and Marie Margaret Koerperich, 23, Selden, who were married on Wednesday by the Rev. Father Clement Weber of Selden.

The jury for the February term of court has been drawn and summons sent to the following: Walter Castle, Sam Willcoxon, Fred J. Counter, Glynn Shaw, F.B. Nelson, Wm. Leitner, Herbert Anderson, Glenn Heller, C.W. Craig, A.D. McLeod, Harold Barrett, Fred Janousek, George Carstens, Elden Adamson, J.M. Johnston, Francis A. Anderson, Russell Lemman, A.E. Burg, R.C. Koehn, E.W. Benton, Kenneth VanVleet, George D. Bremer, Floyd Geisinger, N.C. Johnson, Noble Nelson, R.J. Mrstik, Grover New, J.C. Fringer and E.K. Cody.

The grapplers nearly skunked Norton Friday night but on the basketball court the Bluejay cagers took revenge with the score 38-16 as the final whistle blew.

Jennings: Because of three new cases of scarlet fever, the Jennings schools have been closed all this week.

Northern Lights were seen by a number of Decatur County residents last week according to Mrs. Donald Smith of Traer.

Bill McMullen, son of Mr. and Mrs. George McMullen, Sr., who is a member of the Jack Mills orchestra, was in Oberlin over the weekend for the first time in more than two

years. He left Wednesday to rejoin the orchestra at Emporia and from will go to Oklahoma for the rest of the winter season. His band, which is one of the most popular bands in this part of the country, has its headquarters at Sioux City, Iowa. They played for a dance here Thursday night.

50 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1963

Key Banker Awards will be presented to Mrs. S.R. Willcoxon, James McKay, Elwood Bogart, August Zander and the Votapka brothers, Dale and Neil, at the 18th annual Decatur County Soil Conservation meeting.

Roy Smith has sold the stock and equipment at Smith's United Super Market, 132 North Penn, to the Fleming Co., of Topeka. Wayne Eckhardt, owner-manager of Hilltop Recreation will start next Monday as manager of the store until a new owner is found.

Approximately 3,225 Decatur Countians braved the cold last Saturday afternoon to participate in the Type II Sabin oral vaccine clinics in Oberlin and Jennings.

Elwood Brooks, native of Decatur County and chairman of Central Bank & Trust in Denver, was named Denver's Distinguished Citizen of 1963 at a dinner meeting at the Denver Hilton Hotel.

New Arrival: Mr. and Mrs. Von Johnson, Norcaturn, boy, Todd Lee, born Jan. 27 and weighing 6 pounds, five ounces.

Gerald Lawson, KU junior in civil engineering, has been elected president of Theta Tau, a social fraternity of engineering students.

25 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1988

Winners in the 1987 Soil Conservation program are: Floyd L. and Dale Marie Bryan; Floyd B. and Elaine Bryan; Wallace and Laurene Bryan and Donald and Gisela Humes. Winners of the 1987 Windbreak Award are VOLLIE and Sue Pollnow who live in Liberty Township along Highway 36.

At the noon meeting of the Oberlin PRIDE committee held at the American Legion, a progress report was given by Phyllis McKay on the proposed Centennial Park located at the northwest corner of Penn Avenue and Commercial streets which

would include a gazebo, walkways, a drinking fountain, rest rooms and plenty of shady foliage.

A surprise farewell party was held at Decatur County Long-Term Care for Sheila DeKnight who has resigned after serving nine years as activity director. Sheila's energetic imagination motivated local clubs to fund monthly birthday parties for the residents and families were encouraged to participate in the festivities. During her stay bus rides in the country, popcorn, bingo, bowling and other activities were initiated. She will be replaced by Carol Mapa who will also work with the Hospice board to rejuvenate that program.

Mr. and Mrs. Von Johnson of Oberlin are moving to Hays where he is being transferred with the Soil Conservation Service. Mrs. Johnson, the former Joy Bosler, has been employed as a registered nurse at Decatur County Hospital.

Steve Viney, station manager of KSNK-channel 8, has announced that an anchor woman, Julie Snyder, has been added to the local news delivery. A graduate of the University of Nebraska, she has had experience in the Lincoln, Neb., market. She and her husband, Ralph, and daughter, Rachel, reside in McCook.

Funeral services were held at the Selden Methodist Church for Cleland Sloan, 72, who served in the military during World War II and in the Vietnam Conflict retiring in 1972. He also helped organize the Kansas National Guard of Norton. Survivors include his wife, Doris, a son, Thomas; two daughters, Cynthia Sauder and Judith Shirley; two brothers, Dennis and Gerald; two sisters, LaRaine and Geraldine and seven grandchildren.

