

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1885

Tom Collins, who went out with the hunters from this place, and stayed out on the Beaver, returned the first of the week.

Mountain Slope Lodge No. 186, A. F. and A. M. will hold their annual election of officers Saturday, Dec. 25th.

The pioneer general store of J.W. Allen & Son is a beehive of industry.

W.A. Frasier's new building will be dedicated by the Terpsichorean Club on Christmas Eve.

The building formerly occupied by Frasier's furniture store is being refitted up for George Colby for a general store. The building is 20x50 feet, with an extension of 20 feet for a warehouse.

North Sappa Items: James Witham has sold his cattle and now resides in your city. Dick Gullet is the champion dancist in Decatur County.

100 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1905

Fred Hitchcock is having a new roof put on his building.

Frank Johnson claims he is the best looking man whose photo is in the new county map.

One of the busiest men in town is Frank Fleming. His bakery has become one of the best places in town to get a good lunch or dinner these cold days.

High School Notes: A challenge for a joint debate with the Norton County High School has been accepted. Those chosen to represent Decatur County are Ray Palmatier, Caleb Smick and Faye Wolfe.

75 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1925

Funeral services were held at the Methodist Church in Kanona for Mrs. Adolph (Elizabeth) Johnson, who died Nov. 28 in a San Francisco hospital at the age of 52. The daughter of Gabriel and Dorothea Brown, she was born in 1878 in DeKalb, Illinois and moved to Decatur County at the age of four where she grew to womanhood on the old homestead near Kanona. She had been a member of the Menninger Bible Study Class when the family resided in Topeka.

The Federated Church people are having a supper and reception in the Baptist Church tonight honoring

Rev. and Mrs. Bowles and family, who have moved here from Atwood.

Funeral services were held for Mrs. C.A. Wilbur, who came to Decatur County in 1879 locating at Shibolet on the Prairie Dog where her father, Mr. Burnett, ran a store for a time before being elected Decatur County treasurer. She graduated from Oberlin High School in 1891 and taught school before her marriage.

Fourteen members of the local chapter of the Eastern Star went over to Jennings for a special meeting with the Jennings chapter. The Jennings folks had planned a fine program and proved to be most genial hosts.

Fred Bremer was over from his home on the Prairie Dog Wednesday and stopped in for a visit with the senior editor, but after some little discussion he decided that the country had not been helped by the talk.

Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Coulter will hold open house in honor of Mrs. Coulter's father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Lon Decker on Sunday, Dec. 21. This marks the golden wedding anniversary of this pioneer couple.

Sappa: The apron sale and supper given at Prairie Chapel Church brought in \$50 which goes to help repair the church.

50 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1955

At a special meeting of the Library Board, it was decided to go ahead with plans to build despite the action of the Chamber of Commerce which had turned thumbs down on solicitations for the additional \$25,000 needed for construction. According to Agnes Dowling it was the feeling of the board that "after all the years of planning and saving by the women's clubs of Oberlin for a public library we should not abandon the program when the long-time dream appears to be almost within reach." The balance will be raised by public donations which have been ruled deductible for income tax purposes.

Effective Jan. 1, 1956, Ernest McCrae, a native of Blue Rapids, will be the law partner of L.F. Cushman. The McCrae family will move here from Washington

D.C., where he has been with the F.B.I., and is currently a trial lawyer for the Department of Justice. McCrae, 35, was a fighter pilot with the Army Air Corps from 1942-45 in the Pacific area and is a graduate of the KU School of Law.

The cornerstone for the new St. John's Lutheran Church to be located on North Wilson Street will be laid on Sunday.

A total of 8 sealed bids ranging from \$950 to \$6,500 were received for the Decatur County commissioners on the county property which was formerly the Oberlin Livestock Exchange. All bids were rejected.

Mayor E.W. Coldren received word of the death of his only brother, Ray Coldren, 73, of Joplin, Mo., who was the editorial writer for the Joplin Globe. For many years he held the unique position of editorial writer for both daily newspapers in Joplin, one a Democrat and the other a Republican paper.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Jay Janousek, Danbury, son, Craig Allen, Nov. 29; Mr. and Mrs. Verle Francis, Traer, daughter, Kathleen DeAnn, Dec. 8; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Mann, Jennings, daughter, Linda Kay, Dec. 9; Mr. and Mrs. George Votapka of Jennings, son, Thomas Alfred, Dec. 9; Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord Shields, son, Mike Edward, Dec. 11; Mr. and Mrs. Keith Gallatin, Dresden, a daughter, Debra Sue, Dec. 12.

