

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1884

The mails on the various stage lines centering here were more or less delayed by the heavy snow storm, and on one or two routes wagons had to be abandoned and the mail brought thru on horseback. The Central branch was blocked one day.

Dan Beal has been duly installed as chief clerk at Coard & Douglass' drug store.

Postmaster Hallowell was circulating a petition Monday praying for the establishment of a mail route between Oberlin and North, Platte, Neb., via McCook.

December business at the Oberlin Land Office: 103 homestead entries, 74 timber entries, 20 final homestead proofs, 66 cash proofs, 8 soldiers' declaratory statements, 1 final timber-culture entry.

100 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1909

H.A. Griffith and F.H. Smith returned from St. Louis Wednesday where they had been looking after business affairs for the Oberlin Mercantile Company.

Vallonia Items: C.C. Uehlin, Eugene Coulter and Bert Ewing all have corn to husk yet which they failed to get done last year.

Those two jolly preachers, Rev. Van Cleave and Rev. Everett were entertaining callers at this office Monday. They are a hard pair to beat.

75 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1934

The worst is over. At least the driest year in the history of rainfall records at Oberlin has just passed into history and the year 1934 with a total of only 10.61 inches of rainfall holds the unenviable title of the driest year on record. During the past year rains were very spotted in different communities of the county. If the government gauge had been located somewhere out in Sappa Township 12 to 15 miles northeast of Oberlin the record would probably have been 4 or 5 inches higher than it was at Oberlin.

Reports from family members tell of the continued improvement in the condition of Geo. Watkins, 15-year-old high school boy who was accidentally shot while hunting a week ago. He is still in the local hospital where he underwent an operation the day after the accident.

Charles E. Hawkes, superintendent of the Oberlin super system, is expected to be back in Oberlin after the New Year for the first time since the first week of October. He is obliged to wear one of those uncomfortable steel collars, but is extremely happy, as is everybody in the community, that he will again be able to be out some.

Dresden: This community suffered a severe loss in the deaths of Mr. and Mrs. D.B. Beckwith, the husband's death coming only four days after Mrs. Beckwith. Both had been in poor health for some time. The couple came to Kansas from Iowa in 1891 and settled on a farm southeast of Dresden. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this last September.

50 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1959

Winter made a rude entrance Saturday with near-blizzard conditions. Road conditions throughout the state prevented many holiday visitors from returning home Sunday.

Fire gutted the Fifth Wheel Cafe at the intersection of Highways 83 and 36 at 4 a.m. Sunday causing more than \$10,000 damage. The all-night cafe was declared a total loss. Ward Sauvage owns the cafe and the adjacent Sauvage Gas Co., and Audrey Carlson leases the cafe.

The county commission has announced that Elmer Zodrow has been placed in charge of the county highway department effective Jan. 1 replacing county engineer Don Claussen. Claussen resigned in November after 12 years to accept a position with H. & H. Wholesale Supply of Wichita.

Clayton: Funeral services were

held at the E.U.B. Church for Mrs. Katie Gallentine, 92, who was born in Fayette County, Penn., and came to Kansas to a farm northwest of Clayton with her husband, Elmer, in 1893. She is survived by seven children.

Mr. Stork was busy in '59. Announced in the pages of *The Herald* during the year 1959 were 170 births with boy infants outnumbering the girls by 90 to 80.

Courthouse News: James R. Marshall and Reva E. Snyder, both of Oberlin, were issued a marriage license Dec. 24 and were married that evening by Judge George Nellans.

It has been reported that No. 1 Anderson D well in Prairie Dog township has been set by the state at 99 barrels per day.

25 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1984

Top news of 1984 as reported by

Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

Another year is just about behind us, and time for those New Year's resolutions to start in. Mine last year was to eat healthier than I had been. For the most part, I did a good job, except when I would work at my other part time job and I would have to have more desserts than I really needed. I'm not sure what 2010's will be yet.

It appears winter has set in to stay for awhile. I left the office early last Wednesday to finish my shopping before the storm got too bad, then I stayed home until Sunday evening. I had not spent four days straight at home for years, but it was actually a nice vacation from all the running. I had quite a house full of people part of the time, and this morning it was almost too quiet.

