

THE OBERLIN HERALD

# Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

**125 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1883**

Vallonia: A wedding: Married at the residence of the bride's parents, Daniel Beal and Miss Mary E. McKague, all of Decatur County, Kansas. Rev. John Wilson officiating.

The Bassettville school, taught by Thomas Heming, closed yesterday, when a large number of patrons and visitors were present to witness closing exercises which embraced recitations and examinations in the several branches taught, also select reading and declarations.

Born to Mrs. S.J. Babcock, Tuesday, Jan. 30, a son.

Mail matter leaving this office at 7 a.m. arrives in Atchison the next day at 3 p.m.

Alice Bolin of Prairie Dog Township was severely scalded Thursday evening of last week by a kettle of water falling upon her from a stove.

The following is a list of the officers and privates of the Oberlin Militia:

L.G. Parker, 1st Lt; Homer D. Colvin, 1st sgt; James E. Bebe, 2nd sgt; Geo. F. Hodge, 3rd sgt; John Matteson, 1st corporal; Wm. A. Frasier, 2nd corporal; H.S. Dehart, 3rd corporal; and N.A. Cornish, 4th corporal;

privates: Ater, Bliss, Bebb, Beall, Butters, Keys, John Love, Wm. Love, Luttrell, Mead, Marks, Mix, McLains, Newsome, Reeder, Short and John F. Vale.

**100 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1908**

Oberlin is to have a department store. This week the Oberlin Mercantile Co. was organized with \$75,000 capital. Among the men included in the new enterprise are: H.A. Griffith, F.H. Smith, and J.E. Kulp, all of Oberlin. Hugo DeMuth of Topeka will be general manager and Valentine H. Griffith will be assisting manager.

The first thunderstorm of the season occurred Tuesday night. Our Italian skies changed last week to Minnesota winter.

Rev. Charles M. Sheldon has been scheduled for a lecture at Oberlin but owing to his wife's sickness the date had to be canceled.

Roy Chilson and wife will leave for the Pacific coast next Monday where they will spend a year sizing up the country.

Married Jan. 30: Floyd M. Hill of Center Township and Miss Mary

A. Taylor of Oldham, Lancaster, England.

**75 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1933**

The past four months have been the driest in history since the rainfall records were started back in 1887.

Frank Horky of Sappa Township killed a big fat porcupine last week which is something unusual for Decatur County. Walter Rezner brought it to Oberlin and exhibited it to many curious people who had never seen one before.

Funeral services were held in Jennings for Fred Erickson, 71, who came to Allison Township in 1886 and homesteaded the farm which he still owned at the time of his death.

Big Timber: Funeral services were held Jan. 24 for Joseph Pe-tracek, 73, at his home with the Rev. Oscar Brown of Hoxie officiating. He is survived by four sons, Adolph, Joseph, Emil and John of Jennings and three daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth Vavroch and Mrs. Clara Vavroch of Oberlin and Miss Anna of the home. He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Anna Cilek, in 1930.

Mr. and Mrs. W.O. Tice celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with an open house at their home southeast of Dresden the afternoon of Jan. 25 attended by 75 relatives and friends. Interspersed during the afternoon was the singing of old songs by Lawrence Carter, a grandson. The day was planned by their children, Grace Carter and Glenn Tice of Jennings; Ross Tice, Floyd Tice, Mrs. Ethel Kelley and Mrs. Sadie Smith of Dresden; and Charlie Tice of Oberlin. The couple was married Jan. 25, 1883, in Washington, D. C., at the home of Senator and Mrs. VanWyck of Nebraska City, Neb., by the Rev. Geo. VanWyck.

In one week Coach Sandy's Oberlin basketball team has defeated Hays High 25-12; Atwood, 38-18; and Norton 22-19. At Hays the game was played as a preliminary to the Hays College-College of Emporia game and it is said there were more than 2,000 spectators there.

Fred Rehm of Olive Township was in the office to know why he had said nothing about the boy born to he and Mrs. Rehm on Jan. 13. The young man has been given the name Roy Alfred and he and his mother

are getting along fine.

**50 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1958**

"Every day is a good day to shop in Oberlin" is the theme of the new retail promotion of the Oberlin Chamber of Commerce.

The Jennings High School Coyotes had to spring three upsets to win the CNWKL basketball tournament at Norcat last week. Coach Bill Nelson's squad won its fifth game in a row Tuesday night by whipping Rexford 49-44.

Robert J. Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brown, left yesterday for Omaha where he is receiving executive training for a position with the U.S. National Bank at Omaha.

Mrs. Gladys Miesner, postmaster, attended a school of instruction at Wichita Friday and Saturday.

Oberlin high school debaters missed by one speaker point the chance for a trip to the state tournament.