25 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1980

Farmers are apparently going to end the year in the same manner as they opened 1980, in the midst of a grain market dive that has seen

prices bottom out Thursday near the \$3.38 level coming back this week to close Tuesday at \$3.88. In November, markets peaked at \$4.20 before reacting to the Poland-Russia confrontation as well as spiraling interest rates.

Plans are underway to extend the runway at Oberlin Airport another 1,500 feet after an agreement was signed with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Torluemke and the city of Oberlin to swap parcels of land. Mayor Ed Stillins expressed appreciation to the Torluemkes for their willingness to offer the additional land.

An open house at the Oberlin United Methodist Church Dec. 27 will honor Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Gaumer on their 50th wedding anniversary.

Robert Groneweg has purchased Western Service Center which has operated through the local Western Auto Store according to owner Clyde Vernon. Groneweg has worked for Western Auto the past 7 years handling all the appliance service work.

New Arrival: Mr. and Mrs. Lee Shields, Norcat, son, Joshua Lee, Dec. 11.

Karen McClain began work at Decatur Animal Hospital Dec. 1 as an animal technician replacing Mrs. Dennis Anderson who has been employed there since graduating from Colby Community College.

The DCHS Red Devil boys basketball team lost to Goodland 45-41 while the girls were edged 43-38. The Red Devil wrestlers were tumbled by a strong Goodland team 31-19 with Denny Rhodes, Todd Wilson and Dave Aker the only winners on the Oberlin squad.

Herndon News

By Carrol Ginther

Thanksgiving Day guests of Mildred Kleidosty were John, Betty and Mary Kleidosty of North Platte, Neb., and David and Krystal Huffles of Herndon.

Nicholas Kleidosty of Elm Creek, Neb., was a recent weekend visitor at her home.

Myra Stoney was the winner of the \$50 savings bond; Devona Sattler, a Marlin rifle; and Don

Solko, the furniture secretary, at the St. Mary Fall Bazaar held recently at St. Mary's Hall in Herndon.

Norma Grafel received word that her son-in-law, Greg Marney, of Rossville, suffered a heart attack Thursday morning.

His wife is the former Sheila Grafel. His address is 7113 NW Arn Road, Rossville, Kan., 66533.

Cedar Living News

Sympathy is extended to the family of Jack Lamb who passed away at Cedar Living Center on Tuesday.

We also extend our sympathy to the family of Helen Lindquist who passed away on Saturday.

A birthday party was held on Monday afternoon on the patio for Tressie Samson. Family members served cake and ice cream to her many visitors as well as staff and her fellow residents.

Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack led the residents in a Christmas sing-along on Monday afternoon.

Members of the Kayettes from Decatur Community High School visited on Tuesday morning and delivered Christmas cards.

Paul Sass, Nettie Britton and Mildred Cochran helped with decorating the Christmas tree on the patio Tuesday morning. The three Christmas bears under the tree were donated by the family of Anna Mae Ketterl.

June Harold won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Mervin Babineaux won the blackout game.

John Juenemann gave a concert of old-time favorites and Christmas classics before supper on Tuesday.

The dietary department and activity department hosted a special lunch on Wednesday featuring sandwiches from A&W. Staff members made root beer floats for everyone.

A Christmas tree decorating party was held on Wednesday afternoon to decorate the big tree in the dining room. Several residents and staff members assisted with trimming the tree. Our decorations are up now and we would welcome any visitors who wish to stop by.

The children from the KICK program at St. John's Lutheran Church gave a musical performance on Wednesday afternoon. The bell choir played carols and sang for us.

The Methodist Youth visited on Wednesday evening.

Stan Chapin of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church had a communion service on Thursday morning.

Residents enjoyed a noontime violin concert on Thursday given by Craig Larson. He played a variety of music and ended the concert with a Christmas medley.

Lloyd Harden of Goodland gave a program on the metal crafts he makes and then assisted residents with making paper angels on Thursday afternoon.

The baking group made sugar cookies on Friday afternoon. Some were frozen to save for our family Christmas party on Dec. 18.

The ZCBJ Lodge held its December meeting on the Cedar Living Center patio Sunday afternoon.

The Red Barn Band will be giving a performance on Friday, Dec. 16, in the Cedar Living Center dining room at 2 p.m. Visitors are welcome to attend. Friends and family members are also invited to attend the Christmas party at 2:30 Sunday afternoon, Dec. 18. The party will include special entertainment, a visit from Santa, and refreshments.

