

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1886

The rainy, misty weather of the past week terminated in a snow storm Tuesday.

Farmers just now are plowing and preparing the ground for spring crops.

J.E. Kulp has accepted a position as salesman in the E.E. Stewart's hardware store.

We are informed on good authority that the B&M people have purchased of J.A. Rodehaver the fractional 80 adjoining the right-of-way and will erect thereon machine and repair shops, and will make Oberlin a division, just as soon as the railroad is extended on to the West.

A prisoner confined to the county jail committed suicide by taking morphine Saturday morning.

The Masons installed new officers Saturday evening as follows: A.W. Bariteau, W.M.; W.A. Burnett, S.W.; W.A. Frasier, J.W.; W.C. McGonigal, secy; George Metcalf, treas; Frank Smith, S.D.; Samuel McKague, J.D.; Frank Coard, Tyler.

B.F. Jenkins was appointed postmaster at Cedar Bluffs.

100 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1911

Christmas festivities and programs were the order of the day at each of the Oberlin churches and the hearts of the little folks were made glad.

Neil and Dean Rogers, Oran Milleson, Caleb Smick, Millie Marvin, Emma Griffith, Francis O'Grady and Edna Randall are all home from college for the holidays.

The city is putting in a new smokestack for the city power plant this week.

Ted Marks left Tuesday evening for Kansas City to take up his work in a wholesale house.

Frank Johnson and Miss Minnie Ketels were married last week.

Norcatur Items: Leslie Dowling and Miss Ethel Andrews were married Christmas Day.

Those melancholy days have come, the saddest of the year; when merchants do not advertise, and farmers disappear.

75 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1936

The past year didn't do so well for Oberlin and Decatur County in the matter of rainfall. The total of 15.11 ranks the eighth driest during the 49

years records have been kept.

Mr. Chas. B. Vyourek of McDonald, Kans. became the proprietor of the Penn Cabin Camp at the northwest corner of Oberlin last week.

Chas. Montgomery, son of Mrs. Ed Montgomery of Olive Township, proved to be the be guesser as to the number of beans in the glass jar at the Francis Anderson Hardware. His guess was 3380 just three more than the actual number. Geneva Counter of Oberlin township was second closest.

The home of Miss Flossie Hayes was beautifully decorated for the JCC Club meeting on Dec. 20th. The holly wreaths, lighted tree with gaily wrapped packages beneath, as well as the real poinsettia plant were most attractive.

Mrs. Lota Counter is in Kansas City taking a brush-up course in beauty work. Mrs. Esther Wilson will take care of Mrs. Counter's trade during her absence.

Vallonia: A truckload of young folks from the Prairie Chapel Church went out Christmas Eve singing carols at the different homes in the vicinity.

Their final stop was at the Weaver Van Vleet home where they enjoyed wieners, sandwiches and apples, and then returned to their homes in the wee small hours of the night.

Miss Geneva Counter was hostess to a party at her home on New Year's Eve. Games were played after which refreshments were served. Included were Verein Rubendall, Edith Miller, Mamie Garver, Vorris Reist, Raymond Redman, Roy Cody, Bernie Rubendall and the hostess.

Jennings: James Gaumer and Garrah Bainter were married Christmas Eve at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bainter. We all extend congratulations to this fine young couple.

50 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1961

Top Ten Stories of 1960 as reported by The Oberlin Herald staff:

1. Wheat crop exceeds record 30-bushel per acre yield set in 1958.
2. Flood conditions plague area in biggest spring thaw on record.
3. Oberlin Diamond Jubilee 8-day celebration in June packed with activities for all ages including "Proud Heritage" with cast of 250.
4. Decatur County Museum gets big push toward new addition.

