

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1886

It is reported that a Mr. Henry Upson of the Hawkeye settlement was frozen to death in the blizzard, and that six men lost their lives in Thomas County.

The first mail over the Central Branch arrived Wednesday evening.

No trains have arrived at Oberlin since a week ago Friday.

The Norton mail arrived yesterday; the first time since the storm.

Mr. McBride informs us that as soon as he can replace the material he will resume the publication of *The World*.

At 6:30 a.m. fire was discovered in the McDonald & Kelley Chop House on the east side of Penn Avenue and before the flames could be extinguished the following-named business houses were destroyed with estimated damages as noted: W.A. Frasier, \$3500; Keys & Emahizer, \$1500; A.G. McBride, printing office, \$800; Guy Bros. \$700; Bliss & Kulp, photograph gallery, \$450; C.E. Reynolds, \$500; Parker, \$100; Kelley & McDonald, \$150. Mr. Frasier will immediately rebuild and George Metcalf has already started his new building.

100 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1911

New Decatur County officials: J.F. Peters succeeds H.O. Caster as county attorney; Earl O'Toole succeeds Ned Coldren as county surveyor; T.M. Anderson succeeds W.M. Landau as county treasurer when the latter's term expires next fall.

J.B. Colt has a skating rink of his own about 30 feet square back of his store on which he cuts all kinds of curlicues, just like a 5-year-old

Charlie Battin won second prize and a silver medal in a state oratorical contest held at Ottawa University.

The Beaver Valley Booster claims that the B. & M. R.R. will soon be extended to Pueblo and Cedar Bluffs will be made the division point.

H.O. Caster has moved his office over the Strain jewelry store.

Bard McMullen returned to his work at Aurora, Nebr., Friday evening.

Mr. Tubbs, auditor of the Foster Lumber Co., was auditing the ac-

counts of the yard here Tuesday.

Capt. J. A. Hughes came up from Norcat on Saturday and installed the officers of the G.A. R.

75 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1936

Marguerite Peters, commissioner of the Decatur County Relief Office, wishes to thank the various citizens, Red Cross, clubs, church organizations and local stores for their cooperation and help in meeting the relief situation. Since Jan 1, 1936, no funds are available from federal or state and the burden must be carried by the county. During the past year, 3,813 families have been on assistance.

A blaze at the Oberlin Ice Plant destroyed the roof on the west portion of the building but did not damage the east side where the milk pasteurization plant is located. The west side of the building handled the ice manufacturing equipment but in the past two years Mr. Pennington has had his ice shipped in from Norton.

School News: DCHS received 12 new students at the semester bringing the enrollment to 372. With such a large enrollment, the facilities and faculty are taxed to the utmost.

Dresden: Funeral services were held at McGraw for Andy Foster, an old-timer from southeast of town. Burial in Adell Cemetery.

Dresden: A baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Latimer Skubal Jan. 5.

There are but 13 dogs in Oberlin; that is, there are but 13 dogs in Oberlin for which the owners have paid the city license.

Norcat: The Ward Drug Store is being moved from its present location to the building recently vacated by the ready-to-wear store.

50 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1936

Leland Archer, president of Rural Telephone Service, Inc. of Lenora announced that the company has leased the telephone facilities at Jennings, Kanona and Lund and will install a dialing system.

The Herald office lost one of its personnel this week when Paul Bocquin, assistant editor, took over his duties on the editorial staff of the Winfield Daily Courier.

Approximately 45 Girls Scouts

and leaders drove to Norton Saturday to attend a tea honoring Mrs. Sungi Rhee, vice president of the Girl Scouts of Korea.

DCHS vocational agricultural students planning to attend the Denver Livestock Show include Dale Brockhausen, Leland Cody, Allen Diederich, Dennis Euhus, Doyle Vernon, Jim Plotts, Gary Zodrow, Rod Fringer, Duane Carman and Elvin Beneda.

Three men from this area, Leonard Brown, Oberlin, Glen Franklin, Atwood, and Jonas Pitner, Herndon, have formed a company to process and sell crushed rock, sand and gravel.

An over-capacity crowd attending the Oberlin Chamber of Commerce meeting voted in favor of closing business houses at 7:30 p.m. each Saturday instead of the usual 9 p.m.

New Arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Royce Rasmussen, Lawrence, a son, Eric Peter, on Jan. 11; Mr. and Mrs. Evan Goltl, a daughter, Kelly Yvonne, Jan. 12; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Young, Selden, a daughter, Lisa Dawn, Jan. 15.

25 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1986

The Oberlin business community is setting its sights on new frontiers for the coming year with three possibilities being discussed: Bringing a tour bus factory to West Central Manufacturing; Adding an Alzheimer's wing to Good Samaritan Center and Operating a local bakery and flour mill. Advisory assistance for the projects has been received from representatives of Kansas

State University.

Rod and Alyce Avery have returned from Okinawa where she visited their daughter, Rozanne, and husband Ron Fuller who moved there in recent months. Rozanne teaches the children of American service personnel who are stationed at Kadena Air Force Base.

Mike McVay of Western Auto Store has replaced Gary Mitchell of Adleman Drug Store as president of the Oberlin Commercial Club for the coming year. Vice president is Myron Veh of Enfield Memorial Chapel.