After a vacancy of two months, the Federated Church pulpit has been filled. Rev. Robert L. Clinagan and family arrived last Wednesday and he preached his first sermon Sunday.

**25 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1983**

Named as transportation supervisor for USD 294 is Ed Lignitz who was formerly employed with Halliburton Services and is a U.S. Air Force veteran with experience in supervision and motor pool.

## Chamber News

By Jo Henderson

Well, the Banquet is over, and I must say it was great fun. Paul Siebert was very entertaining and funny. I sincerely hope everyone had as good a time as I did. The Board and I would like to thank everyone who came. Also a big thank you to The Gateway staff for all their help. The food was delicious, [our compliments to the chef] and there was never an empty cup or glass. Again thank you.

The Farmers and Ranchers Appreciation Banquet is Saturday, Feb. 16. Anyone who is interested in supporting our Farmers/Ranchers is welcome and encouraged to make a donation, be it monetary, gift certificate, etc. it would be greatly appreciated.

Staff members at Decatur County Hospital and Long Term Care are learning to use the new MA-1 ventilator which has just arrived. It will be used by respiratory therapists and be available when needed for heart patients or accident victims. Hospital administrator Terry Hoffart stated that gifts from 17 memorials were combined to make possible the purchase of the ventilator.

Top honors in the NWKL wrestling tournament held at St. Francis on Saturday went to Oberlin with 161 points followed by Oakley with 128 and Goodland with 117. Ten DCHS squad members placed and five took firsts: Ray Cochran at 98 pounds; Andy Shobe at 112; Brent Simonsson at 119; Buck Matson at 145 and Dave Aker, heavyweight.

Hospital News: Jan. 27: Karen and Bradley Stouwie, Norcatur, daughter, Valerie Ann; Jan. 29: Harlan and Judy Call, Atwood, daughter, Jennifer Lyn; Loretta and James Sullivan, Oberlin, daughter, Mallory Niccole; Rebecca and Larry Ayers, Oberlin, daughter, Angela Marie.

With the beginning of the second semester at DCHS a new class was added. Ahmad Nasser who teaches two chemistry classes and an algebra class will be teaching two computer courses with the objective being to introduce students to the area of computer history, application and language.

Something else coming up soon is the Pancake feed fundraiser put on by the Decatur County Museum. This will be held on Saturday, Feb. 9, from 5-9 p.m. so get out of the house, have a nice dinner, [pancakes & ham], meet some friends and have a nice evening. It's for a good cause. Also don't forget the national football championship game drawing. Boxes are in the stores now and I have quite a nice goody basket going.

It looks like the weather is going to be great for the weekend, a spring teaser I think, so get outside and enjoy!

See you on the sidewalk

## Good Samaritan News

This week I walked into a resident's room to invite her to an activity. Her response was "You go on without me, I'm not good for anything anymore, I just want to go and be with the Lord" My heart sank as I looked into the sad eyes of one of my most beloved residents. What words could I say to encourage and convey her worth and importance to my life as well as others? My job is to provide activity programming that brings meaning and purpose to the lives of those we serve...have I missed something?

As I did find the words to encourage her, the sadness left her eyes and she did join me for the activity, but, statements like those remind me of the importance of finding activities that are varied and relevant. These people don't want a bunch of mindless things to do; they need to be needed and challenged. They need to know that their lives still matter and that they have not been forgotten

Loneliness and depression can creep in and is a very real threat to

the health and well being of those who live here. If you know someone here and it has been a while since you have come, I'd like to encourage you to do so. Entertaining guests brings such joy and means more than you could imagine.

As I reviewed the calendar for the week I was comforted in knowing that there were many activities filled with purpose and meaning. The following is just a small sampling of what went on this week.

Living History is a way to keep our minds filled with new experiences dealing with past and present things. Anita used a Video Magazine called Sentimental Reflections that promotes a sense of Arm Chair Travel, taking the residents to places they have never been. First hand Friends visited on Tuesday to read to their special friends.

Bingo is a favorite staple activity that can't be missed; it is definitely a keeper! Wednesday the Royal Neighbors helped us celebrate the January birthdays with yummy homemade pie. Musician Paul

Seibert came from Aurora, Neb., and performed on his dulcimer for us on Thursday. We so appreciate the talents others come to share with us. Friday, Pooch and Mae shared a birthday, so we celebrated again! Saturday, pizza and poker ended the week's activity. Hopefully there is something that everyone can enjoy. No matter the programming, the most important thing is that each one knows that they are loved and valued. In Christ's Love everyone is Someone!

