

THE OBERLIN HERALD

# Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

**125 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1882**

Last week we omitted the name of J.C. Frewen from the list of teachers receiving certificates. He is teaching in Mr. Miller's house on North Sappa near Lamb's draw. Charley Maddox says our dog, "Don," can outrun that imported Johnson's Draw dog.

Fred A. Henshaw, formerly foreman of the Smith County Pioneer, called on us last Friday. Fred is a good boy and also a good newspaperman.

A.J. Wheeler, the genial president of the Kansas Overland Stage and Express Company, paid Oberlin a flying visit last Monday. At a meeting held recently by the members of the First Presbyterian Church of Oberlin, it was decided that the church should be incorporated. Five trustees were duly elected who will take steps at once toward making the necessary arrangements for such incorporation.

North Sappa Soundings: Mr. Griffin has 100 bushels of turnips for sale. Singing school at Lamb's Draw schoolhouse Tuesday and Saturday nights. W.L. Barr in charge.

**100 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1907**

H.Q. Banta has had mounted and presented to Oberlin High School one of the finest specimens of the American Golden Eagle that we have ever seen. The bird was killed 10 miles south of Oberlin and was brought to town by Caleb Smick. The mounting was done by a taxidermist at Denver.

Born, Jan. 14, 1907, to Mr. and Mrs. Emery VanVleet, a son.

Norcatour News: Frank Frewen is now a full partner in his father's store; and their firm name now is J.C. Frewen & Son.

Griffin and Grossniklaus sold out their butcher shop on Monday to J.L. Wilson and son who will continue the business.

The new residence of J.C. Lathrop near the mill is nearly completed.

**75 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1932**

Despite the unfavorable weather, considerable progress has been made on the McKague Memorial Masonic Temple during the past 10

days. The brick walls on the west, east and north have been completed and steel girders are being put in place.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Laidig are the parents of a baby born Jan. 20. According to our last report, a name worthy of the young man has not yet been found.

Final score of the Oberlin-Colby basketball game was Oberlin 24, Colby 14 with Oberlin called for 10 personal fouls and Colby 12, so the game verged on the appearance of a real old-time football game.

Norcatour: Funeral services were held for Mr. John Jackson, 78, who came to Kansas with his family in 1888 and settled in the Colony, northeast of here about 9 miles. In 1907 they moved to a farm 4 miles southwest of Oberlin and in 1923 to Norcatour.

John M. Bremer, Oberlin's newest resident attorney, has decided to run for county attorney on the Democratic ticket. He is a graduate of DCHS and Washburn College School of Law and since his admission to the bar has been practicing with J.P. Noble.

Fairview and Summit: Cecil Mines traded his Ford car for a Whippet Saturday.

Big Timber: Bartos Brown and wife are rejoicing over the arrival of a fine baby girl. Blanche Heilman, who was operated on for appendicitis at Oberlin, returned home this week. Sure glad to have Blanche recovering after such a long illness.

Shibboleth: There were skating parties at Wilsons Friday and Saturday evenings.

**50 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1957**

Federal weather observer for Oberlin, E.W. Coldren, caught 11.26 inches of moisture for the year 1956, the third consecutive year of markedly deficient rainfall.

The only new courthouse official this year is Floyd Tice, Dresden, who will begin his first term as county commissioner, third district.

John Ready is now a partner in Corcoran Funeral Home and the business will be known as Corcoran-Ready Funeral Home. Ready; his wife Muriel and daughter, Esther, live at 208 E. North St. Funeral services were held at

Turlock, Calif., for Herman Claussen, 64, who had been a pharmacist at Adleman Drug Store for 26 years before moving to California in 1944.

Mr. and Mrs. John Bremer and Mr. and Mrs. Art Dowling are among those who will attend the Inaugural ceremonies in Topeka Monday.

Dresden: Mr. and Mrs. Keith Muirhead received the nicest Christmas gift when Tamala Renee arrived Christmas morning. She has a sister, Mignon, to welcome her.

