

By Sonya Gillespie

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

100 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1903

The new mail line from Bassettville to Oberlin and return daily went into action Jan. 12.

School Notes: The following question will be debated upon Friday: Resolved: That the government should own and operate the railroad system. Affirmative: Valentine Griffith and Ray Street; negative, Arthur Leist and Guy Durkee. This debate should be worth hearing.

Sherman Center: A new store is being built at Lyle

Herman Claar was down from Cook Township Saturday with a 4-horse load of cane seed.

Byron Scott was up from Allison Township Tuesday evening and called on the Probate Judge.

The Northwest Kansas Consolidated Oil and Gas Company have a carload of machinery on the track this morning.

Henry Anthony of Cook proved up on his school land Saturday.

75 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1928

Court House News: Jan. 14: Mr. Kenneth VanPelt, 19, and Miss Charlotte Uehlin, 19, both of Oberlin, were issued a marriage license and the ceremony performed by Judge Kulp.

The Oberlin Cleaners are moving this week to their new location in the Odd Fellows building where a larger room and some added equipment will give them just about the best clothes cleaning establishment in northwest Kansas.

Miss Emma McCreery led a joint meeting of the Hi-Y and G.R. at which she gave a very interesting talk about the Eskimo and Alaska.

Dresden: The new barber shop opened for business Saturday morning. Dresden now has two shops.

Traer Items: The IOOF took a new member, Pete Harshman, into their lodge last Tuesday evening. There were 17 members present and they enjoyed an oyster supper after lodge and a fine time was had by all.

Lyle: Chas. Chambers shelled 3500 bushels of corn last week; Ned Cook, 2000 and Denzil Townsend, 7000.

Jennings: Most of the farmers are through husking corn, have shelled and corn is being sold by the carloads. The 1927 corn crop has been a great benefit to the farmers.

Harlan: Mrs. Esther Bogart gave a birthday party for her daughters, Margie and Maurine Sunday for 22 of their small friends.

50 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1953

The Decatur Saddle Club Team will board a chartered bus tomorrow for Kansas City where they will board a special train for Washington, D. C. for the Eisenhower inaugural. Trucks carrying the saddle horses left today for Kansas City where they will be transferred to a special stock car attached to the same train. As several persons have said, "It's something that only happens once in a lifetime."

Funeral services will be held from the Presbyterian Church for a beloved resident, Mrs. Margaret Marks, who died at the age of 84 at the Masonic Home in Wichita. An accomplished pianist, she taught music to three generations of Oberlin children. She assisted her husband in the post office and served

as postmaster herself in 1924 where she was known for her courtesy and good humor. Mr. Marks preceded his wife in death in 1928.

Norton Frickey, county attorney, has announced that he will open an office in Jennings on Saturdays. The office will be located in a building owned by Wilbur Chandler across from the post office and office hours will be 9 to 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Torlumke expect to leave McCook tomorrow for Washington D. C. to attend inauguration events. They are taking the tour sponsored by Radio Station KXXX

The Evangelical Covenant Church of Oberlin was organized and held the first annual meeting Jan. 6 at the Alvin Wenger home. Morning worship will be at 9:30 with the Rev. Hjalmar Swanson of Herndon Covenant Church and Rev. Algot Sporrang of Lund Covenant preaching alternate Sundays.

County News: Fay Brock was elected chairman of the board of Decatur County commissioners for the ensuing year.

Leaving the fans limp in their seats, the Red Devil basketball team became the only undefeated quintet in the Northwest Kansas League as they overcame the Colby Eagles in the last 17 seconds of the game played at Colby by a margin of 50 to 49. The winning basket of the evening was pumped through by Rex Moore with less than 17 seconds left to go. In wrestling, the Colby mat team downed Decatur Community High School 28-15.

25 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1978

Unified School District 294

board members gave their endorsement to expanding the Northwest Kansas League to include Scott City at their regular Monday evening meeting. It is possible that Scott City may be added to the sport schedule by next year solving the seven-game problem at Decatur Community High School which would leave them out of contention for post-season football playoffs.

Jennings: Interment was held at Big Timber Cemetery for Joseph Britton, 69, of Selden, who was killed in an accident at the home of his son, James Britton, near Jennings while cutting up tree limbs.

Hospital News: Mr. and Mrs. Paul Corcoran, a daughter, Maureen Rosette, Dec. 23.