5. Three members of Daniel Pe-tracek family killed in two-car crash Feb. 9 near Ness City.

6. Hailstones as big as golf balls cause damage east of Oberlin.

7. Business changes at Morrish Plumbing, Anderson & Son Hardware and Nitsch & Nitsch.

8. Republicans sweep state elections except 5th District.

9. Decatur Co-op announces plans to construct feed mill.

10. Dispute arises between KCC and Farmers Co-op Telephone Co. of Jennings.

25 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1986

Top News of 1985 as reported by The Oberlin Herald staff:

1. Oberlin bank chartered: The Bank of Oberlin was chartered by Robert Gaskill and four other out-of-county investors Nov. 22 after the Decatur County National Bank was closed by the Comptroller of the Currency. Former bank president Farrell McAtee pleaded guilty to 2 of 7 felony counts for which he had been indicted by a grand jury.
2. Herndon bank closes.
3. Area faces economic survival

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Ernest May and friend, Tonganoxie, were Tuesday to Thursday guests of his parents, Martin and Evelyn May. Additional Tuesday evening dinner guests at the May home were Greg and Janice Cundiff.

Celebrating their May family Christmas on Saturday at the home of Rhonda May, Dan Nedland and Elizabeth, were Walter and Betty May; Cameron Nedland, Manhattan; Hunter Nedland, Manhattan, and fiancée Rhiannon Davies and Liam Davies-Nedland; Richard and Delayne May, Brianna May

due to farm crisis.

4. City hires Bob Finkbinder as city administrator; county hires Jim Baxendale as county engineer.

5. Crop yields topple records with some 60+ bushel wheat yields and good fall harvest yields.

6. Oberlin's Centennial observed with year-long events.

7. Health care changes: PAdave Michael leaves; Dr. Allen Hooper replaces Dr. Lynn Fogleman; Charlie Myers replaces Terry Hoffart as hospital administrator.

8. Business changes: Abstractor Thelma Wolfe, bankers Carl Frickey and Ray Lohoefer retire; Don Fredrickson sells grocery store.

9. Elections bring changes: New City Council members are Idella Frickey, Don Stapp and Dave Diederich who is later replaced by Dick Ahlberg; USD 294 board includes Ward Sauvage, Janice O'Hare and Evan Unger.

10. FDIC involved with area's future after taking over loan portfolio of failed Decatur County National Bank.

and Shane Steckline, Nolan May and friend Tori, Lawrence; Regan Bartels, Phillipsburg; Roland and Pam May, Zach and Hannah; Robert and Sally May; Cole May, Manhattan; and Roger and Susan May, Ryan and Erin. Nolan May and Tori were houseguests of the Nedland family and Richard, Delayne, Brianna and Shane were weekend guests of the Roger May family.

Guests at the John Bremer home Thursday evening for their family Christmas were Kristen Bremer and Dwayne Bray, Colby; Jessica Bremer, Topeka; and Justin Zodrow.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Covenant Women will meet at 9 a.m. Saturday at the Herndon Covenant Church for a missionary work day. Hostesses are Mildred Holmdahl and Norma Anderson.

Congratulations to Eric and Susan (Bell) Flavin of County Wexford, Ireland, on the birth of a son, Nathaniel Mason, on New Year's Day. He weighed 11 pounds, 6 ounces and has three sisters, Belle, Una Fae and Evangeline.

Michael and Erin Kittson and Owen, Clint Schmidt and Morgan Higley, Denver; were New Year's weekend guests of Chris and Sherri Schmidt.

Pastor Keith and Sandy Reuther and family spent the holidays in Ohio with relatives.

New Year's Day dinner guests of Esther Noren were Larry and Judy Thelander, Salina; Kent and Amy Warden, Tara and Kylie, Olathe; Jeremy and Carissa Thelander, Braden, Connor and Riley, Lincoln, Neb.; Steve and Connie Noren, David and Michael, Oberlin; Britta Noren, Omaha; Chris Cochran, Agra; Ken and Alice Robson, and

Kirk and Janell Robson and Brielle, Ellsworth; and Andy and Dayna Robson, Bennington.

Christmas supper guests of Keith and Mary Lou Olson on Tuesday, Dec. 28, were Mark and Barbara Olson, Kurt and Mary, Hoxie; Brandon and Sarah White, Gardner; Rex, Seth, Sam and Abbie Olson, Boulder, Colo.; Sue Welles, McCook; Chris and Keely Wilson, Julie, Harmony, Derek and Noah, Kearney, Neb.; and James and Kimberly Witt, Ashley and Whitney, and Tyler and Tiffany Witt and Trevor, Oberlin.

