

THE OBERLIN HERALD

# Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

**125 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1879**

The first county officials met on Monday last.

A grand holiday ball will be given by members of I.O.O.F. No. 158 at their hall Dec. 24, 1879. The best of order will be maintained. Music has been secured at great expense and will be as good as can be had in the state. Each gentleman is expected to bring a partner. Printed invitations have been furnished and those attending can be assured none but gentlemen and ladies will be in attendance.

The first dance on the North Fork of the Sappa took place at the residence of J.U. Ufford on Friday evening last. An oyster supper was also gotten up by Mr. Ufford and his lady. Quite a number were present and a general good time was the result.

Marion Wamsley is making arrangements to erect a business house on the east side of Rodehaver Avenue, north of the Pioneer drug store.

**100 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1904**

Fred Campbell has purchased the residence property owned and occupied by Egbert Smith, paying \$1,100 for it.

Married: In the Catholic Church on Nov. 9 by Rev. Father Withof, Mr. Frank Kaus of Dresden and Miss Katie Meitl of Oberlin. After the ceremony the bride and groom proceeded to the home of the bride's parents where they met their numerous friends and relatives assembled.

Fred Bremer was over from Dresden Saturday. He takes his defeat very philosophically and we really believe that he cares little for being defeated. He ordered the Wallace Farmer, along with the HERALD for next year.

It was a pleasure to have Mr. and Mrs. Witham of Cedar Bluffs call at this office Monday. Mrs. Witham said it was the first time she had been to Oberlin for 4 years. The very low prices merchants are making on all kinds of merchandise ought to bring people from a long distance to get their Christmas goods.

Kanona: The meat market in this city is one thing that we don't see how we got along without.

Sherman Items: There is considerable talk going over the new phone line since F.D. VanPelt, G.S. Furman and Lewis Leist got their phones in.

J.H. Young has bought the photograph business of Art Steele. Mr. Steele has for 17 years been a hard worker and will take a much needed rest and look after his farm.

**75 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1929**

The eighth annual father-son banquet sponsored by the Hi-Y organization at Decatur Community High School was held at the Methodist Church, with plates set for 246 persons. Speaker was "Bo" McMillan, head football coach for the last two years at Kansas State Agricultural College.

Traer: Saturday evening when B.E. McCartney and family, who live east of Traer, were driving to Oberlin in their Buick six when they collided with an Essex car driven by Clair Magers of Traer. None of the occupants of either car was hurt but both cars were badly damaged.

Traer: David Porterfield, 60, who worked for Mr. Waldo, died suddenly during the evening of Dec. 9.

Miss Theresa McKague of Cedar Bluffs recently purchased the Billy Rogers property and will move to Oberlin around the first of the year.

Miss Vera Marietta has been confined to her bed with serious throat trouble.

Tom Thomsen's car which was stolen in front of the theater several weeks ago has been located in Scottsbluff, Nebr. Meanwhile he has purchased a new Ford Tudor.

Mrs. Tom Sloan of Selden was transacting business in Oberlin Friday. The Sloans operated a dairy at Selden for several years but recently sold the business.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Hamilton are happy over the arrival of a little daughter born Tuesday, Dec. 3 at the McCook Hospital.

**50 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1954**

Jorn No.2 oil well, located two miles northeast of Oberlin, is producing about 20 barrels a day according to Walt Sauvage who has the farm-out lease from Sam Peck and Anderson-Pritchard.

The Christmas parade last Saturday was a success. This Saturday Santa Claus and his niece Sally will be downtown.

Christmas vespers will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday at Decatur Community High School by the vocal and instrumental music departments under the direction of V.R. May and Lewis Williams. Scripture will be read by a freshman girls' chorus coached by Mrs. Gertrude Railsback.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Jeffus announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Eleanor, to Eldon Matal of Ness City.

Jennings: The engagement of Ethlyn Sejkora, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sejkora, to Carol Shaw of Galena, has been announced. Both are students at the University of Kansas.