The Lady Red Devils extended their winning streak to 12 in a row beating Norton and Atwood last week. Coach Duane Dorhorst was proud of his team which held off the Norton squad in the fourth quarter to take a 60-57 win.

Brian VanPelt, DCHS junior, won the 155-pound championship in the Northwest Kansas League wrestling tournament. Placing second in the 105-pound class was Brad Uehlin, DCHS freshman.

Norcaturn News

By the Norcaturn News Committee

Norcaturn Senior citizens met Jan. 18 to play pitch at the Methodist Church Educational Building with 18 players. Winners were: Al Sedlmayer, Joyce Price and Ed Yeater. The next meeting will be at 1 p.m. Friday.

Jim and Carolyn Plotts took their daughter-in-law, Charlotte Plotts, to Hays recently to visit her foot doctor. She received good news and is free from the boot and can return to work full-time.

Happy birthday wishes to Luis

Senra, Jan. 24; Garry New, Jan. 26.

Happy anniversaries to Dennis and Judy Shirley, Jan. 29; Gary and Devonna New, Jan. 29.

There won't be any movies again this week because of the Super Bowl, but on Feb. 10, the movie, "Red Tails" will show at 6:30 p.m. Cartoons will begin at 6 p.m. Remember the movie is free, but donations are accepted for the popcorn and bottled water.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

Many of the residents watched parts of the inaugural activities on television during the day on Monday. It is interesting to remember how many presidents some of the residents have seen come and go through the years. Several residents met on Monday afternoon for stories and trivia about presidents, inaugurations, and about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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

The Reading Buddies from the second grade classes visited on Tuesday morning. The children bring much laughter and fun into the lives of the residents.

Helen Helm won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Alvina Gamblin won the blackout game.

Wednesday afternoon was our celebration in honor of National Activity Professionals Week. Residents enjoyed games which included our giant parachute and a balloon toss. When the games were finished and everyone had worked up an appetite, Connie Miller and Teresa Shaughnessy served maple, chocolate, or white frosted long johns to residents and staff.

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

The hallways were emptied out early for lunch time on Thursday morning so that a fresh coat of wax could be applied to the floor. The activity department teamed up with dietary and nursing to provide entertainment before time to serve lunch. Myrna Jones provided musical entertainment. Punch and appetizers were passed around the room.

Friday afternoon we abandoned our normal baking group and played an extra game of bingo. Dewaine

Stapp and Erin Jeffrey assisted with the game. Vern Heller won the first bingo and Helen Helm and Marguerite Bailey won the blackout game. The first game was such a hit that we played a second round, with Beth Sebaugh winning the first bingo and Wanda Heller won the blackout game.

Helen Helm was the guest of honor at a birthday bash hosted by her family in the Cedar Living Center dining room on Sunday afternoon. A large crowd of family members, friends, residents, and staff joined in on the fun. Musical entertainment was provided by Michael Milbauer of McCook. Family members served cake and punch.

Recent Visitors: Matt, Lacey and Keenan Carter, Greeley, Colo.; Ray and Myrna Haag, Bartley, Neb.; Florence Uerling, Joelyn Davidson, Indianola; Lloyd Frinse, Brian, Helena, Hunter and Colton Perks, Ralph Hinton and Steve Downer, Derek, Maria, Dylan, Leah and Halle Downer, Cambridge; Martin and Ceanne Rinehart, Ogallala, Neb.; Kathy and Hezzy Brashear, Curtis, Neb.; Jim and Yanis Helm, Jaime and Bella Helm, Kathy Shaffer, McCook; Richard and Peggy Adams and Landrie McKee, Randy and Lynn Carpenter, Colby; Joyce Sumner, Jane Engelhardt, Norton; Joyce Price, Sherrie Regal, Norma McCallister, Kathryn Van Meter, Rea and Dee Magers, Timothy, Matthew, Deb and Mike Helm, Norcaturn; Margaret Magers, Lyle.

Oberlin visitors: Juanita Williby, Gerry Neff, Delores Depperschmidt, Paul Corcoran, Carol Morford, Karen Bruning, Ray Corcoran, John and Hank Juenemann, Robert and Penny Fringer, Dorothy Cochran, Marilyn Gamblin, Rosella Meitl, Fr. Roger Meitl, Bernard Corcoran.

Lyle News

By Veda Wood

I always enjoy reading the flashbacks in the *Norcaturn News*, especially when they have news of Lyle people I knew. I would like to add a little to last week's paper. Margaret and Carl Magers were blessed with a baby daughter, Jane, born in the old Brewster Hospital in Oberlin on March 6, 1944; and Archie and Hazel Van Gundy also, with my little sister, Sheryl, born March 9. My mother had made trips to Oberlin and back on the old "Polliwog", the little passenger train. My Dad was afraid she would be at home with no doctor, so she stayed a week or two in a home across from the hospital in case of a storm.