Guests on New Year's Day in the home of John and Ardythe Cederberg to celebrate their family Christmas included: Chase, Dana, Payton and Paycie Jueneemann, Derek Ruppert and friend Sarah of Hays, Diane, Donny and Megan Ruppert of McCook, Eric Sattler of Atwood, Larry, Denise and Dalton Pettera, Tanner, Jolene, Boston and Presley Pettera, Erin and Tate Pettera, all of North Platte, as well as Ron and Cindy Sattler of Herndon.

Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

Christmas Day visitors of Jan Sattler were Rob and Isaiah Sattler, Oakley; Cody Sattler, Omaha; Jayme Sattler, Dan and Karen Sattler, Scott City; Margo Sattler, Hays; and Winston and Bennett Sattler and friend, Casey, Hutchinson.

Family members celebrating an Old Fashioned Christmas with Grandma on the Stu and Pam Stuczynski farm, a wish requested by "Grandma Marge", were Jim and Diana Brunson; Brandon Barnhart, Brigitte and Tiergan Brunson; Sean Haley, Britten and Madilyn Brunson, all of Omaha, Neb.; Joseph and Rhonda Brunson, Crowley, Texas; and Bill and Marge Koetter of McCook.

Everyone squealed with delight when Santa visited Christmas Eve. They enjoyed playing pitch, marbles, remote control helicopter races, trap shooting and dined on family favorite recipes while chasing after three-year-olds.

New memories were made while reminiscing old ones. Friends stopped in to visit and view the lights.

The New Year was celebrated at the Cork and Jacque Riener home on Sunday with Jeff and Jessica Riener, Calvin and Kayla Hughes entertaining Denny and Dorsey

Riener, Palisade, Neb.; John and Keri Riener, Atwood, and Joe and Nadine Green, Herndon.

Julie's Memory Joggers Kansas Trivia

Hutchinson is nicknamed the Salt City because it was built above some of the richest salt deposits in the world.

Salt is still actively mined, processed and shipped from Hutchinson.

The Hugoton Gas Field is the largest natural gas field in the United States.

It underlies all or parts of 10 southwestern Kansas counties as well as parts of Oklahoma and Texas. The gas field underlies almost 8,500 square miles, an area nearly 5 times as large as the state of Rhode Island.

In Italy, the city of Milan is 300 miles northwest of Rome. In Kansas, Milan is less than 25 miles northwest of Rome, in Sumner County.

Between 1854 and 1866, 34 steamboats paddled up the Kaw River (Kansas River). One made it as far west as Fort Riley.

Make every day Christmas!

Good Samaritan Center

By Lisa Paulson

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,

And never brought to mind?

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,

And days of auld lang syne?

And days of auld lang syne, my dear,

And days of auld lang syne.

These words were written by Robert Burns, a Scottish poet in 1788, and are traditionally sung on New Year's Eve. The literal meaning of the title is "old long since" or, colloquially "the good ol' days". Residents gathered in Town Square to sing this old song and others. Jenny Hirsch Tally and her mom came to help ring in the New Year.

Residents took turns giving testimony to the blessings that God had poured out to them in 2010. Among the most cited was living at the Good Sam.

Other blessings were health, grandchildren, the 1st Hand Friend reading pals, good preaching, friendship, staff members, my daughter, Serena's progress and that the memory of a faithful husband was still fresh, praise for the moisture and of course, family.

They counted their blessings already given, then looked forward to answered prayer in 2011.

Some of these included continued health, prayers for our children to be guided by the Spirit, and that the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts would be acceptable to Thee.

What a wonderful way to celebrate God's love, His presence and His provision in our lives.

When you look back over the pages of last year's calendar, notice the record of places and people on them.

We would expect to find appointments to the doctor, the dentist, a funeral or two, committee meetings, church and school functions.

People may include birthday reminders, lunch dates with friends, weddings and new babies. It is an interesting exercise to see exactly how you have spent your time and to reflect on God's hand in it all.

Some of the appointments may bring sadness or even sorrow; others joy and celebrations.

I'd like to challenge you to count how many squares you found that have the Good Sam penciled in. If you would like to increase your joy in this New Year, including us on your calendar is one sure way to do it.

2011 is going to be a very good year

Asampling of some of the activities to watch for this year include an old-fashioned Story Hour, a Beautiful Baby Reunion, a Mock Auction, the creation of an Over 90's Club, an Ice Cream Social and more Mission Projects. Many of these ideas come directly from your loved ones.