I don't know of many events going on other than the Chamber Annual Meeting and Banquet coming up Thursday, Jan. 14. in the west

the Oberlin Herald staff:

1. Weather, whether it be snow, rain or drouth, brought front page news in one form or another during 1984. Snowfall reached 80 inches compared to an average of 25; late summer drouth was followed by rains which delayed fall harvest.

2. Wheat harvest is one of the worst on record.

3. Financial status of banks drop over six-month period.

4. Heroic acts of Wally Jensen and of children of Candy May saves lives.

5. Voters pass one-cent county sales tax; Jennings voters repeal intangible tax.

6. Utility expenses require water and electrical rate hikes.

7. Bill Kincaid retires as county engineer; Mike Gawith moves to Stockton to head ASCS post.

8. Traffic accidents in county claim five lives.

room of the Golden Age Center. The Chamber board members and I are searching for individuals to serve on the Chamber board. We need two people.

The board meets once a month, the second Thursday of each month, for approximately two hours. At the events during the year, members are asked to help with various responsibilities which are divided among all 10 board members.

If you would be willing to help support the Chamber in this way, please contact this office at 475-3441.

Our membership dues have been coming in to meet the 10 percent discount deadline. Also remember for new members (individual and business), there is a 25 percent discount for the first year membership fee.

Stay warm and safe, and have a Happy New Year!!

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Our deepest sympathies to the family of Lora Marietta, 22, whose funeral was held Saturday afternoon at St. John's Lutheran Church in Oberlin.

Our sympathies also go out to the family of Helen Derby, 90, whose funeral was held Tuesday, Dec. 29, in Dresden.

Rebecca May, Lawrence, daughter of Ernest May and granddaughter of Martin and Evelyn May, graduated Dec. 12 from Kansas University with a Masters of Science degree in education with a major in exercise science. She recently accepted a job in Cardiac Rehabilitation in Austin, Texas, which will begin in January.

Jennifer Shaw and Casey Harshman, Emporia, arrived Tuesday to spend Christmas with her parents, Richard and Anna Shaw.

Paul and Kelly Shields, Tyler, Cassidy, and Caitlin, were Christmas Eve guests of Gaylord and Shirley Shields.

Susan May, Ryan and Erin, spent Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

with her parents, Gerald and Darlene Schaffer of Hoxie. Also attending were Susan's sister, Sharon Mason, Maddy and Zoe, of Kansas City, Mo.

Jeff and Kimberly Wickersham, Calvin and Cason, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Greta Wendelin, Lawrence; Rory Wendelin, Seward, Neb.; Wayne and Lois Larson, Norman and Joanne Wendelin, Brad Larson, and Colby Larson were Christmas Eve guests of Craig and Karen Larson. Zane and Gladys Geis visited earlier that day at the Larson home.

Christmas Eve dinner guests of Ralph and Violet Shaw were Steve and Susan Nelson and Makenzie, Richard and Anna Shaw, Jennifer Shaw and Casey Harshman, and Joel and Tami Shaw and Dante.

Jeff and Kimberly Wickersham, Calvin and Cason, were Christmas Day dinner guests of Craig and Karen Larson.

Christmas Day brunch guests of Joel and Tami Shaw and Dante were her parents, Norman and Julie

Gallentine, and brother, Gary and Tracey Gallentine of Titusville, Fla.

Christmas Day dinner guests of Ralph and Violet Shaw were Richard and Anna Shaw, Jennifer Shaw, and Casey Harshman.

Jerry and Connie Olson, Kelly Olson, Manhattan, and Stean Olson, Hays, were Christmas Day dinner guests of Justin and Wendy Scott, Garrett and Gage.

Jack Fortin, Charles Fortin, Janice Cundiff, and Marvin May were Christmas Day dinner guests of Martin and Evelyn May.

John and Edith Tate were Christmas Day dinner guests of Jay and Becky Tate, Dakota, Mollie, and Grace.

Walter and Betty May were Christmas Day dinner guests of Dan Nedland and Rhonda May, Cameron, Hunter, and Elizabeth.