Kathy Van Meter and Lloyd Frandsen attended an appreciation supper with talks by veterinarians at the Town Talk Restaurant in Cambridge, Neb. Wednesday found them at the Oxford Mulligan

Restaurant with Furnas, Colo., livestock feeders where they heard several speakers. On Sunday they were in Oberlin to help Helen Helm celebrate her birthday.

Joyce Summer, Toots Magers, Judy and Charley Easton rode to Helen Helm's party with Jane Englehardt where they visited and were entertained by Mike Milbauer and his one man band. Joyce went to Olathe the prior weekend, and Saturday, went to Arapahoe to see Chandler wrestle.

Gary Anthony visited with me on Saturday, and said his brother, Keith Anthony, continues to improve.

Our family continues to pass colds around — one gets better and another gets worse. Hopefully, soon everyone will be OK.

Toots Magers played pinochle at Norcaturn on Thursday.

Good Samaritan Center

By Whitney True

Tropical drinks, Hawaiian tunes and penguins with leis set the scene for our "Hula in the Coola," this past weekend. Residents enjoyed a special social hour celebrating summer in the quiet of winter. What better way to warm up then with a luau!

We also celebrated Myrtle Waldo's 101st birthday on Wednesday! As we move forward into February our residents will commemorate Valentine's Day and the season through the study of scripture.

Residents choose I Corinthians 13: 4-7, Love is Patient, Love is Kind, Love does not envy, Love does not boast, Love is not rude, Love is not proud, Love always protects, Love always trusts, Love always hopes. We are excited to put a unique spin on our study of this scripture. We will introduce a well-known song that relates to the subject of love each week. Our first song of choice is "All you need is love," by the

Beatles. Relating scripture to pop culture and music will be an inventive way to discuss what love is, how we show it to others and to recognize others' perspective on love. If you are interested in joining us for one of our discussions let us know!

Visitors Included: Cheryl Miller for **Loren Schrock**; Nadine and Bob Tacha and Larry and Starla Swager for **Galen Tacha**; Max, Veanna and Peggy Carman, Diana and Larry Alstrom, Deb Campbell, Mark and Cathy Carman for **Myrtle Waldo**; Joan Betts for **Margaret Vacura**; Sue May for **Betty and Walt May**; Gerald Olson for **Evelyn Olson**; Ralph and Norma Unger for **Earl Brown** and **Margaret Vacura**; Ann Mines for **Marilou Long** and **Leona Helmkamp**; Linda Wade for **Woody May**, **Marilou Long**, **Betty Jones**, **Connie Cramer** and **Phil Erickson**.

Decatur Health Systems

By Becky Wilson

As January winds down, things are gearing up around here for the start of a new campaign, launching at the start of February.

Coming Home! That's the theme, and that's what we'd like to ask people in the county to do — to choose the local option for health care.

To ask people to return, of course, you have to be ready to offer the caring and effective health care that they deserve. Everyone at Decatur Health has been striving to do just that. We've been working hard to build a solid resource for the community, starting with the staff, and then adding state-of-the-art technology and topping it off with quality providers like Dr. Robert Rosin and Dr. Allen Hooper.

We know it is important to have a stable and long-lasting relationship with your health-care providers, and our intention is to provide just that. We know how important each and every person who walks through our doors is, and we are going to do our best to make sure you know that.

In order to do this, the physicians, nurse practitioners and nurses need

a solid team backing them up. As you may know, a couple of employees each with over three decades of experience at Decatur Health retired recently, and we'd like to announce their replacements. Rachelle Solko of Herndon has joined us to lead the medical records department, which has been in the capable hands of Karol Styles until her retirement.

Gary Bartels, our nurse anesthetists, also retired at the end of the year. To fill his shoes, we found a pair of replacements, Connie and Josh Hill, a mother and son team from Nebraska, to assist Dr. Walter Eskildsen when he performs surgery.

In specialty clinic news, Dr. Daniel McGowan returned to our schedule late last fall. Many people from around here used him as their cardiologist, and we're pleased to have him once again making the monthly trip from Kearney. He comes to Oberlin on the first Tuesday of each month.

Another cardiologist from Kearney comes here on the third Tuesday: Dr. Shannon Hoos-Thompson. Having both of them, as well as Dr. Jef-

frey Curtis from Hays, who comes to Oberlin every three months, available for heart patients.