Members of the "Birthday Club" who share a Jan. 10 birthday met Tuesday at Lindy's Cafe in Oberlin for the 20th consecutive year. They included Marilyn St. Clair, Nola Brunk, Mary Fringer, Eva Spatz, Estella Waldo, Elsie Roe and Vallie Erickson of Hoxie. Unable to be present was Myrna Wurm.

Rex Garver of Phillipsburg, formerly of Oberlin, received his 35-year service pin from Kansas-Nebraska Natural Gas Co. Inc. during the Christmas party held Dec. 16 at the Oberlin American Legion.

The Rev. Grant E. Davis of Wichita has been selected to fill the pulpit of the United Church of Oberlin effective Feb. 20.

The 20-match winning streak held by the Decatur Community High School wrestling squad was broken last Friday night when the St. Francis Indians defeated them 25-18 in League action here.

Heritage Associates of Jennings met on Jan. 2. President Neoma Tacha conducted the meeting and there were nine members present. The treasurer's report was given by Dean Gawith. Thank you notes were read from Alan Scott and Senator Pat Roberts. The water bill for coverage at the park was discussed. It was decided that in the future we will just have the water shut off. The annual meeting will be on Feb. 6. Mrs. Tacha reported that Roger Tacha had moved the machinery back in place. A note was read from Connie Grafel thanking us for the lovely gift we sent to her for helping us with the grant application.

Each member is to bring a dish for the workshop meeting on conservation practices. A check was sent to Harwood Kolsky for additional books. Neoma, Bob and Roger Tacha will attend the Seeds of Hope Telethon. A camera was received from Jayne Payne of Virginia.

On Jan. 9, the Heritage Associates of Jennings met for the first of three workshops made possible by a grant from the Kansas Humanities Council. The topic of the workshops was: "Establishing the best practices at the Czech Memorial Museum." There were nine members and seven guests present. Mary Douglas, a consultant from Salina, presented a very interesting five-hour lecture.

Those present were Dean Gawith, Dresden; Myrna Jones, Sharon Wurm, Jack Benton and Con-

nie Grafel, Oberlin; Janet Bean, Oakley; Lora Wessel, Selden; and Jessie Davis, Lila Jennings, Jay Kump, Larry Mizer, Roger Shimek, Linda Stephens, and Bob and Neoma Tacha, Jennings.

The next meetings will be held on Feb. 14 and March 14 at the Royal Neighbors of America building and are open to the public. Those who would like to attend are asked to contact Lila Jennings at 678-2299 or Neoma Tacha at 678-2470 by Feb. 12.

The Jennings City Library has received a book on loan from the Mary Votapka family to be checked out by our patrons, which will eventually be placed into the Czech Memorial Museum. The book "The Long Journey," is by Joy Votapka, Delores Jorgensen, Bob Votapka and Sue Long. It is full of very interesting information regarding the genealogy of the Votapka family from Simon Otabkowsky (1655) to the present. It is a quality piece of work that the family should be proud of. Stop by and "check it out."

Donna Hampton and Karen Atkins of Wichita were weekend houseguests of Vendla Tacha. They came to help Vendla celebrate her 80th birthday. Other visitors during the weekend were: Mrs. Wes Davis, Buhler; John and Mickey Jones, Mullinville; Cheryl Roberts, Norton; Ryan Roberts, Olathe; Aaron Roberts, Hays; Warren and Lynn Tacha, Jay Jones and Arch Harman, all of Jennings.

Selden News

By Jacque Boultinghouse

Birthdays and anniversaries: Jan. 23 - Frank Neff, Matthew Geisinger, Shawn Boultinghouse; Jan. 24 - Julia Rogers, David Bainter; Jan. 25 - George and Lola Wessel, Diane Aumiller, Dawn Juenemann; Jan. 26 - Michele Goscha, Abby Boultinghouse; Jan. 27 - Bob Pope; Jan. 28 - Roger Aumiller, Gary Robinson; Jan. 29 - Helen Karls, Cindy Basgall, Mark and Cindy Basgall.

School Calendar: Jan. 23 - Junior High basketball at Rexford with Sharon Springs, League Scholar Bowl at Winona; Jan. 24 - High School basketball at Winona; Jan. 25 - High School speech at Tribune; Jan. 27 - 7 p.m., financial aid meeting for parents of juniors and seniors at Rexford; Jan. 29 - Junior High gifted and talented at Oakley.