Recent visitors were: Mert McEvoy for **Lucy Schissler**. Mildred Black, Penny Fringer, Reva Marshall and Ron and Dixie Snyder for **Dorothy Hunt**. Sharon Slabaugh and Doris Fringer for **Lora Zwickle**. **Opal Byran** was visited by Brian, Pam, Breck and Nathan Simonsson, Eunice Richards and Sharon Slabaugh. Connie Simonsson, Coleen Gee for **Amy Rehm**. Barbara Castor for **Elaine Thomas**. Eunice Richards

for **Earl Brown**. Helen Brooks and Shelby Hackney for **Ethel Nemeth**. Deb Farr and Levi Nichols (North Platte) for **Ruth Laidig**. Eleanor Rogers (Selden), Alberta Ritter, Anogene Rogers (Rexford), Delores Raile (Hoxie) Clem and Ken Mumm (Selden/Colby) Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem) for **Hubert Mumm**. Regina and Wally Hendrickson (Adrian, Mo.) and Nikki and Wyatt Amlong (Palco) for **Ruby Wennihan**. Steve and Linda Smith (Atwood) for **Dorothy Pryor**. Don and Joan Grafel for **Thelma Spiers**. Chris Wood, Voni Sattler and Beth Chartier for **Pooch Portschy**. Norma Richards for **Mae Guy**. Daisy Rhein for **Jeanette Conway**. Gladys Geis and Doris Fringer for **Kathryn Post**. Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem) for **Doris Marintzer**. Arian and Steve Arnold (Herndon) for **Edla Olson**. Gail and Kay Marcason and Norma Richards for **John and Muriel Ready**.

## Lyle News

By Veda Wood

The Lyle sewing group met Tuesday morning at the Community Building, then went to the Cardinal Bar and Grill for lunch to help Joyce Sumner celebrate her Jan. 1 birthday. They returned to their sewing after lunch. Those attending were Joyce Sumner, Eleanor Jensen, June Jolly, Kathy Van Meter, Margaret Magers and Veda Wood.

David Huff of Hays visited his parents, Earnest and Donna Huff, last week.

June Jolly's son, Carroll, and Ron Weis came Thursday. They went to see her daughter, Linda and Dennis McFarland and met LaVeda and Louis McFarland. On Friday they ate at the Looking Glass. On Sunday, Dean and Rhonda Jolly, their daughter's family, Mike, Jennifer, Jack Baker and Taylor, Megan and Les McFarland, and Butch and Barbara Jolly visited at the home of Mrs. Jolly.

Toots Magers and June Jolly went to Norton Sunday evening.

Windy Farr was released from the hospital and is much better.

Kylie Gruwell, little daughter of Adrienne Vacura, was ill with ear infection and pneumonia, but is improving. She is the granddaughter of Carol and John Moye and is spending a few days with Carol while Adrienne works.

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## Cedar Living News

Don Meints is a new resident at Cedar Living Center.

The ZCBJ Lodge hosted the January birthday party on Monday afternoon in the dining room. Lodge members served ice cream sundaes and cookies to residents, staff, and guests. Dell Pomeroy and Darlene Fisher were the honored guests and they each received a gift from the Lodge.

Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack led the sing-along time on Monday afternoon.

Fern Moore hosted the reading group on Tuesday morning.

Clarence Sattler won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Elwood Mines won the blackout game.

Juanita Williby hosted the pinochle players on Wednesday afternoon. She served cupcakes after the game.

Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson on Wednesday afternoon.

The poker group met with Sam Mack on Wednesday evening.

Father Henry Saw Lone gave the Catholic Mass on the patio on Thursday morning. Barb Solko played Scrabble with Wynemah Cox and Velda Ward on Thursday afternoon.

The bowlers met for a game on Thursday afternoon including Helena Bruggeman, Naomi Carter,

Mildred Cochran, Elsie Goodnight, Mary Kolsky, and John Schuhart. Ira Kolsky and Lyle Gamblin also played. Zola Brown, Edie Pettera, and Delores Wheeler watched the game. Following the game the group enjoyed homemade pumpkin bread with cream cheese topping provided by Teresa Shaughnessy in honor of Activity Professionals' Week.

The baking group had a good time making and eating applesauce drop doughnuts on Friday afternoon.

The Oberlin United Church hosted the Sunday worship service on the Cedar Living Center patio.

Recent visitors: Wava Reame, Norcatur; Frank Cox, Chris Wood, Voni Sattler, Linda Bosler, Herndon; Rose Domsch, Atwood; Pastor Carrie Buhler, Doyle and Kay Brown, Jennings; John Tacha, Lawrence; Peg Smith, McCook; Pastor Judi Stricker, Hill City; Rick and Tammy Shaw, Selden.

