

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1883

The Moody building sold last Saturday at sheriff sale for \$350. F.H. Smith being the purchaser.

Everton Doom made final purchase on his homestead last Friday.

J.C. Duncan who lives on the divide eight miles north of Clayton raised 1200 bushels of corn on 60 acres.

New Improvements:

The new schoolhouse is of frame, 28x28, two stories high, two rooms below and one above.

Capt. J.W. Allen's new residence north of the Presbyterian Church is 17x28, two stories, with kitchen addition, 14x16, four rooms on first floor; three above.

Rev. John Wilson's new residence is 14x28, with addition 11x25, five rooms.

100 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1908

Charles Frickey moved his family to the Deupree farm last week and will try farming along with his elevator business for a while.

The U.S. Land Office at Colby has been discontinued and the books and records shipped to Topeka.

If anyone has a hankering to live out in the great west they should take a day off and visit with Andy Feaster of Bassettville Township.

Otis L. Benton returned home from Topeka Monday where he had gone to visit his daughter, Pansy, who is in the hospital there. She is expected to be well enough to return home in a couple of weeks.

75 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1933

Decatur County's full quota of men as now allowed under the Civil Works Administration has been placed on the payroll and put to work according to Mrs. Cilek, county poor commissioner. Although more than 600 applied, the county quota is 288 and the state administrator is hoping to get the number enlarged.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Nemeth and children have moved to the house at 111 North Cass and are nicely settled at this time.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank McMullen and sons, Jack and Melvin, came from Wichita Falls, Texas, to spend Thanksgiving with Mr. and Mrs. Will McMullen and other relatives.

Prospects are good for a good wrestling squad at DCHS according to coach William Huey. Several lettermen are back including Barrett, Norton, VanVleet, Wilson, McCartney and Hackney.

Santa Claus will be making a

personal visit to Oberlin Saturday afternoon with gifts for all children. In addition, the business men have rented the opera house for the afternoon and will be showing free movies from 1 to 6 o'clock for both children and adults.

Fairview and Summit: There were 71 out to Sunday School Sunday and new officers were elected. James Vernon, supt.; Albert Harold, asst.; Delbert Way, secy-treas.; Clyde Berry, assistant; Gladys Lunkenheimer, pianist, Myra Shaw, assistant; Gladys Smith, song leader, Nellie Hoppas and Vera Harold, assistants.

Lloyd Maggard was the honor guest at a surprise party given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jay Jordan Friday evening and planned by Miss Olive Jordan.

50 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1958

Completion has been made on a bridge which spans Sappa Creek on the Rexford Road located 10 miles west and 8 miles south of Oberlin near the Earl Brown farm. The project cost more than \$27,000 and was financed by federal and state money.

The year 1958-59 will be remembered as the year when every crop production record was broken and the grain surplus supply shoots up.

New arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Hisey, son, Michael Scott; 12-8-58; Mr. and Mrs. Paulie Neff, daughter, Juanita Susan, 12-7-58; Mr. and Mrs. Thaine Emahizer, Ludell, son, 12-7-58; Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson, son, Brian Neil, 12-9-58; Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Chambers, Norcatur, son, Darrel Dean, 12-5-58; Mr. and Mrs. Hughie Pollnow, Cedar Bluffs, daughter, Kay Louise, 12-7-58 at McCook Hospital; Mr. and Mrs. Max Carman, Goodland, son, Mark Ward, 12-8-58. at Goodland Hospital.

School News: A New Year's Eve party is being planned by the senior class at DCHS to be held at the Masonic Temple and alumni are invited.

Hill City edged away in the last quarter of a tight basketball game to down the Red Devils 55-50. Rathbun scored 18 points with Richards and Grose each scoring 9 in the non-conference tilt.

Stan Chapin who played football for DCHS and graduated in 1953 has been named the best grid player on the All-Sea football team which represents the navy, marine and coast guard. He played for the Cape May N.J. Coast Guard station. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Chapin, report that two colleges have offered

both Stan and his wife full tuition to complete school.