Norcatour: Mr. and Mrs. Jay K. Locy and Scott have been living in Hays since Dec. 27 when Jay began his duties as a State patrolman.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenwyn Hayward, Tommy and Jen Marie left Thursday for Englewood, Colo., where he will be a city mail carrier. He and Roy Shobe, jr., who has been carrier in Englewood, made a mutual trade and Mr. and Mrs. Shobe, Kenneth, Cynthia, Rebecca and Debra, moved to Oberlin and are making their home at the former Wilbur home on North Penn. He will begin his duties as city carrier on Jan. 12.

**25 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1982**

The American Legion and Legion Auxiliary are sponsoring a pancake and sausage feed to kick off a drive to provide a training room for Decatur County Emergency Medical Technicians. As planned by EMT coordinator Carl Anderson, the building would be a

30x40 addition to the county ambulance barn located south of Decatur County Hospital.

Hospital News: Danny and Miriam Shaw, son, Gary Ray, Jan. 8; Randy and Lynda Peters, son, Curtis Jay, Jan. 10; James and Teresa Dowling, son, Tucker James, Jan. 10.

Four charter members of the Progressive Homemakers Unit, Louise Helmkamp, Mary Shaw, Vina Berndt and Elta Mines, were honored when the unit observed its 45th anniversary on Jan. 21.

Marty Rhodes, son of Mrs. Merla Rhodes, began work Jan. 11 for Conoco in Ponca City, Okla., as an assistant analyst.

He is a 1978 graduate of DCHS and graduated summa cum laude at mid-term from Fort Hays State University with a degree in business data processing.

Mr. and Mrs. Walt Fortin of Merriam have purchased the home of Mrs. George Wurm at 504 E. Commercial and plan to move here with their daughters, Marla and Melissa.

Tuesday night the Oberlin and Saintry wrestlers met in the Devils' den, and when the smoke had cleared away, both teams had registered 21 points. Both teams were undefeated and the fans were brought to their feet several times by the moves put on by the wrestlers and the calls by the referee, who had a tough job trying to please both sides.

## Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Linda Rocco of Oxford, Mass., brought her mother, Bernadine Fred, home on Wednesday after she had spent six weeks visiting her daughters, Linda Rocco and Glenda Sprague, and their families. Mrs. Rocco left on Saturday to return home.

Congratulations to Becca Reuther, daughter of Pastor Keith and Sandy Reuther, who won first place in the Rawlins County Junior High National Geography Bee. She is an eighth grader and will take a written test to qualify for the state

competition. Sarah Olson of Manhattan spent the weekend with her parents, Mark and Barbara Olson, Kurt and Mary. She came especially to attend baptismal services for Mary Olson on Sunday at the Herndon Covenant Church.

The annual meeting of the Herndon Covenant Church was canceled on Sunday, due to the weather.

Bob and Annette Frenzl of Salina visited on Saturday with her parents, Bob and Sally Olson.

## Rexford News

By Vicki Allison

The winter weather has been giving us lots of snow, reminding me of the winters in the '80s and early '90s when living on the farm and our children were young. After taking care of livestock, the kids and I (and sometimes dad, who is now with us in spirit), would spend hours playing in the snow: sledding, skating, building snow caves and snowmen, throwing snowballs at one another, sharing joy, tears, and laughter.

Our family enjoyed reviewing home video footage of these winter excursions to pass the time, while together during the holiday season, and introducing new family members to a bit of family history. But I do remember a winter when there was so much snow and wind that we were digging calves free from being buried in snowdrifts and helicopters dropped feed to cattle.

Yes, we have had some nasty snowstorms, but after viewing shared photos submitted to ksn.com showing some of the devastation of the last winter storm of 2006, especially in the counties south of us, in dollars this storm will probably be the worst to recover from.

I have read *Colby Free Press* articles from individuals comparing past and previous snowstorms. I think where the difference lies is in how the county responded to its eastern and western residents. Their response to pleas for getting the county road between Rexford and Menlo cleared was that they were just too busy. Fortunately, the stu-

dent who had an accident that occurred in the morning en route to attend school had no serious injuries.