On Jan. 9 at Senior Citizens, Lola Cook won high, Leone Porsch took second, Paulie Neff got low and Cecelia Ottley had the most kings. Other members present include: Betty James, Royce Cook, Catherine Campbell, Laura Berls, Carol Shaw, Gene Rogers, Don Shaw and Don Smith.

The Selden Public Library has weeded out several boxes of children's books, which are now available for sale until Jan. 31. They will be disposed of at that time. Everyone is invited to come to the library and take any of the books that they would like to have in their personal library for the price of a donation. The library is open Monday 9-11 a.m.; Wednesday 6:30-8:30 p.m. and Saturday 9-11 a.m.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Pastor Keith Reuther will be ordained during morning worship services at 11 a.m. on Sunday at the Herndon Covenant Church. Officiating will be Rick Mylander from the Midwest Conference. A potluck dinner will follow.

Prayer meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. tonight at the home of Mildred Holmdahl.

Olive Bergling was honored with a birthday supper on Friday at the

Pizza Hut in Atwood. Others present were Mac and Jeri McPheeters and Casey, and Jenny Sterret, Colby; Quentin Bergling, and Dave and Sherry Bergling. Larry Gilbert of Omaha was a weekend guest at the Dave Bergling home.

Wesley Benda underwent cataract surgery on Monday.

Elma Lee Erickson attended a party at the home of Bob and Sharon Bearley in Kensington on Saturday,

which honored Ethan and Elijah Bearley, twin sons of Bobby and Julie Bearley of Minden, Neb., on their first birthday. Among others present were Aubrey Burmaster, Minden, Iowa; Nora Bearley, Jerry and Montine Alstrom, Rick and Lynn Doeden and Pam Simonsson, Oberlin; Don and Em Threlkel, Atwood; Max Bearley and Isys, Hays; Larry and Judy Bearley, Oakley; Jessi Luck, Goddard; Jus-

tin Bearley, Chetopa; and Jim and Sandy Allen, and Jennifer Jones, Littleton, Colo.

Richard and Maureen Anderson, Samantha, Chris and Gabe spent the weekend with her sister, Colleen and Dennis Bishop, in Broomfield, Colo., to celebrate the McNulty family Christmas.

Good Samaritan News

Birthday greetings were extended to Dena Gillespie in opening devotions on Monday.

Children from the daycare joined the stamp art creations. Those attending were Dena Gillespie, Ruby McKenna, Elsie Brown, Bonnie Weskamp, Helen Styles, and Agnes Chambers.

Residents from Angel Lane and Country Reflections gathered in the Town Square for activities led by Barb Berry and Anita Ketterl.

Sun mobiles were created, using old cards. Those participating were Erma Holt, Ivah Alexander and Hattie Olson.

Myrna Jones provided music for social hour. Cowboy Paul read to Little Sam's Daycare in the Town Square.

On Tuesday First Hand Friends from Oberlin Elementary School shared reading time with their partners.

Dennis Brown shared assorted fruit cobbler and ice cream with residents. Serving was volunteer Samuel Smith.

Joan Evans shared her recent quilt project for reminisce time. Those attending were Dena Gillespie, Ann Leitner, Hattie Olson, Pauline Zander, Helen Styles, Elsie Brown, Bernice

Meixner, Ivah Alexander, and Leona Glenn.

Residents enjoyed songs of worship on Wednesday, accompanied by Cheryl Miller.

Mert McEvoy led Bible Study. Nail care was provided in Angel Lane and Country Reflections with Dorothy Alstrom and Peggy Carswell. Ellen Horn served social hour and volunteer Benjamin Smith provided music. Bingo concluded the evening activities.

Cards were enjoyed by Ivah Alexander, Hattie Olson, Ruby McKenna, and Bonnie Weskamp. Ellen Horn served Social Hour. Jan Badsky shared a book from Life Publications, on the Sept. 11, 2001, tragedy.

Dennis Brown read current events in the quiet room. Those attending were Lorna Bishop, Helen Styles, Pauline Zander, Elsie Brown, Hattie Olson, Ivah Alexander, and Florence Fisher.

Spelling time included word fun by Lorna Bishop, Bonnie Weskamp, Hattie Olson, Vergie Nygren and Pauline Zander. Top speller was Lorna Bishop.