Hospital News: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fraker, son, Steven Ray, 12-10-58; Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Grumbein, daughter, Rosemarie Ann, 12-10-58.

Traer: Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. George Leitner on the arrival of a baby girl Monday morning at the McCook Hospital. She will be called Julie Ann.

25 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1983

120th District State Representative Mike Hayden, Atwood, made a visit to Oberlin to meet with county commissioners and give them an inside look into the next legislative session.

Allied, Inc., of Hays, was given the contract by Oberlin City Council for the street paving and drainage work in east Oberlin.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Gawith, Dresden, announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter Donna to Freddie Lamm, son of Mr. and Mrs. H.S. Lamm of Boonville, Mo. The bride-to-be is a graduate of Jennings High School, Colby Community College and Kansas State University and is employed at the Thomas County Herald. Her fiance holds degrees from the University of Missouri and is employed at the KSU Colby branch experiment station as a re-

search agricultural engineer. A Dec. 31 wedding is being planned.

New Arrivals: Chris and Jim Fall, daughter, Tessa Jean, Dec. 8, 1983; Lynn and Donna Groneweg, son, George Eric, Dec. 6, 1983; John and Karen Bastin, Salina, daughter, Kristin Ann at Asbury Hospital, Nov. 24, 1983; Larry and Sandra Wofram, Liberal, at Southwest Medical Center, son, Lyle Martin, Dec. 8, 1983; Lawrence and Mary Marshall, Hugo, Colo., daughter, Jamie Lynn, Dec. 4, 1983 at Norton County Hospital.

The DCHS girls basketball team coached by Duane Dorshorst downed St. Francis 48-43 in their first league win. High scorers were Robyn Russell, 15; Diana Horn, 12 and Kristin Richards, 11. The Red Devils boys coached by Dan Buchanan nipped Sainty 60-58 for their first league win. Marquis Sauvage was high point man with 18 points and 14 rebounds while Jim Berkheimer had 12 points and Tom Berkheimer 14.

An open house on Sunday will honor Ed Sorrel on his 100th birthday. He has been a resident of Good Samaritan Center since its opening in 1957.

Six DCHS students exchanged places with six Colby High School students for a day to compare classroom procedures and a different academic atmosphere.

Chamber News

By Tina Watson

Hello from the Chamber,

We are getting closer to Christmas. Stores are staying open on Sundays. The decorations that light up the streets and highways of Oberlin are beautiful at night.

It must have been hard putting the decorations up along the highway light poles, with the wind that we got. However, they are beautiful. A big thank you to all of those who are behind the scenes.

This month, the Coffee Hour will be at The Gateway civic center from 9 to 11 a.m. on Friday. The Chamber is putting together a coffee schedule for the upcoming year. If you would like to sponsor one, just give the office a call and let me know what month you want.

Saturday will be a big day here in Oberlin. *The Oberlin Herald* will have their "Christmas on Us" drawing at the gazebo at 11 a.m. Then over at the Business Enhancement Entrepreneurial (BEE) building,

the Oberlin Business Alliance will have a soup lunch from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The Oberlin United Methodist Women will be at the Golden Age Center for a Christmas Cookie Party from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Santa will be at the courthouse from 12:30 to 2 p.m., then at 2 p.m. the alliance will have a drawing at the gazebo.

The Chamber membership drive is still going on. If you would like to become a member of the Chamber or the alliance, and you did not get a letter, just call or come by the Chamber office. We would be happy to help.

Oh, and a reminder! It is not too late to get your Santa Bucks. They are still available at the office.

Merry Christmas, Everyone!

Drop us a line at Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce, 104 S. Penn, Oberlin, Kan., 67749; phone (785) 475-4331, or fax (785) 475-2128, dcacc@eaglecom.net

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Al Schuhart who passed away at Cedar Living Center on Friday.