The City Council met Wednesday evening and there was discussion on responding to emergency situations. The city and residents did a good job cleaning the streets of snow but were not prepared for the blackout. Hopefully the mayor and council will be making plans to purchase a generator, or more if needed, and have a plan in place where residents may go.

Congratulations to Mark Anderson. Mark was elected as the Thomas County Fair Board president. Also, congratulations to Darrel Dible, who will be vice-president.

The community extends sincere sympathy and prayers to the family of former resident Robert (Bob) Rogers, who died. Funeral services were in Chicago on Tuesday.

Glendora Bastin, Lonnie Ketchum and Gene Rogers are patients at Citizens Medical Center in Colby.

A "happy birthday" to Anogene Rogers who celebrates on Jan. 19.

Kid's Club presented their Christmas program on Wednesday evening at the Rexford Community Church. I was unable to attend, but was told the kids gave an excellent performance of the Christmas story.

At the Red Barn: New front doors have been hung, dressing up the building as well as Main Street. Thank you to Jolene Hansen for doing a great job as facilitator.

Those attending Barnswallows on Thursday to play pinocle were Deb Stepper, Rex Carswell, Betty Carswell, Dick Sanford, Darlene Robben, Grace Cheney and Lawrence Horinek.

Koffee Klatchers last week were Margaret Arasmith, Delores Dible, Darla Kaye Dible, and Lawrence Horinek.

Golden Plains News: The Western Kansas Liberty League tournament took place during the week and Coach Parker Christensen led the Lady Bulldogs in earning the second-place trophy. Coach Tom Beckman led the Bulldogs for a fourth-place win.

Following is a recap of the games

played: Monday, the Lady Bulldogs defeated the Weskan Coyotes, 66 to 57, on their home court, and defeated Greeley County 64 to 51 in the semifinals Friday. The Lady Bulldogs lost to the Wallace County Wildcats 39 to 59 in finals. The Bulldogs traveled to Grinnell on Tuesday and defeated the Grinnell-Grainfield Warriors, 60 to 57, in overtime. On Friday the Bulldogs played Wallace County with an ending score of 54 to 56, and lost to Greeley County, 57 to 51, on Saturday for fourth place. Finals and semifinals were held at Max Jones Field House in Goodland.

Until next time, make your week a memorable one.

## Herndon News

By Carrol Ginther

Jesse Niemeth, Wesley Martin and Kendra Solko, who were in the 1994-95 kindergarten class of Peach Beims, are trying to finish a project they started back then before they graduate this spring from Rawlins County High School. They are trying to collect 1 million pop can tabs and still need 263,125. Anyone wishing to assist them may take them to the Rawlins County Recycling Center on Wednesday afternoon or to any of the students or Mrs. Beims.

The recent heavy snowstorm in the area caused the collapse of a 50x100-foot steel slanted-wall shop building on the farm of Chuck and Eileen Unger. The building contained three pickups, two trucks, a car, tractor, combine, drills, stock trailer and a small utility tractor. The building was erected in 1979 and there is some insurance, but not enough to replace it, Mr. Unger said.

New Year's weekend relatives who came to attend the wedding of Dana Sattler and Chase Juenemann were Tom Sr. and Marlene Cook, Tom Jr. and Susie Cook, Cassy and Chandler, Denver; Bob and Lisa Cook, Matthew and Lawson, San Carlos, Calif.; and Deanna Cook, Scottsdale, Ariz. They visited Jan Sattler and Brian and Mary Clark,

Katelyn and Collin of Atwood, but had to return home before the wedding due to weather conditions.

Congratulations to Ron and Peach Beims of Herndon on the arrival of a grandson, Caden Anthony Beims, who was born at 5 p.m. on Nov. 29, 2006, at St. Catherine Hospital in Garden City.

He weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces and was 21 3/4 inches long. He is the son of Mark "Fred" and Alisha Beims of Ulysses.