**25 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1979**

Ralph Brown, president of Farmers National Bank, announced this week his retirement effective Dec. 31 after 52 years with the financial institution. Dwayne Jones was elected by the board of directors to succeed Brown. He has been with the bank since 1947.

Norton druggist Don Vollertsen will assume ownership of Ward's Drug effective Jan. 1. Operation of the local drug store will be handled by his son Kurt, 25, who is presently employed in Topeka. A registered pharmacist, Vollertsen is a graduate of the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy. John Ward and his wife Shirley plan to remain in Oberlin and Ward indicated he will continue to work part-time in the store when needed.

Membership in the Oberlin Legion Post No. 70 continues to grow, with current membership 358 according to commander Marvin May.

Come January, Terry Rogers will join attorney Stan Morgan to form the Morgan-Rogers Law firm and Wallace Wolfe will be removing his name from the business though he will remain of counsel. Wolfe, a well-known attorney in Northwest Kansas, began practice in Oberlin in the summer of 1927.

Norcatur: Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Wycoff will be honored on their 65th wedding anniversary on Dec. 23 at the educational building of the Norcatur United Methodist Church. Rena Jones and Ralph Wycoff were married Dec. 25, 1914, in a double wedding at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Jones, rural Norcatur. Also exchanging vows were her sister, Sarah, and Archie Kelley.

## Rexford News

By Sondra Barnett

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

The Social Hour Club met at the Colonial Steak House for a delicious meal and Christmas gift exchange. They also received little knit bags from the president, Vesta Roth, which revealed the name of their new mystery pal. Those present were Fran Leach, Zula Horinek, Grace Cheney, Marge Leh, Ruth Luna, Clede Moeder, Vesta Roth, Jean Hawkins, Eilene Dible, Deb Stepper, Hulda Wark, and Sondra Barnett. We missed Zula Thieler, who is still in the hospital.

Royal Neighbors met at the Colonial Steak House to have their Christmas party and gift exchange. Those present were Jim Huston, field representative, Loomis, Ned.; Marguerette and James Edmundson, Colby; Dorothy Renner, Oakley; Wilma Getz, Quinter; Darlene Robben, Hoxie; Betty and Rex Carswell, Darrell and Marjorie Leh, Zula and Lawrence Horinek, Grace Cheney, Jean Hawkins and Deb Stepper, all of Rexford.

Worthwhile Club met for their Christmas covered dish dinner and gift exchange at the Barn. Attending, in addition to members Grace Cheney, Glendora Bastin, Edna Colson and Betty Carswell, were guests Rex Carswell, Kenneth Bastin and Fran Leach. Betty will be the hostess next month.

Clede Moeder and Buck Harper went to Logan to visit Hazel Richardson.

The Red Barn Gang band has had a rest this week from their heavy schedule of travels, since Betty Nickols, who is accompanist, has been in Colorado Springs.

Marge Leh is really excited that her 22-year-old granddaughter, Kelly Hiatt finally received two new lungs! Kelly was born with cystic fibrosis and was given little chance of reaching adulthood. Her dad, George Hiatt, put her name on a waiting list for new lungs in 1996 and on Dec. 5, the surgery took place. Kelly is a college student in McPherson. About 40 of her friends went to the hospital to pray for her. December birthdays are Andy Black, Dec. 3, and Freda Ketchum, Dec. 17.

Rex and Betty Carswell spent the weekend in McPherson with their daughter and son-in-law, Terry and Steve Salter, and also attended a birthday party for their one-year-old great-grandson, Camden Carswell, in Salina.

Jake, Ashley and Marcus Anderson, Goodland, were weekend guests of their grandparents, Nancy and Jay Dahl.

Koffee Klatch attendees last week were Delores Dible, Darla Dible, Margaret Arasmith, Hulda Wark, Deb Stepper, Grace Cheney, Berneda Zoberst, Fran Leach, Eunice Sanford, Freda Ketchum, Vesta Roth, Liz Rall and Sondra Barnett. A person doesn't have to drink "koffee" to join the group! We would welcome new people.