Their creativity is endless and so is their love!

Wishing you a New Year filled with boundless blessings given from the One we love and serve... and don't forget your daily appointment with Him!

Residents who enjoyed visitors were **Mary Lemman**: Murry and Audrey Pavlicek.

Dorothy Hunt: Ron and Dixie Snyder (Colby) Ellen Osborne (Wichita) Stan, Becky and Muriel Faimon (Stratton, Neb.) and Reva Marshall, Tami Cook, Lawrence Marshall, Jim Marshall, Robert and Penny Fringer, Sarah, Brandon and Bailey Wolfe.

Lucy Schissler: Frank and Mert McEvoy, Ralph and Norma Unger.

Loren Schrock: Cheryl Miller. **Nila Wesch**: Jack Wesch (Fairbury, Neb.) and Jim and Pam Wesch, Ken and Janice Shobe. **Myrtle Waldo**: Tamella and Roger Baker (Texas), Max and Veanna Carman.

Evelyn Olson: Gerald and Connie Olson. **Doris Marintzer**: Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem).

Opal Bryan: Joey and Teena Friend (Stillwater, Okla.) Wesley Ziegehiemer (Oklahoma City) Marvin and Sharon Slabaugh, Brian, Pam, Breck, and Nathan Simonsson. Ron Bryan, Langness family, (Lawrence) Jeanne and Kerri Britton (Thornton, Colo.) Kendra Kelley, Dick and Donna Kelley, Kirk Kelley, Stephanie Gaskill (Wamego).

Lois Carlson: John and Edie Tate and Gladys Geis.

Walter and Betty May: Ralph and Norma Unger, Roger, Sue and Erin May, Rhonda May. **Cheryl Hill**: Jerry Hill. **Hubert Mumm**: Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem), Clem and Ken Mumm (Colby/Selden) Eleanor Rogers (Selden), Anogene Rogers (Rexford), Delores Raile (Hoxie) and Alberta Ritter.

Dole Metcalf: Phyllis Metcalf. **Francis Janousek**: Bud and Vicky Mumm (Gem). **Myrtle Ross**: Marilyn Horn.

Ben Johnson: Ralph and Norma Unger, Pam May. **Edla Olson**: Steve and Arian Arnold (Herndon), Lynn and Galen Olson (McKinney, Texas).

Mary Waldo: Loyd Waldo. **Earl Brown**: Ralph and Norma Unger. **Barb Beisner**: Melissa Chambers. **Ethel Nemeth**: Sharon Black, Betty Heisel.

Dorothy Pryor: the Smith family (North Platte) and Elsie Wolters. **Violet Schissler**: Carol Martin (Littleton, Colo.) and Kennedy Jensen. **Pooch Portschy**: Chris Wood (Herndon).

Amy Rehm: Donovan and Lora Randolph (Hutchinson) and Lindsay, Amy and Ala Espinoza (Manhattan). **Leone Porsch**: Kathy Porsch (Lawrence).

Selden News

By Jacque Boultinhouse

On Thursday during Senior Citizens at the Community Center, Shirley Emigh won high, Bernita Aumiller took second, Carl Mumm got low and Shirley Emigh had the most aces.

Other members present included: Lola Cook, Royce Cook, Gwen Schultz.

Jeanie Spesser, Betty James, Ralph Weis, Matt Finnesy, Bob Wessel, Pat Wessel, Paulie Neff, Gail Mumm and Leanne Schultz.

Birthdays and anniversaries:

Jan. 7 - John Kruse, Ron Kaus,

Billy and Tasha Belair.

Jan. 8 - Gary Shaw, Colten Sauvage, Tyler Stevenson, Tom Zoderow, Kate Halbert.

Jan. 9 - Evelyn Wahl, Lindsay Wahl.

Jan. 10 - Melanie Schultz, Randi Stevenson, Kieser Carman.

Jan. 11 - Shad Putnam, Reid Griest, Robyn Smith Markle.

Jan. 12 - Joe Bainter.

Jan. 13 - Joe Trembley, Carl Ochs, Sherry Carman.

Norton Livestock Inc.