Social hour honored Agnes Chambers, Marilyn St. Clair, Dena Gillespie, Florence Jones, and Neva Campbell who have January birth-

days. Sponsors were the Decatur Professional Women, which included Jane Gilliam, Pat Fringer, and Cheryl Metcalf. Cheryl Metcalf played special music, and a duet by Cheryl and Jan Badsky was shared. Jan Badsky then shared the song, "I Believe," as a birthday honor.

Matinee feature was the Decatur Community High School Christmas vocal concert. Those enjoying it were Garrah Gaumer, Marilyn St. Clair, Helen Styles, Pauline Zander, Agnes Chambers, Ruby McKenna, and Leona Glenn.

Dennis Brown led devotions on Saturday and ball fun was enjoyed with Farrah and Cheyenne, new volunteers.

On Sunday, the Revs. Nolan and Barbara Pierce led church service. The Steve and Linda Smith family provided music. Phil Erickson served social hour.

Visitors were: **Lorna Bishop** - Tim Stimbart, Royce Stimbart; **Ruby McKenna** - Ed and Gloria McKenna, Donna and Anita Chambers, Harold Hartzog, Earl and Pat Hartzog; **Dorothy Wolters** - Elsie Wolters; **Hazel Flaska** - Charlene Karnes; **Pauline Zander** - Wilma May; **Dena Gillespie** - June Vavroch, Betty Krebs.

Rexford News

By Zula Horinek

The After Five at the Shepherd Staff had 80 present from the surrounding area and Rexford. Since they lost their cooks, Betty Nickols, and her granddaughter, Aubrey, were the chief cooks and bottle washers.

Rexford Lions Club met Jan. 13 at Selden. After a delicious meal the business meeting was held.

Niki Spresser and Kristin Wark are interested in going to State Band to be held in Hays, and the International Band to be held in Denver, Colo. this summer.

The Lions Club will be holding a benefit chicken noodle and chili

soup day from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday at the Community Hall in Rexford to help purchase a public address system for the Golden Plains schools.

The "Come on Down" pinochle group is increasing as everyone knows we have games on Monday and Thursday each week.

Phyllis Cheney and Nancy Dahl have taken jobs in Colby with home health.

Lions Club members will be at the ticket booth at home basketball games. Their next meeting will be Jan 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Darla Kaye, Delores Dible and

Jeremy Gould went to Denver to visit John Ray Gould at Swedish Hospital and Carrol Gould at Kindred Hospital.

The bridge club met with Marguerite Edmundson as hostess at Meadowlark Manor. Mary B. Grady and Joy Davis were guests. Prize winners were Marguerite and Bobbie Young and Joy Davis. The next meeting will be held with Deb Stepper on Feb. 12.

The Red Barn Gang Band had practice on Jan 15 and had a Seniors in Action board meeting following. Plans were made for a Valentine party in February.


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PROPERTY TAX REPORT
BY RURAL TELEPHONE SERVICE CO., INC.

At Rural Telephone, we aim to be good corporate citizens of the region. We understand the need for property taxes to help support our schools and other public resources. For the year 2002, Rural Telephone and our subsidiary Nex-Tech paid **OVER \$1.4 MILLION** in property taxes in the following counties.



Barton.....	\$18,153	Phillips.....	\$66,382
Cheyenne.....	\$398	Rawlins.....	\$1,694
Decatur.....	\$15,658	Rooks.....	\$99,052
Ellis.....	\$122,954	Rush.....	\$341
Ford.....	\$1,655	Russell.....	\$2,823
Gove.....	\$79,861	Saline.....	\$293
Graham.....	\$219,827	Scott.....	\$1,108
Jewell.....	\$2,050	Sheridan.....	\$19,437
Logan.....	\$2,654	Smith.....	\$56,797
Neosho.....	\$69	Thomas.....	\$7,618
Ness.....	\$54	Trego.....	\$138,802
Norton.....	\$499,047	Wallace.....	\$73
Osborne.....	\$60,539	TOTAL.....	\$1,417,340

These property taxes together with the dollars we spend on services, payroll and upgrading our plant facilities help support the local economy.
We'd like to thank those of you who continue to put your trust and hard-earned dollars into products and services from Rural Telephone and Nex-Tech. We realize you have a choice when making purchases such as directory yellow page advertising, Internet and business telephone systems. When you choose Rural Telephone and Nex-Tech, you're keeping your dollars in the local economy supporting **YOUR SCHOOLS and YOUR PUBLIC RESOURCES.**

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