Kristen Bremer and Dwayne Bray, Colby, were Christmas Eve dinner guests of John and Dianne Bremer and Jessica.

John and Dianne Bremer and

Jessica were Christmas Day dinner guests of Herschel and Jody Betts, and Christmas Day supper guests of Alice May. Kristen Bremer was out of town and unable to attend.

Jay and Becky Tate, Dakota, Mollie, and Grace, visited their grandmother, Lois Carlson, Saturday evening, and enjoyed a belated Christmas together.

Ralph and Norma Unger were Saturday evening visitors of Ryan and Darci Unger and family of St. Francis for a belated family Christmas.

Delayne May, Danica and Nolan, Lawrence, attended funeral services of Lora Marietta Saturday afternoon. Delayne and Danica returned home after the funeral but Nolan remained in Oberlin to spend a few more days visiting family before returning home.

Members of St. John's Lutheran Church thoroughly enjoyed a open house at the home of Gaylord and Shirley Shields Sunday afternoon to celebrate the Christmas season.

Stef and Adrian Hawkins, Dallas, on Dec. 20, and J.L. and Lauri Fox, Valley Center on Christmas Eve with son, T.J. Schmidt and friend, Alana Arena of Wichita. Christmas Day, after a four-hour drive from Hays, Kenny and Chris Hosaka of Atlanta, Ga., joined the family. J.L. and Brian braved the weather to pick up Grandma Wilma Bobinmyer of Cedar Living Center on Christmas morning to spend the day. Saturday, John Hahn with sons, Trent and Ashton, and friend Samantha, Garden City, came to spend several days with the family.

A Blessed New Year!

Decatur Health Systems

By Othelia Vacura

The Diagnostic Imaging Department is excited to announce they have received their mammography accreditation. Beginning Monday, Jan. 4, mammograms will be available Monday through Friday per technologist availability. Call today to schedule your appointment.

The Oberlin Community Red Cross Blood Drive will be Wednesday, Jan. 6, from noon to 6 p.m. at The Gateway. Please call (800) GIVE-LIFE (448-3543) to schedule your appointment. Give the gift of life by becoming a blood donor today.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

The residents at Cedar Living Center spent Christmas Eve and Christmas Day just like everyone else in the area, watching the blowing snow and wondering if family and friends would make it for a Christmas visit. Staff members braved the storm to make it in throughout the holiday. Some who live out of town even spent the night in order to ensure that adequate staff would be available.

We would like to thank everyone who helped to make our Christmas special for the residents. There were many who entertained, visited, participated in special events, donated treats, sent cards, caroled, or any number of countless other acts of kindness. Staff members played Santa again this year, providing a gift for each resident to open on Christmas morning.

Despite the snow, we did manage to keep busy all week. Monday afternoon a group of residents gathered for a game of penny cards. Those enjoying the game included Dale Butler, Darlene Fisher, Irene Fringer, Elsie Goodnight, Donna Kent, Wilma May, Joan Noble, Agnes Pruitt, Marie Thomas, Aleen Van Vleet and Mary Votapka.

Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack led the sing-along time before supper on Monday afternoon. We sang every Christmas song we could think of.

Charlotte Kurtz gathered residents around the Christmas tree on Monday evening for a Candlelight Service.

Irene Fringer won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Edna Mott won the blackout game.

Residents, staff and guests enjoyed a piano recital given by the students of Cheryl Metcalf before supper on Tuesday afternoon. Each student played a Christmas piece

that they had prepared especially for the recital.

Wednesday afternoon residents gathered to snack on Christmas treats and read *The Oberlin Herald* together. We especially enjoyed reading the letters to Santa. Stuart Euhus braved the snow to teach the Bible study class before supper on Wednesday.

Thursday afternoon we gathered in the dining room to eat more Christmas cookies and enjoy telling a few Christmas stories.

We had a few guests who made it in for Christmas dinner and many residents received phone calls from loved ones near and far away who could not make it in for the holiday.

Saturday afternoon residents were treated to an extra game of bingo.

We are looking forward to a bright and happy new year at Cedar Living Center. We would like to wish all of our friends and family a happy and healthy year in 2010.