He has a brother, Connor. Maternal grandparents are Rod and Robyn Nordyke, Ulysses. Great-grandmother is Cleora Nordyke, Hugoton.



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## Good Samaritan News

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord, "Plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11)

In 1953, a small group of young women, headed by Laurene Bryan (Van Otterloo) came together with a heart for the elderly who were being cared for at the county "poor farm." Recognizing that the need was greater than the old facility could provide, a vision was birthed to build a facility that could help more people in a more efficient way.

These ladies, members of the ABC Extension Unit, went to various women's clubs and church meetings to present their idea. The women of these organizations then presented these same ideas and needs to their husbands. This marketing strategy born of love worked well and before they knew it, they were able to approach the county commissioners to formulate a plan. Two years later on Nov. 1, 1955, the voters of the county decided the fate of the proposed Home for the Aged.

An amazing group of God-fearing young women, most of them only about 30 years old, planted a seed founded in love and compassion. The idea must have seemed impossible in that day, and yet they proceeded with confident tenacity to see the project to completion. The cost was estimated to be \$200,000.

There would be many hurdles to cross, and yet they were not swayed in their conviction. We look at the completed work. Could they have known how many lives they would touch through their generous acts of kindness, their patience and obedience?

Fifty years later, the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center will be celebrating its 50th anniversary on March 15, 2007. Countless staff, residents, family and community members have been blessed by being a part of the Good Sam Family. In preparation for the momentous event, we have set out to find the answer to that very question.

If you have a memory or story

you would like to share with us we would love to hear from you and to possibly include it in our celebration program. Mark the envelope "Attention Anniversary Committee," and send it or drop it by. We look forward with great anticipation to looking back and seeing all that God has done through the vision of a handful of ladies willing to step out in faith and witness the love of Christ through love in action.

Highlights for the week in activities include a visit from the "Lyle gals" who came to play pinocle on Monday. Tuesday, the First Hand Friend readers came for the first time since November. They were greeted with lots of hugs and smiles. The swish-swish of their snow pants and the gentle thumping of their boots calls attention to their presence, and they brighten the halls as they pass. Each one was given a book as a belated Christmas present from their reading pal. Thursday evening, karaoke was on the agenda and many residents joined the singing fun.

Remember to mark your calendars for 2 p.m. this Saturday. Dr. Michael Breiner will be speaking on Alzheimer's. The program is expected to last about two hours. This is an excellent resource for those living with a loved one who has the disease.

Please bring your questions as there will be time allotted for Dr. Breiner to address them. There is no cost for the program and refreshments will be served.

Residents who had visitors this week were: **Mae Guy, Ruby Wennihan and Mary Lemman** - Carolyn Sue Hayes of Colby; **Norma Richards; Thelma Spiers** - Don and Joan Grafel of Herndon; **Opal Bryan** - Lois Lamb; **Irel Lohofener** - Merlou Robinson; **Dorothy Hunt** - Reva Marshall, Penny and Sarah Fringer; **Jeanette Conway** - Daisy Rhein.

May God's love unfold you this week, allowing you to reach out to others in His name.

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**NEXT VISIT**  
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&  
Tuesday, Feb. 6

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## Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Jay and Becky Tate, Dakota, Mollie, and Grace returned home Wednesday from Ponchatoula, La., where they enjoyed spending a few days visiting her father, Patrick Ryan, and celebrating their family Christmas.

Gaylord and Shirley Shields returned home Wednesday from an extended visit with Mark and Corby Shields and Keric in Tucson, Ariz. They also enjoyed a short visit with Stan and Deanie Moore in Mont-

gomery, Texas, before returning home.

Ryan and Zach May played on the Oberlin 5th and 6th grade boys basketball team that took third place at the basketball tournament in Curtis, Neb., on Saturday.

John and Dianne Bremer and Jessica took a homemade dinner and dessert to the Arthur May home Thursday evening and joined them to celebrate Arthur's 88th birthday.