The bridge club met for lunch at the China Buffet, then went to the home of Marguerette Edmundson to play cards. Prize winners were Marguerette, Bobbi Young and Berneda Zoberst. In January they will meet in Oberlin with Bobbi Young.

Vicki Allison will host a cookie exchange and open house from 1:30 to 5 p.m. on Saturday. Guests are asked to bring as many cookies as they would normally make for the Christmas holiday and trade for other kinds. It sounds like a great way to try new cookies and get together with friends and neighbors, not to mention getting to see the Allison's new home.

There were just under 60 guests at the Christmas dinner on Saturday sponsored by the Seniors In Action in Rexford, including some from Selden and Colby, and the outlying area. Christmas carols were sung following a delicious meal, served by the Shepherd's Staff.

Several from Rexford attended the Lions Club pancake supper at Gem.

**STUDENT HONORED**

Former Golden Plains student, Landon Truetken, has been honored by being one of six students chosen to help with the ground op-

eration and maintenance of the "Globalflyer Mission", through the Kansas State University Salina Aviation School. The plane is designed to fly around the world, non-stop and without refueling, in less than 80 hours.

Plans are for the ground work on the project to begin next week, with the tentative date for the flight to be the first week of January. Landon won't get Christmas break as the team will be working during that time. His parents are Lad and Lori Truetken, Selden.

There will be a pinochle tournament at the American Legion Hall on Saturday. Jean Hawkins and Vesta Roth were surprised to meet up with old friends, Marvin and Louise Greensburg of Smith Center, while shopping in Hays. Mr. Greensburg is a former teacher in Rexford.

The youth groups at the Rexford Church will be going to Colby on Dec. 15 for a caroling party at Lantern Park Manor and Prairie Living Complex.

The High School scholar bowl team won three rounds and lost three rounds at Colby but didn't make it to the finals.

Music students from Golden Plains, grades 6-12, went to Hays for the Kansas Music Educators Association honor band and choir, which concluded with a concert.

There was a Christmas vocal and instrumental concert for grades 6-

12 at the school on Wednesday.

The Middle School girls and boys will play basketball here against Wheatland at 3 p.m. on Thursday.

The High School boys and girls took part in the Sagebrush Shootout Basketball tournament in Brewster last week.

The girls took fourth place and the boys took third. One evening, the Golden Plains cheerleaders danced at half-time

This week, the Golden Plains Bulldog teams will take on Brewster here in basketball. The cheerleaders will perform a dance routine during the boys game at half-time. Cheerleaders are Kristin Wark, Jami Wark, Liz Staats, Amanda Rall, Jennifer Eatherly, Ashley Albers, and Megan Juenemann.

Friday will be the last day of school for this semester. Classes will resume on Jan. 3.

MAKIN' IT HANP: Hats off to the group of about 120 Teens for Christ attendees from northwest Kansas and southern Nebraska. They "invade" (their words, not mine) our town on the second Saturday of each month for their area meeting.

On Saturday, they caroled at homes. It was an unusually pleasant evening and it was so refreshing to hear those sweet voices of young people, both guys and gals. What a blessing you were to us. Thanks!

## Cedar Living News

John Green of Herndon and Cloyce Harold of Oberlin are new residents at Cedar Living Center.

Richard Samson of Ludell and Shirley Cogburn of Hobbs, N.M., hosted a party on Monday in honor of Tressie Samson who celebrated her birthday on Dec. 5. Family and friends as well as residents and staff enjoyed cake and ice cream.

Myrna Jones, Mary Ann Amack, and Linda Smith assisted with the music program on Monday afternoon.

Fern Moore gave the reading program on Tuesday morning. Hank Wolfram won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Alice Fiala won the blackout game.

The children from Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Oberlin visited on Wednesday afternoon. They assisted with decorating the Christmas tree on the patio and also sang for residents.

The Red Hat Quilters came caroling on Wednesday evening.

Father George gave a Communion Service on Thursday morning.