Recent visitors: Carol Kompus, Bob and Julie Hafner, Herndon; Lilian Sulzman, Dresden; Stean Olson, Hays; Kelly Olson, Manhattan; Lauri Fox, Valley Center; Alysha Tadlock, Goodland; Clayton Erickson and family, Tecumseh; Phil and Marj Law, Lakewood, Colo.; Alexandrea Fisher, Stephanie Frankforter and family, Kearney, Neb.; Gary Sayer, George Sayer and Rita Ogg, Lexington, Neb.; Gregg Sayer family, Cambridge, Neb.; Pam Wessel, Yuka, Okla.; Stephani Brian, Adrian Hawkins, Euless, Texas.

Eunice Richards, Marian Dempewolf, Eileene Grose, Jon Fisher, Donovan Bannann, Royal Fisher, Pastor John Paulson, Veanna and Max Carman, Oberlin.

Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

This week was filled with even more Christmas cheer. Our klatch of word search experts (Amy Rehm with daughter and son-in-law, Shirley Hayward, Opal Bryan, Faye Miller, Leone Porsch, Evelyn Olson, Alice Bobbitt, Emma Sanford, Violet Schissler, Edla Olson, Mary Lemman, Walt and Betty May and Louise Pollnow gathered to try to match or exceed last year's Merry Christmas word search challenge of 217 words. They fell short by a few words but have requested a rematch to try again.

Cheryl Metcalf arrived with her piano students to bring to light the ever increasing talent of these young people. The residents enjoy watching the children of our community grow and blossom.

Herndon Covenant Church members caroled through the halls Monday evening. Some residents strolled along not wanting to miss even one song.

Tuesday, our eager, bright-eyed, rosy cheeked first graders came with books and gifts for their reading pals. Each one took home a book of their very own, a gift from their special friend.

The "Star of Bethlehem" was shown in the afternoon. This interesting account of combining Biblical references, current historical scholarship and astronomical fact to the actuality of the Bethlehem Star was fascinating.

Frannie Nothdurf and her daughter brought in amazing oversized sugar cookies for the ladies to decorate. Alice Bobbitt, Alice May, Evelyn Olson, Faye Miller, Opal Bryan, Leone Porsch and Edla Olson turned them into delicious works of art!

An informal Christmas Eve Service was held Thursday after-

noon. Edla Olson played the piano, Joey Hirsch led the music and Lisa Paulson shared the story of God's Trees. Christmas morning everyone searched under the tree for their gift, just like home... so from our home to yours, we wish you the love, the peace and the blessings that reflect the reason we celebrate... Jesus Christ!

Visitors this week were Stephanie, Melissa and Angels Ritter (Dresden) for **Helen Derby**. Ann Hazlett (Selden), Ruth and Kathy Porsch (Lawrence) and Myrna Porsch (Colby) for **Leone Porsch**. Pat Wurm and Bernice Martin for **Louise Pollnow**. Steve and Carol Sloan (Lawrence) and Connie Simonsson for **Amy Rehm**. Eunice Richards for **Opal Bryan** and **Earl Brown**. Jeanne Britton and Kerri Britton (Thornton, Colo.) and Marvin and Sharon Slabaugh for **Opal Bryan**. Helen Brooks and Sharon Black-Hecox (Wichita) for **Ethel Nemeth**. Reva Marshall, Penny Fringer and Ron Snyder (Colby) for **Dorothy Hunt**. Bitsy Chase, Galen and Lynn Olson (McKinney, Texas) and Mike and Nione Rhodin (Loveland, Colo.) for **Edla Olson**. Wayne and Odetta Marietta (Russell), John Marietta (Canon City, Colo.) for **Elden Long**. Ralph and Norma Unger for **Leo Mooty, Walt and Betty May** and **Earl Brown**. Carol Martin (Littleton, Colo.) for Violet Schissler. Max and Veanna Carman for **Myrtle Waldo**. Zane and Taylor Godbout (Topeka) and John Paulson for **Lora Zwickle**. John Paulson for **Lucy Schissler**. **R.D. Thornton, Dorothy Pryor and Elsie Macy**. Frank and Mert McEvoy for **Lucy Schissler, Earl Brown, Eva Bryan and Eulaine Benda**.

Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

Leon and Marita Portschy hosted Christmas Day with the following family attending: Jennifer Leitner, Wichita; Danny J. and Jean Leitner, Herndon; Erik, Amy and Jackson (Schlimmer, Volga, S.D.); and David, April and Lauren Sattler, Norton.

Christmas Day guests of Brad and Deanna Williams were Voni Sattler, Zach, Amy Rooney and Piper, Sam Kogl, Chelsey and Kaius, Brandi and Kassi Williams; Kathy, Sami, Joey and Braden Leitner of Atwood.

Visitors at the home of Richard and Theresa Rippe for the Christmas Holidays were Kevin and Megan Rippe, Lilly, Michaela and Allison, and Tim, Alicia and Wyatt Rippe, Ludell; Brenda and Aaron (Schilde, Minneola; Rodney Rippe and Katelyn Clark, Hays; Tom and Myra Sattler, Herndon; Dan and Gigi Sattler, Kale and Jackie, McCook; Angie and Matt Haller and Tommy, Atascadero, Calif.; David and April Sattler and Lauren, Norton; Ed Rippe, Atwood, and Michaela and Talon, Brian, Mary, Kate and Collin Clark and Buford Clark, all of Atwood; Ron and Cindy Sat-

Marvin Holle, Ludell.

Dean, Deb, Marcus and Neil Portschy traveled to Stockton on Christmas Eve day to spend the holidays with Deb's family. All attended Christmas Eve Mass in Stockton with Father Galen Long presiding. After mass, a gift exchange and light supper was held at the home of Freddie and Shirley Reed. Christmas Day was spent at the home of Deb's sister, Denise and Scot Murchie. The Portschys returned home on Saturday.

Anikka Martin arrived from Champaign, Ill., on Dec. 22, to visit her parents, Bob and Liane Martin. Bob, Liane, Anikka, the Kirche Martin family of Indianola, Neb.; and Suzi Martin of Colorado Springs, joined Dick and Bette Martin of Lebanon, Neb., for Christmas Day dinner.

Mother Nature didn't cooperate for all travelers but those gathering to make memories at Janice Sattler's in Atwood Christmas Day were Jayme Sattler, Erik Sattler, Michaela and Talon, Brian, Mary, Kate and Collin Clark and Buford Clark, all of Atwood; Ron and Cindy Sat-

ter, Bob and Julie Hafner, Herndon; and Chase, Dana and Payton Juenemann, Hays. Sunday afternoon Bob and Julie shared cookies and candy with aunts, Edie Pettera and Joan Noble at Cedar Living Center in Oberlin, while reminiscing about a favorite Christmas morning.

Spending the holidays with Danny J. and Jean Leitner were Jennifer Leitner, Wichita, and Jeff, Danielle, and Isabelle Leitner of Colorado Springs. They were Christmas Eve guests of Rocky, Teresa and Jori Diederich of Oberlin.

Family arriving for the holidays at the Carol Kompus home were Brian,

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Congratulations to Josiah and Mandi Jones of Atwood on the birth of a son, Ryan Mason, who was born Dec. 24. He weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 19 inches long.

A New Year's Eve soup supper and party will begin at 6 p.m. at the home of Pastor Keith and Sandy Reuther and family at the parsonage of the Herndon Covenant Church. Those attending may bring snacks.

Dr. Kirk Kelley of Davenport, Iowa, came Tuesday to spend a week during the holidays with his parents, Dick and Donna Kelley.

Bob and Sally Olson accompanied Bob and Annette Frenzl of Salina to Celina, Texas, where they were holiday guests of Rennie and Jeaneen Olson. Additional guests were David, Jon and Scott Olson, and Lacey and Whitney Frenzl. The Larry Marks family and Lewis and Ava Perkins were unable to go due

to weather conditions. Mike and Nione Rhodin of Loveland, Colo., and Galen and Lynne Olson of McKinney, Texas, spent the holidays with Edla Olson, and Steve and Arian Arnold.

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your items
in the
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