Recent visitors: Sara Bishop and Jamie Samson, Lindsborg; Merl and Ruth Chance, Jennings; Julie Harold, Hays; Jerry and Ron Temple, Gary Anthony, Janice O'Hare and Linda Hunt, Norcat; Frank Cox, Herndon; Richard and Bernadine Samson, Ludell; Alice Barnett, Clayton; Rick and Tammy Shaw, Earl Brown, Barb and Steve Brown, Selden; Connie and Curtis Meixner, Arkansas City; Mike and Marie McVay, Colby;

Barb Solko, Karolyn Muirhead, Dolores Koerperich, Bernie and Othelia Vaca, Lyle Gambelin, Marie Jean Vavroch, Elvin Beneda, Orlin Beneda, Bernard Corcoran, Dana Winstead, Opal Huntley, Alice Shirley, Ila Ray, Oberlin.

Good Samaritan News

Merry Christmas!! As I write this, there are only 14 more days 'til Christmas. Are you ready? We are in the process! With all the decorating done, we can concentrate on all the fun. We have had lots of visitors this week and lots more to come.

On Monday, Gail Marcuson and Don Anderson came to have cinnamon rolls and coffee with the guys. Everett Fisher, Harlan Geihler, Kenny Rydquist, John Ready and David McGee all enjoyed the visit.

On Tuesday and Thursday we had a great time posing for our Christmas photos. Everyone got all dolled up in their Christmas wear and chose their favorite decorated spot for their background.

KICK Kids came Wednesday from St. John's Lutheran Church to sing and perform with their bells. We really appreciated them coming on such a frosty, cold afternoon. They warmed our hearts and filled this place with cheer!

On Wednesday evening, more visitors arrived. The Oberlin United Methodist Youth Group brought old-fashioned Christmas sacks for their members, Edla Olson, Marilyn St. Clair, Ruth Laidig, Eva Bryan, Florence Jones, Muriel Ready, and Harold and Eleanore Demmer.

We had another party on Friday. The STAR Committee hosted our staff/resident Christmas party. Janice Shobe recognized employees for their years of service, while Linda Hollowell drew names for

door prizes. There was a lot of good food and fellowship all around.

In case you are wondering, STAR is an acronym for STop Along the Road. It is a committee formed to bridge the relationship between staff and residents. They are responsible for a lot of the worthwhile projects that happen here. For instance, they sponsored a food drive for the Decatur County Food Pantry, the annual Christmas Tea for staff, provide gifts for high school and college staff graduates, they purchased a vending machine for the staff lounge, and they keep the lounge decorated and pleasant. We are so thankful for all they do.

Saturday...more friends! The Stick-To-It 4-H group came to carol. What a wonderful season we are having. Won't you drop by to say hello? We would love to have you to our home for the holidays!

Volunteering their time the past week at Good Sam were Nathan Smith, Mert McEvoy, Bethany Smith, Gail Marcuson, Don Anderson, Pat Whetzel and Dorothy Alstrom.

Recent guests: Lucy Schissler-Terry McGuire, Dolores Pianalto and Laura Wolfram of Atwood, Mert McEvoy; Harold and Eleanore Demmer - J.R. and Carole Unger of Yuma, Colo.; Hazel Flaska - Jon Smith, Myrna Lacinia of Westminster, Colo.; Eva Bryan - Donna Kelley; Walt Mosier - Jerry Miller; Eulaine Benda - Lee and Estella Waldo.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

We are now having some nice days. First the blizzard came, then bitter cold weather. Some of the ice has been melting the past two days.

Visitors over the weekend at the home of Violet and Kenny Krizek were her sister and husband, Patrick and Betty Keener, Kansas City.

Visitors at the home of Stan and Ramona Shaw for the weekend were Jerry Smith, Monticello, Ark.; Drew Wilson and Les Claybrook, Hope, Ark.; Curtis Martin, Batesville, Ark.; Mark and Ethan Shaw, rural Logan. They had a successful weekend of pheasant hunting. Shelley and Erin Shaw came for lunch Saturday and returned home.

Colin and Linsey Bailey, Cooper and Hannah, Norton; Grant Bailey and friend, McKencie; and Marguerite and Elmo in Bailey were guests of Mike and Vicki Bailey Sunday. Marguerite was celebrating a birthday and the congregation of the United Methodist Church

sang "Happy Birthday" to her during worship services Sunday. Brian Jennings and Westley of Solomon visited Lawrence and Lila Jennings over the weekend. Bruce and Peggy Carlton, Bakersfield, Calif., spent two weeks with her mother, Jean Gillespie. They were here during the power outage and blizzard. They also visited with Lawrence and Lila Jennings.