Pi Alpha Club hosted the December birthday party on Thursday afternoon. They served pie and coffee and sang Christmas carols. Those honored with December birthdays were Axie Sass, Tressie Samson, and Helen Lindquist. Each received a package of candy from the club and a balloon from Prairie Petals.

The baking group made chocolate star cookies on Friday after-

noon. Pastor Glenn and Betty Krebs of the Jennings United Methodist Church gave the worship service on Sunday afternoon.

The Stick-To-It 4-H Club sang a selection of Christmas music during supper on Sunday evening. Residents report that the group included about 30 children and their parents and that it was an enjoyable program.

On behalf of everyone at Cedar Living Center, we would like to thank all of the caroling groups that drop in during the holiday season.

Residents and staff are preparing for the annual family Christmas party at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. Anyone is welcome to attend the party.

Recent visitors: Ann Martin, Frank Cox, Herndon; Jerry Temple, Norcatur; Sara Bishop and Jamie Samson, Lindsborg; Richard and Bernadine Samson, Ludell; Don Ashley, Carl Mumm, Selden; Rose and Shikia Domsch, Atwood; Rev. Mark Stuber, Ash Creek; Leanna Davis, Salina; George Wurm, McCook;

Mary Ann Amack, Carol Allen, Barb Solko, Estella Waldo, Joyce Ploussard, Jerry Neff, Joan Evans, Kristy Evans, Fern Wenger, Rosella Meitl, Lois Lamb, Elvin Beneda, Orin Beneda, Bernie and Othelia Vacura, Jerry and Jolene Fortin, Marie Jean Vavroch, Paul Sass, Dana Winstead, Lyle Gamblin, Earl Brown, June Harold, Oberlin.

## Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Covenant Women Ministries will entertain with the December birthday party at 2 p.m. on Thursday at the Good Samaritan Center in Atwood.

The Sunday School Christmas program will begin at 7 p.m. Sunday at the Herndon Covenant Church.

Word was received by Steve and Arian Arnold from Mercy Bagley of the death of Alvin Pearson of Mount Vernon, Wash. He was a former resident of this area and his wife, Edith, is a sister of the late Martha Holle. He was a brother of the late Guy Pearson, Hazelle Pearson, and Elma Hafner.

Dave Bergling underwent hip surgery at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., on Friday and is recuperating satisfactorily.

Phyllis Berry, Arian Arnold, Eunice Martin and Edla Olson enjoyed lunch last Monday at the LandMark Inn in Oberlin.

Louis Perkins and a friend, Gary, of Wichita and Bob and Keith Frenzel, Salina, were weekend guests of Bob and Sally Olson for pheasant hunting.

Pastor Keith and Sandy Reuther and family spent last week at Bear Creek, Colo., skiing with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Reuther.

Frank and Margaret McEvoy brought Lucy Schissler home from Denver on Monday. She had been hospitalized at Presbyterian/St. Luke's Hospital and is now living at the Good Samaritan Center in Atwood.

Violet Holle has returned home after being hospitalized in Atwood with pneumonia.

Sunday dinner guests of J.R. and Carrol Ginther were Blaine and Erin Ginther, Will, Cameron and Sophia, Atwood. Afternoon callers were Harlan Ginther and grandson, Blake Ginther, Atwood; and Brent and Brady Ginther, Menlo.

## Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

The Jennings Lions are hosting a soup and pie luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday at the Jennings City Hall. Santa will arrive at 1 p.m. with bags of treats, sponsored by the Lions Club and City of Jennings. All children are invited to come and visit Santa.

The Lions are also collecting used lenses, eye glasses, frames, and hearing aids. If you have any of these items that are no longer being used, please bring them to the City

Hall on Saturday.

Wayne and Louise Cressler visited their son, Russell and Theresa Cressler, in Bison on Sunday. Others enjoying the day were Nicole Schroter and Adalie; Amber and Johnny Klassen, Keith, Landon and Issac of LaCrosse; Robert Cressler and Mary Frye of Emporia; and Preston Cressler of the home.

Jennings Housing Authority meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16.

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