We have returned to a normal schedule at Cedar Living Center after a weeklong visit from the flu bug. This is just in time for a flurry of holiday activities planned for this week. We are expecting programs by the vocal music students at Decatur Community High School, the children from Faith Lutheran Church, John Juenemann, and the Red Barn Band, to name a few.

The residents are also preparing for our Family Christmas Party, which will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 21. The afternoon will include music, a visit from Santa, and multiple trays of Christmas treats. Visitors are welcome to spend the afternoon with us.

Dr. Elizabeth Sliter hosted the annual cookie decorating party in the Cedar Living Center dining room

on Saturday afternoon. Residents, staff, and several children joined in the fun of frosting and decorating hundreds of gingerbread and sugar cookies. All of the cookies were baked and donated by Dr. Sliter. Everyone had a great time.

Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler of the Faith Lutheran Church gave the Sunday Worship Service.

Dennis Brown of the Forget-Me-Nots donated fresh fruit purchased from the FFA to the residents at Cedar Living Center. We are always appreciative of the many acts of kindness that Dennis provides for the residents.

Recent visitors were Lillian Sulzmann, Dresden; Carol Kompus, Linda Bosler, Herndon.

Jackie Votapka, Paula Tadlock, Alysha Tadlock, Dolores Koerperich, Elwood May, Connie Olson, Miriam Fisher, Shelli Fortin, Eunice Richards, Ira Kolosky, Max and Veanna Carman, Oberlin.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

With temperatures below zero Monday morning, the weather is the big news. Only a skiff of snow fell here Sunday.

Christmas Eve Candlelight services will be held at 5 p.m. at the Jennings United Methodist Church and at 6:30 p.m. at the Dresden Church.

Brett McKenna graduated from Kansas State University with a degree in Agri-business on Saturday. Those attending included his parents, Mike and Joan McKenna, Jennings; Rebecca Peterson and Henry, DeMotte, Indiana; Amy McKenna, Nick Lynch, and Brian Lynch, Overland Park; Jean Lynch, Shawnee; Doug Osborn, Kansas City, Mo.; and Tracey Weber, Roy and Susan Weber, Clafin. A reception was held for Brett following the commencement.

Saturday was a fun day in Jennings. The Lions Club served chili and vegetable soup from from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Community Hall. Santa arrived at 1:30 p.m. The children met him at the door and escorted him in. Every child received a sack of candy and visited with him. The sacks of candy were purchased by the City of Jennings and the Lions Club. A drawing followed with everyone, whose name was registered, receiving a gift certificate or present. Jerry McKenna won the gun drawing. We would like to thank each and everyone who donates to make this event possible.

Reminder: City water meters will be read Friday, Dec. 19, weather

permitting. If you have news for next week, you need to get it to me by Thursday, Dec. 18. The paper is being printed early.

The Heritage Associates of Jennings held its meeting at the Czech Museum on Dec. 4. Neoma Tacha conducted the meeting with directors Larry Mizer, Mary Wahlmeier, Lawrence and Lila Jennings, Bob Tacha, and Dean Gawith present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved and the treasurer's report given. The year's electric bills for the museum and the Shimmick building were reviewed. The new windows for the Shimmick building are still on order.

We now have a Jennings Centennial Book for sale along with other items. The "Wreath Across America" project for the veterans' graves has gone well at Jennings. We want to thank everyone who helped in any way with preparing them for the Jennings and Big Timber cemeteries. There were many who helped with taking them and setting them up in the cemeteries. The Jennings American Legion members had a nice ceremony at each cemetery on Saturday morning. They will remain in the cemeteries until after the first of the new year.

The next meeting will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 8. Our annual meeting will be in February with election of directors. The regular meeting will follow it with the election of officers for 2009.

Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

It is Christmas all around and the countdown has officially begun. Each day the residents look forward to some sort of celebration as we anticipate the birthday of our Savior.