Jennings City Council met Dec. 8 in the Senior Center. Items on the agenda were: annexation, emergency plans, sewer repairs, Christmas street lights and Santa coming to town.

Work is being completed on the annexation plans. Tyler Bolt has been making covers for the sewer boxes in his shop class at school. Midwest will put up the Christmas street lights Friday. The Lions will have a soup supper and Santa will be in town on Saturday, Dec. 17. The city will pay for half the cost of

candy sacks and put a gift certificate in the drawing. Also, the city is looking for a propane generator to purchase for emergencies, that will run both the furnaces and lights at the Senior Center.

Housing Authority will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 15, at Friendship Village.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Sympathy is extended to the family of Genevieve Henningsen, 82, who died Nov. 29. Funeral services were held on Dec. 3 at the Herndon Covenant Church and burial was at the Herndon Covenant Church Cemetery.

She and her late husband, Carl E. Henningsen, and family lived in this community. Survivors include a daughter, Marsha and Bob Espenson, Bingham Lake, Minn.; a son, Tony and Patricia Henningsen, and their families; a brother, Erik and Jean Erickson, Colby; a sister, Mildred Lang, San Leandro, Calif.; and two sisters-in-law, Tillie Henningsen, Atwood; and Elma Lee Erickson, Herndon.

Congratulations to Brad and Angie Erickson on the arrival of a daughter, Rayne Dawnelle, on Dec. 3. She weighed 7 pounds, and was 19 1/2 inches long. She has three brothers, Brett, Regent and Tabor. Grandparents are Jane Keck, and Phil Keck, Colby; and Ron and Marlene Erickson, Rexford. Eva Keck, Colby, is her great-grandmother.

Dick and Donna Kelley will be honored on their 50th wedding an-

niversary with an open house from 2 to 5 p.m. on Saturday at The Gateway in Oberlin. Hosts will be their sons, Kevin, Kirk and Sheldon Kelley and families.

Covenant Women Ministries will host a birthday party at 3 p.m. Thursday at the Good Samaritan Center in Atwood.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Bob Miller of Atwood, who died Sunday. His late wife was the former Lorene Bricker, daughter of the late Don and Anna (Bergling) Bricker. Among survivors are two sons, Donnie and Bobbie.

The Christmas program will be presented at 7 p.m. on Sunday at the Herndon Covenant Church. Christmas caroling is planned in Oberlin and Atwood on Wednesday, Dec. 21.

For details, contact Patti Benda or Pastor Keith Reuther. Christmas Eve services are scheduled at 11 p.m. at the church.

Brett Keck is home on leave visiting his parents, Brad and Angie Erickson, Regent, Tabor and Rayne Dawnelle, after completing basic and advanced infantry training at Fort Benning, Ga., on Dec. 2.

Rexford News

By Vicki Allison

The new director of outreach for Shepherd Staff is Ron Boller, a former career Boy Scout executive. He comes to Rexford from Holyoke, Neb. His wife is a special education teacher in Fort Worth, Texas, and she will join him in May. They will be making their home on Maple Street.

Sondra Barnett went to Liberal on Dec. 2 to attend the funeral of a friend who had been battling cancer.

On Dec. 6, Rebecca Wark and Chance Rains, Hays, became the proud parents of a son, Jaren Lee Rains. Maternal grandparents are Vicki and Dennis Allison, Rexford. Paternal grandparents are Gerald and Shirley Rains, Sharon Springs; and Debbie Green, Overland Park. Great-grandparents are Madonna Anderson, Gem; Hulda Wark, Rexford; Ruth Rains, Sharon Springs; and Leroy and Velma Dreiling, Lyons.

Those at the Red Barn for

Barnswallows were Dick Sanford, Betty and Rex Carswell, Darlene Robben, Jean Hawkins, Pat Williams, Grace Cheney, Deb Stepper and Lawrence Horinek.

Koffee Klatchers were Jean Hawkins, Berneda Zoberst, Eunice Sanford, Dolores Dible and Vesta Roth.

Pastor Fran Harwerth shared about his recent mission trip to India during the morning worship service at the Rexford Community Church.

Golden Plains School happenings: The middle school basketball teams traveled to Healy on Tuesday. The girls A and B teams, and the boys A team, beat the Eagles. There was no B boys game. The high school basketball teams participated in the Sagebrush Tournament in Brewster. The Bulldogs placed second after losing to Brewster, 29-42. The Lady Bulldogs received the first place trophy after defeating Brewster, 60-50.



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