

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1882

The editor will be absent about two months, but The Herald will continue to boom the town and country all the same.

Christmas was very pleasantly passed on the lower portion of Johnson Draw by a social gathering at the residence of Mr. Enos Karns.

Clayton: Mr. E.L. Pease has been appointed postmaster here, we understand. He will take office the first of January. Mr. Pease is a first-class man and will make a good postmaster.

Against the law to shoot quail after Jan. 1.

Daily mail from Lenora to Oberlin after Jan. 1, 1883.

Jackson has a new postmaster. S.A. Beers, the popular and entertaining merchant at that place is the man. He is qualified to fill the position.

N.A. Clark was out to Samuel McCullough's stock farm to repair his pump. The ranch is located in Lamb's Draw.

100 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1907

Yes, the snow was 14 inches deep; if you don't believe come and see the notch on our yardstick. The sleighing is the best we have seen in over 15 years.

The following students away at college came home for the holidays: Rubie Moser, Edna Darrow, Francis O'Grady, Vincent Larrick, Caleb Smick, Frank Laidig, Murelle Douglas, Ray Street, Edith Drath, Edna Randall and Marx Lorig.

Art Steele and wife returned on Friday from Kansas City were Mrs. Steele was being treated for an injury received eight years ago in a runaway accident.

The Modern Woodmen added 38 new members Monday evening making a total of 145 awaiting adoption.

Marriages:

On Christmas Day, Mr. Lawrence Gill and Miss Pearl Vernon, both of Kanona; and Mr. Wayne Huber

and Miss McCray, both of Cook Township.

On Dec. 22 at Dresden, Mr. Grover Hoppas and Miss Jennie Walkey.

75 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1907

Between 50 and 60 Christmas baskets are being made up to be delivered by the Oberlin Boy Scouts to families who might otherwise be deprived of a good Christmas dinner and candy.

The 13 days of December from the 7th to 19th, inclusive, has established a new record at Oberlin for zero weather, the coldest temperature being 26 below.

Court House News: Marie Graham of Dresden is to be secretary for the county superintendent after the first of the year. Dorothy McGee, the present secretary, will assume the duties of clerk of the court.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Votapka expect to drive to McCook tomorrow night to meet their daughters, Grace and Mabel, who are coming from Duluth, Minn., and Pierre, S.D., respectively, to spend Christmas vacation here.

Norman Reist of Olathe was elected to fill out the unexpired term of president of the Kansas High School Athletic Assoc., the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Smick. Mr. Reist was one of Mr. Smick's pupils, graduating with the class of 1915.

Jennings: A.J. (Jack) Brock, 82, died Sunday night at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Emma Swift. He was one of the early day settlers of Jennings and for many years a prominent businessman of the southeast part of the county and was associated with Godfrey Tacha in the real estate business.

In a pre-season game on the home court the Decatur Red Devils were almost taken for a trimming by the fast court quintet from the Dresden High School. The final score was Oberlin 21, Dresden 20, but if the timekeeper's whistle had blown

60 seconds earlier the score would have been Dresden 20, Oberlin 19. Players for Dresden were Smith, Cameron, D. Bainter, Trommeter and Ewer and for Oberlin Stephens, Francis, Joe Martin, L. Ridgway and Martin. Substitutes for Oberlin, V. Ridgway, Smith and Harold and for Dresden, Trommeter.

A check was received Friday from Mrs. Dorothea Brown of Alton Township, for the subscription renewals of her seven children.

50 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1957

The 60-foot Christmas tree which graces the White House lawn this year in Washington, D.C., is of special interest to Rev. and Mrs. Fred Granstrom of Herndon Mission Covenant Church. The big white spruce tree formerly graced the front of a cabin in Minnesota in which the Granstroms lived when they entered the ministry in the early 1940s. It is estimated to be 60-70 years old and was located near Big Falls, Minn., a small town 38 miles south of International Falls.

The planted wheat acreage in Decatur County this year is estimated at 118,000 acres. The 1958 county acreage allotment is 101,895 acres. Two major factors are blamed for the 17 percent overseeding: excellent growing conditions and more farmers deciding not to comply with government restrictions.

Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Auker of Shrewsbury, Mass., will entertain with an open house for his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Auker, at their home in Norcatour on Jan. 1 on the occasion of their golden wedding anniversary.

The Oberlin Red Devils downed Oakley 51-47 for their third win of the season.