Alice Shirley, Ila Ray, Jeanne Isbell, Opal Huntley, Jess Elwood, Marian Thornton, Melanie Anderson, Jon, Ana and Spencer Wishon, Elvin Beneda, Orlin Beneda, Ella Betts, Regina Stanley, Eunice Martin, Denise Abbey, Charlotte Meints, Roxie Pomeroy, Oberlin.

## Decatur Health Systems

By Othelia Vacura

The Diabetic Support Group is scheduled to meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 7 in the lobby of the new specialty clinic addition. Chief Executive Officer Lynn Doeden will give a presentation on the search for new specialty doctors to serve our community, and Education Nurse Tammi Ritter will show a video on diabetic care. Diabetic friendly snacks will be served following the meeting. We were honored that the Kansas Hospital Association featured our Diabetic Support Group in the Jan. 18 issue of the *Current Report*.

We cordially invite the public to the open house for the new specialty clinic addition at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 10. Be sure to take a tour and get acquainted with what we have to offer when you utilize the specialty doctors at our facility.

Refreshments will be served.

Our facility is now officially tobacco free. All designated smoking areas outside our buildings have been eliminated.

No smoking will be allowed anywhere on our campus, inside or out, including the parking lot. It is our responsibility as a health organization to protect the health and well being of the public, and eliminating tobacco use of any kind on our premises is a positive step in that direction.

Friday Feb. 1 is National Wear Red Day. Each year the American Heart Association asks the public to wear red on this day to bring awareness to women's heart health. Decatur Health Systems employees will support this national movement by celebrating a casual "Wear Red" day.

## Herndon News

By Voni Sattler

Janice Sattler and Bob and Julie Hafner attended the funeral of Tom Mowry at Colby last Saturday. He was the husband of Marge (Huffles) Mowry. All three were visitors of their aunt, Edie Pettera, last weekend. Recent visitors of Bob and Julie Hafner were the Joe Hafner family of Scottsbluff, Neb., and Jason Hafner and Raquel Frerichs, Lexington, Neb.

Sharon Ecker, Sharon Frick, Vicky Mumm and Julie Hafner attended the Christian Women's Brunch in McCook last Friday. The Luke-Ham-Sandwich Family Band of Longmont, Colo., entertained. The children learned fiddle by the age of 6. The family travels and entertains over 200 times a year while promoting a Christian message through a variety of music.

Visitors of Esther Pennington the past week were Voni Sattler, and Brad, Deanna and Kassidi Williams.

Chris Wood and Voni Sattler visited Edie Pettera and Clarence

Sattler at Cedar Living Center in Oberlin on Friday. They also went to the Good Samaritan Center to help Pooch Portschy celebrate his 85th birthday and also visited several other residents. Beth and Frank Hraha brought a birthday cake for all to enjoy.

Alan Hartner of Wheat Ridge, Colo., Misty Hartner of Salina and Michelle Hartner of Colby were in Herndon over the weekend visiting friends and relatives.

This year's officers of the Herndon Alumni Association are Tom Franke, president; Eileen Unger, vice president, and Dave Ketterl, secretary-treasurer. They met Sunday. The Alumni Banquet will be held Saturday, May 24, at St. Mary's Hall.

Bob and Julie Hafner visited their aunt, Edie Pettera this past week at Cedar Living Center in Oberlin. On Sunday, they had dinner at the Sacred Heart annual smorgasbord in Atwood and enjoyed the carnival which followed.

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## Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will be providing supplemental funds for the community benefit hog roast for Mike (Possum) Tacha. The benefit will be held from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on Saturday at the Sunflower Senior Center. Mike was injured in a farm accident several months ago. Donations of baked goods for the food sale; also salad and/or dessert donations for the hog roast meal would be greatly appreciated.

Keith and Helen Muirhead went to Salina to visit their daughter Tamala Schultz and Kolten. They also went to watch Kolten play basketball. They helped Tamala do some painting. On the way home they enjoyed one of their Dance Club dances at Hays.

Wayne and Louise Cressler enjoyed visiting at the home of their son, Russell Cressler in Bison Sunday. Others visiting also were: Robert Cressler, Trenton and Zachary;

Amber and Johnny Klassen, Keith, Landon, Issac and Leah from La-Crosse.

Frances Bader will be filing tax returns free for low to middle income families, sponsored by AARP Tax Aide. Contact Frances at (785) 678-2659.

Sunflower Senior potluck supper will be held the evening of Tuesday, Feb. 12, at 6 p.m. Bingo will be played following the meal. Come join us. Bring a \$3 bingo prize with you.

City Council will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 7 in the Senior Center.

United Methodist Women will meet at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 6. Roll Call is "One who touched your heart." The program, Pledge Service, will be given by Rachel Carter and devotions by Louise Cressler. Glenda Johnson is hostess. Bring your Pledge offering with you.