In Bible study on both Wednesday and Thursday, we have become more intimately acquainted with the events, the culture and the people God chose to surround this tiny infant King, gaining a richer understanding of the true meaning of the season. Fourteen ladies faithfully come each week to encircle the Quiet Room where we join hands, share prayer requests, joys, sorrows, God's Word and memories of the Christmas traditions of their families and their heritage.

Mrs. Henningson's first grade class came all bundled up with red noses and rosy cheeks to share a story and bring a gift to their First Hand Friends. They received a gift in exchange and when it was time to say goodbye, warm, smiling faces poked out of hooded jackets ready to make the cold trek back to school. These simple little visits

brighten the days for the residents and keep them chatting and cheerful all day long.

On Wednesday evening, the residents joined the staff as we all enjoyed a Family Christmas Party including horse-drawn hayrack rides to see the Christmas lights, a silly gift exchange and a visit from Santa Claus!

On Friday, we hosted a Christmas Tea for our friends from Wheat Ridge Terrace. It is a wonderful thing to get ready for company. Myrtle Ross made muffins while Alice Bobbitt and Evelyn Olson frosted cookies to serve our guests. Ruby Shuler set the tables and Jeanette Conway wiped down the chairs.

Everything was clean and pretty, just right for our celebration. Anita Hirsch led some singing and Lisa Paulson read the story, "A Cup of Christmas Tea," but the best part of the morning was the hugs and conversation shared between dear friends.

After the party, Don Stapp swept

the crumbs from under the tables leaving nothing for "Ollie" who also likes to help with the clean-up.

Later in the day, the staff had another party, this time to recognize their years of service. Part of the success we have as a facility is the longevity of our employees. This is a wonderful place to live and also to work. Many employees have been here for 10 years or more with Kyle Hartzog, and Loretta McFee over 20 years! Wow!

Wishing you Christmas Blessings!

Visitors this week were Jim Rogers (Selden) and Shawna Naranje (North Platte, Neb.) Eleanor Rogers (Selden) Delores Raile (Hoxie) Ken Mumm (Selden) Cleam and Pat Mumm, (Colby) and Alberta Ritter

for Hubert Mumm. Reva Marshall, Penny Fringer, and Ron Snyder (Colby) for Dorothy Hunt. Chris Dempewolf (Norcatur) for R.D. Thornton, Pooch Portsch and John Ready. Goldie Stapp and Janelle Morel for Don Stapp. Julia Otter for Leone Porsch. Daisy Rhein for Jeanette Conway. Jim Rogers (Selden) and Shawna Naranje (North Platte, Neb.) for Alice Bobbitt. Eunice Richards for Lucy Schissler and Earl Brown. Esther Ready (New York) for John and Muriel Ready. Brian, Pam and Nathan Simonsson for Opal Bryan. Helen Brooks for Ethel Nemeth. Gladys Geis for Kathryn Post and Nadine Anderson. Ralph and Norma Unger for Leo Mooty, Earl Brown and Lucy Schissler.

Selden News

By Jacque Boultinghouse

Saturday and Sunday evenings will be Christmas Light night in Selden. Everyone should have their lights on by 6 p.m. so everyone can drive around and view the lights.

On Thursday at Senior Citizens, Paulie Neff won high, Lola Cook took second, Gail Mumm and Jeanie Spresser tied for low and Alfred Albers had the most tens.

Other members present included Edna Schiltz, Anna Albers and Betty James.

Birthdays and anniversaries:

Dec. 19 - Renee Bruggeman Filmore, Chad Focke, Avery Spresser, Ben and Christa Wessel. Dec. 20 - Stephanie Ritter, David Neff. Dec. 21 - Troy Emigh. Dec. 22 - Pat Wessel. Dec. 24 - Curtis Carman, Mitzi Wachendorfer.

New Books added on Dec. 7 at the Selden Library were "ADog Named Christmas," by Greg Kincaid; "Dashing Through the Snow," by Mary Higgins Clark and Carol Higgins Clark. Large Print: "Joelle's Secret," by Gilbert Morris.

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