Vic Ingram, who has been serving in Germany, visited friends in Oberlin Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Fringer, 405 North York, are the winners of the annual Christmas home decoration contest sponsored by the Oberlin

Lions Club.

Miss Agnes Dowling was installed as worthy matron of Chapter 106, Order of the Eastern Star, in an impressive ceremony Wednesday evening. Robert Fraker is worthy patron. Preceding the installation service, the annual turkey dinner was served to over 200 Eastern Star and Mason members.

25 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1982

Old man winter brought two large Christmas packages to Decatur County and the surrounding area: a 12-inch snow beginning Saturday on Christmas Eve and another 12 inches Tuesday with a total of 3.30 inches of moisture according to official weather observer Janet Farr. Highways were closed to westbound traffic on Christmas Eve and on Tuesday northbound, southbound and eastbound traffic out of Oberlin was stopped.

Top news of 1982 as reported by The Herald staff:

1. Youth drownings in flash flood on June 24
2. Three survive air crash in west Oberlin in July
3. Changes on medical scene include addition of dentist Dr. Gary Fredrickson and of Dr. May to medical staff by Jan. 1, 1983
4. Bumper crops of wheat, corn and milo add to the ever-growing grain surplus
5. Electric interconnect made with Sunflower Electric
6. Keith Adams replaces Glenn Martin of USD 294
7. Weather calls the shots with record rainfalls in May and June followed by periods of near-drought
8. Mobile home park permit denied in northwest Oberlin
9. New concrete stadium erected at Smick Field enables capacity crowd to see the Red Devils defeat Colby in the homecoming football game
10. Decatur County history book completed

Good Samaritan News

I always have to chuckle when somebody asks, "so ... how are things up at the rest home?"

I am always tempted to reply, "REST home, what are you talking about?!"

We do rest, sometimes, but not this week!

Monday and Tuesday, the First Hand Friends came to read to their special pals. They brought fun little things to cheer up the rooms and the residents gave them each a book for Christmas.

On Wednesday many of the kids returned, this time to carol through the hallways. Lots of children from the elementary school came; every grade was represented, wearing festive caroling hats.

The high school was also represented this week. Chanté came to perform on Monday. The residents always love to see their sparkling

attire. Then on Wednesday the DCHS Singers sang tunes from their Christmas concert. Everyone loved the choreography and the animated performance.

Thursday Sarah Bricker brought the Brass Ensemble to perform. Edla Olson, one of our more musical ladies, looked especially captivated by the horns.

On Tuesday the Red Barn Gang came from Rexford for their annual Christmas concert. This unique group put on a fine show! Everyone looks forward to their coming. The oldest member of the group is 90. Several others are in their late 80s. It is truly amazing and so much fun to watch.

The weather cooperated on Thursday as seven of us went to Christmas Tea at Wheat Ridge Terrace. Lucy Schissler, Earl Brown, Opal Bryan, Faye Miller, David McGee and

Amy Rehm enjoyed the outing. Marcia Lohoeferer is such a gracious hostess and John Juenemann serenaded us with song.

Catholic services, held Thursday, attended by Hubert Mumm, Helen and Doris Marintzer, Loren Escher and Bonnie Weskamp.

After supper Cheryl Metcalf brought her students for a piano recital. Their families joined the residents to make an impressive audience.

On Friday, Pastor Heidi Wiebe officiated at communion service. This is always a meaningful service for the residents.

Our week ended with the STARS Committee hosting a popcorn sampler Social Hour on Friday.

Whew, what a week! Next week will be a little quieter, more reverent as we begin to worship the newborn King.

Merry Christmas from the Good Sam family!

Visitors this week were: Myrna Lacina, Westminster, Colo., and Charlene Karnes, Salina, for **Hazel Flaska**; Ron and Dixie Snyder, Colby, and Reva Marshall for **Dorothy Hunt**; Eunice Wenger for **Lora Zwickle**; Don and Joan Grafel, Herndon, and Todd Nelson for **Thelma Spiers**; Breck, Brian, Pam and Nathan Simonsson, Sharon Slabaugh and Eunice Wenger for **Opal Bryan**; Ken and Clem Mumm, Selden/Colby; Eleanor Rogers, Selden; Don Rogers, New Mexico for **Hubert Mumm**; Pat Cozad, Cynthia Haynes and Mary Lou Olson for **Doris Miller**; Elsie Wolters visited Elaine Thomas, Kathryn Post, Faye Miller, Elsie Macy and Dorothy Pryor; Marian Fraker for **Elsie Macy**.