Norton, KS Thursday, Jan. 13 1:00
Selling along with Regular Sale

- 118 Blk cows, Solid mouth to older Bred blk, Dispersion of one raising - one age group, Calving Feb. 20.
- 70 Blk-Red-Blk wf cows 3 to 6 yrs old, Bred Blk Early Spring calving. There will be several pairs by sale time.
- 34 Blk-Bwt cows 3 to 7 yrs old. Bred blk Mar. 1, calving. This is the last of a dispersion.
- 120 Mostly blk cows solid mouth to older. Feb. 15 calving Bred Angus and Char.

Expect several more of all classes by sale time.

Norton Livestock 785-877-5161

Jan Tien
Cell 785-567-8515
Home 785-973-2744

Clarence Tien
Cell 785-567-8113
Home 785-973-2231

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

The last two weeks of the holiday season went quickly at Cedar Living Center.

We enjoyed parties, special music, Christmas surprises, too many cookies and candies, and lots of visitors.

Cheryl Metcalf brought a group of her piano students for a Christmas recital before supper on Monday, Dec. 20.

Each student played a special number they had learned for the holidays. We were all pleased to see how many talented children there are in the community.

The residents enjoyed carolers from both the Oberlin Covenant Church and the Faith Lutheran Church on Wednesday evening.

Santa came for a special visit before supper on Thursday. He delivered teddy bears to all of the ladies at Cedar Living Center.

The bears were donated by Ardith Louderback. Of course, thanks to the generosity of staff members, Santa had a small gift for each of the men as well.

The nursing staff helped Santa by delivering gifts during the night on Christmas Eve.

Each resident received a special gift from a secret Santa.

The staff members of Decatur Health Systems have provided these gifts each year for more than twenty years.

We always have more staff members willing to participate than we have residents.

We all feel great knowing that each resident will have a gift on Christmas morning.

Several residents went with family members or had guests on Christmas Day and throughout the holidays.

In addition to the holiday events, many of our usual activities went on as usual.

Aleen Van Vleet won the first bingo on Tuesday, Dec. 20, and Edna Mott won the blackout game.

Agnes Pruitt won the first bingo on Tuesday, Dec. 28, and Bob Keller won the blackout game.

The activity department hosted the December birthday party in the

Cedar Living Center dining room on Wednesday, Dec. 29.

Those being honored with December birthdays were Clarence Hoppas, Beth Binning, and Wilma May. Tara Votapka and Teresa Shaughnessy served ice cream sundaes.

The baking group made snacks including vegetables and dip and cheese and crackers to serve along with punch at an early New Year's Eve celebration on Friday afternoon.

Everyone seemed to really enjoy the salty snacks after a couple of weeks with lots of extra sweet treats.

Wilma May was the guest of honor at a family birthday party held on the Cedar Living Center patio on Friday afternoon.

Family members enjoyed looking at photo albums that Wilma made for each of her grandchildren.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Jim Plotts who passed away on Dec. 27.

Recent Visitors:

Rick and Sharon Gamblin, Columbus, Neb.; Tom and Lea Keller, St. Francis; Stephani Hawkins, Euless, Texas; Laura Fox, Valley Center; Lillian Sulzman, Dresden; Greg, Stacie, Emily, Rodney, Ryleigh, Kaidyn Coyle, Rossville, Kan. Stef, Brian, and Adrian Hawkins, Dallas, Texas; Lauri, TJ, and JL Fox, Wichita;

Norma Ward, Clayton; Terry, Lora, and Kelly Wycoff, Scott City, Kan.; Tara Larson, Becky Fringer, and Laurie Jones, Colby; Brandon, Scott, and Bailey Wolf, Colby;

Georgia Stahr, Malcolm, Neb.; Gene Kleidosty, Herndon; Bill and Patty Killingsworth, Salina; Jan Sattler, Atwood; Susan Orr, Colby; Wayne and Sandy Orr, Rosalia; LaVina Waters, McDonald;

Max and Veanna Carman, Mirium Fisher, Marilyn Gamblin, Carol Kompus, Robert and Penny Fringer, Lyle Gamblin,

Marian Dempewolf, Dolores Koerperich, Esther Noren, Eileene Grose, Anita Ketterl, Myrna Jones, and Marilyn Farr, Oberlin.