It's good to remember the variety of specialty services available through the clinic. In addition to surgery and cardiology, oncologist Dr. Martin Rubinowitz comes here from Denver every five weeks, and every week bone scans, cardiac stress tests, magnetic resonance imaging and other tests that might be necessary to send to a specialist at a larger facility can be performed here and sent on.

With all of this going on, February is looking as if it will be a busy month, leading into what we all expect to be a productive and fulfilling year in general. In March, we will be having our annual employee appreciation banquet on Feb. 15 at The Gateway. All of our staff members and their guests will gather to celebrate the hard work of the past year and to recognize anniversaries of employees who have contributed to the community's well-being for so many years.

Another thing to look forward

to will be an open house later this spring, when everyone in the county will be invited to come meet some of the new faces working hard to keep us all well.

Groundhog Day's around the corner, and even if it turns out we have six more weeks of winter, all of the new beginnings make it easy to keep a light heart as we look forward to a bright, shining spring.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Congratulations to Paul and Rita Collard, who were married in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, on Saturday. The bridegroom is the son of the Rev. Ernest Collard, and the late Ruth (Holle) Collard. Kevin and Mary Holle attended the wedding.

Larry and Judy Thelander of Salina were weekend guests of her mother, Esther Noren.

Pastor Keith Rether attended funeral services in Lenexa on Monday for his step-brother, Greg Kennedy,

who died last week.

Keith and Mary Lou Olson were Saturday supper guests of Mark and Barbara Olson and Mary Rachel at the LandMark in Oberlin to honor Mary Lou on her birthday. She and her husband then enjoyed the presentation of Gary and Margaret Kraisinger on the Western Cattle Trail, which was sponsored by the Rawlins County Historical Society at the Masonic Temple in Atwood.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

The January meeting of the Jennings Book Club was held at the home of Tom Votapka with hostess Terri Hanke preparing a delicious meal that included a food mentioned in each of the books read during the 2012 year. Menu items included strawberries, dried fruit, roast beef, chicken legs, polenta, fried potatoes, corn, carrots, biscuits and fry bread. Dessert included mince pie, cake and fresh berries with whipped cream.

The group reviewed aspects of the books read in 2012 including determining favorite books and characters, most educational book, book with the best ending and most meaning, and book to recommend to another. "The Uncommon Reader" by Alan Bennett was the book read for January. Club members discussed some of the unusual vocabulary used in the novel. Terri provided each member with a new bookmark listing club member's names and phone numbers and an embroidered tea towel.

Those attending were: Violet Foster, Pat Hall, Patty Foster, Joanie Metz, Joan McKenna, Shelley McKenna, Lila Jennings, Julie Carter, Kay Brown, Sue Long, Lynn Tacha, Carla Latimer, Helen Rhodes, Kathy Nauer and hostess Terri Hanke. The book chosen for February is "The Good Earth" by Pearl S. Buck.

Quiche, southwestern chicken, turkey and cranberry sandwiches,

raspberry/peach pie, bread pudding and cheese cake were on the noon menu at the Landmark Teller Room in Oberlin on Jan. 22. Tuesday Study Club member Neoma Tacha celebrated her 88th birthday during the luncheon meeting. Everyone enjoyed their delicious meal. Roll call was answered with, "Something I Wish Was Still Sold in the Store" by members: Lynn Tacha, Neoma Tacha, Sheila Rhodes, Helen Rhodes, Kathy Nauer, Carla Latimer, Shelly McKenna, Joan McKenna, Joanie Metz, Sue Long, Helen Muirhead, Roberta McAllister, Patty Foster and guests Marie Miller and Jeanette Miller.

The January program was "Bear Hugs" by J'net. Jeanette Miller exhibited some of the delightful animals she has created using both real and synthetic fur. Old fur garments can be recycled to make an animal. Each animal has a birth certificate, a name, and other birth information. Special embellishments are added and help to develop the personalities of each animal. Jeanette has made 48 animals in the last five years including teddy bears, rabbits, poodles and an owl. She explained the intricate steps of creating an animal and displayed some of the sewing aids used to construct a furry friend. Creating an animal requires many steps, patience and lots of time. After seeing Jeanette's wonderful display, club members returned home wishing for a new soft and furry teddy bear.

Some hot games of pinochle were played Wednesday afternoon at the Sunflower Senior Center. Those enjoying the afternoon were: Agnes Wahlmeier, Debbie Shields, Eleanor Morel, Diane Carter, Stan and Ramona Shaw, Wayne and Louise Cressler. You are always welcome to come join us.

REMINDER: There will be a Postal Patron informational meeting at noon, Tuesday, Feb. 5, at the former Masonic Hall. Please attend to have input as to the future of our Post Office. Soup and dessert will be served by the Historic Building Preservation Committee from 11 a.m. to noon prior to the meeting.