Cedar Living Center News

We continue to have a wonderful holiday season at Cedar Living Center.

The Chanté group from Decatur Community High School gave a program of Christmas music on Monday afternoon. The group was under the direction of Susan Nelson and Mary Jo Lohoeferer was the accompanist.

Additional performers were Jaxen Alstrom singing a solo, and a duet by Mikaela Dorshorst and Cassidy Shields.

Mrs. Nelson returned on Wednesday afternoon with the DCHS Singers who also gave a program of Christmas music.

Everyone sang along to Christmas carols with Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack on Monday afternoon.

The Red Barn Gang of Rexford gave a great holiday program on Tuesday afternoon. They sang and played assorted musical instruments including a washboard and a toilet seat. At the end of the program they passed out little gifts to all of the residents.

We helped Mary Kolsky celebrate her birthday after the program. Ron and Patti Uehlin brought a birthday cake and Roberta Petracek donated the ice cream for the party.

Loyl Wilson received lots of cards in honor of his 85th birthday

on Wednesday. Family members brought in a pizza lunch at noon on Sunday.

Students from Oberlin Elementary School visited on Wednesday and sang carols.

Juanita Williby hosted the pinochle group on Wednesday. Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson.

The Red Hat Quilters visited at supper on Wednesday and sang carols.

Father Henry brought Communion for the Catholic residents Thursday.

Mildred Cochran won the first bingo on Thursday afternoon and Edie Pettera won the blackout game.

Barb Solko played Scrabble with

It looks like a white Christmas this year

It's Christmas and I must say if you wanted a white Christmas, you got it. If you didn't, well, enjoy it — the kids love it — snowmen, sledding, snowball fights. What fun!

Isn't that what it's all about, anyway? There's a kid in all of us. We just need to look a little deeper to find him or her.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas. And a very Happy New Year.

With more snow on the way, go build a snowman and enjoy it.

Wynemah Cox and Darlene Fisher on Thursday afternoon.

Tara Votapka hosted the baking group on Friday. They baked and ate cookies with mint chocolate chips.

Residents enjoyed a piano recital on Friday afternoon given by the students of Cheryl Metcalf. These young musicians did a great job of entertaining us.

The staff members of Cedar Living Center have received many holiday gifts this week from residents and their families and from other members of the community including plates of cookies and candies, boxes of fruit, and trays of meat and cheese. These have all been shared and enjoyed. Thank you to everyone who has helped to make our holiday

special.

Recent visitors: Elwood and Norine Bailey, Doyle and Kay Brown, Jennings; Dorothy Lee Smith, Tucson, Ariz.; John Tacha, Hays; Linda Bosler, Jerry Wolfram, Frank Cox, Bob and Julie Hafner, Herndon; Rita Miller, Byers, Colo.; Robert Koerperich, Selden; Margaret Stanley, Colby; Lloyd Harden, Goodland;

Lois Lamb, Elvin Beneda, Orlin Beneda, Miranda Long, Dolores Koerperich, Mildred Holmdahl, Frank Bennett, Earl Brown, Ella Betts, Regina Stanley, Jeanette Miller, Jon Fisher, Sandra Young, Ira Kolsky, Ron and Patti Uehlin, Danny Uehlin, Eunice Martin, Roxie Pomeroy, Oberlin.

View from the Chamber

By Jo Henderson, manager

I look forward to the new year and the new and exciting things to come. It has been an interesting three months.

I've learned a lot and know there's a lot more to learn. I'm looking forward to it. There's been a lot of

changes, and I'm sure there's more to come, and change is what makes life interesting.

Again, a very Merry Christmas to everyone.

See you on the sidewalk.

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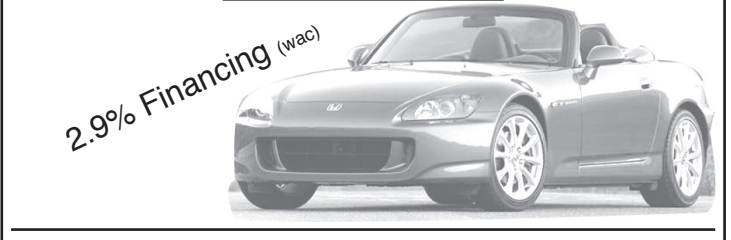
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