A grand opening will be held at Kelling's Fine Foods this weekend. The business was purchased from Don Fredrickson in October by Bud Kelling and Bill Steinmetz of Norton and is managed by Russ Stanley. Other longtime employees are John Stanley, grocery department; Mike Berry, produce; Dan Griffen, meat department.

The A.L. Duckwall Variety Store, a popular business on Penn Avenue in Oberlin for many years, has been purchased by Wynn and Lorene Phipps of Concordia. According to the new owners, the store will be called "Banner 5&10" and all personnel will be retained at this time.

In boys basketball action at DCHS, Oberlin downed Atwood 71-51 but were edged by Golden Plains 53-51 while the girls lost to Atwood 36-33 and to Golden Plains 38-27. In wrestling Oberlin downed both McCook and Atwood in a double dual and Scott City 31-19.

Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

The Herndon community extends sympathy to the family of Hubert Mumm who died Sunday, Jan. 16, in Oberlin.

He was born Sept. 19, 1920, and was a 1939 graduate of Selden Rural High School. Funeral Mass will be at 11 a.m. on Thursday at 11 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church in Selden with burial in the church cemetery near family.

Congratulations to Bob and Geraldine Nemeth on celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary.

Together they found friendship and raised a family.

Family joined the couple at St. Mary's Sunday morning for a blessing by Father Nick Parker.

They tried sneaking away like 60 years ago on their honeymoon but were caught in the act.

The Herndon community sends wishes to the couple for many more years of caring and sharing.

Bob and Julie Hafner, Herndon, and Janice Sattler, Atwood, enjoyed the visit with their aunts, Edie Petera and Joan Noble, at Cedar Living Center in Oberlin on Sunday.

Trevor Frick and Todd Hull of Denver were hunting visitors of Laverne and Sharon Frick for the weekend.

Christian Mother's Altar Society enjoyed pizza Sunday evening at Roger's Bar and Grill. Members and guests attending were Father Nick Parker, Eileen Unger, Beth Chartier, Stacey Chartier, Ann Solko, Deanna Williams, Theresa Rippe, Jacque Riener, Carla Marintzer, Lila Leitner, Sharon Ecker, Julie Hafner, Sharon Frick and Diana Solko. Tables decorated by hostess, Liane Martin, were snowmen motif with snowflakes on blue covering.

Liane gave favors of spiced

cider and hot chocolate and served snowflake cookies for dessert after pizza.

Bob and Patti Chartier, with friends, Tommy Ryan, Gus, Dennis and Yvonne, all from Ozawkie, came home to visit family and spend time hunting. Additional guests of Joe and Nadine Green were Connie Reitcheck, Jeanne, Mitch and Brittany Tuma, all of Colby; Marty Ruda, Colby; Dave, Baron and Emma Green, Kenny and Stacey Chartier and Beth Chartier of Herndon.

Happy Birthday, Kansas! Kansas Day will be observed on Saturday, Jan. 29, 2011.

Do not miss the 150th birthday celebration in Bird City at the Legion Hall on Saturday with registration beginning at 10 a.m. and potluck lunch at noon.

Guest speaker, Professor William Keel, KU, Professor of Germanic Languages and Literature, will give a program on "The German Heritage of Kansas" at 1:30 p.m.

Professor Keel plans on coming to Herndon on Friday, Jan. 28. Anyone interested in talking to him about the German dialect in Herndon or surrounding area may contact Julie Hafner, 785-322-5219; Janet Carman, 785-332-3569 or Professor Keel, mail to: wkeel@ku.edu.

Julie's Memory Joggers
from the Herndon Courant,
March 18, 1888

Hark! That soft sweet voice is calling! "Come, oh! Come and buy that light running Harrison wagon." A carload just received at the Beaver Valley Implement House.

Beaver Valley Implement House, G. W. Hudiburgh.

Harrison Wagon, Buggies and Spring Wagons

* Harrison Wagon Works made sleighs, farm and freight wagons beginning in 1852. They began in 1904 building American automobiles.

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Good Samaritan Center

By Lisa Paulson

Picture in your mind gazing out the windows in Town Square; the sun glistening through the icicles hanging on the front porch.

The landscape is blanketed with snowy grandeur; everything is still and silent.

In the beauty of the moment one cannot help but think of our awesome God.

Then, turning to face the ones who have come to hear the morning devotion,

I am struck by the mirror image of what is outdoors. I can see the Son, glistening in the eyes that meet mine.

The dining room is blanketed with the grandeur of snowy white heads waiting with quiet anticipation to hear the Word of God. These mature individuals have experienced

His abundant blessings and are keenly aware how great is His love!

How sweet it is to meet God every morning. Anita leads us in singing His praise and giving Him thanks in song!

As winter has settled in for awhile, we have brought the outside in this week.

Christmas decorations have come down and glittery snowflakes and icicles now hang on the tree, along with beautiful photos reflecting the icy beauty of the last storm.

It seems only fitting to celebrate our answered prayer for the moisture God has given in such a breathtaking manner.

It is a little humorous, when inviting residents to activities, a very common response is, "No thanks, I don't want to go out in this weather."

They just like to cozy up in their recliners with the TV or a good book. Just like home!

For those who did come out, snow was the theme. Snowmen Pins were crafted out of buttons by Alice Bobbitt, Eulaine Benda, Leone Porsch and Betty May.

Living History and Show and Share drew a small crowd. Those who enjoyed these were: Walt and Betty May, Leona Helmkamp, Crystal Moore, Opal Bryan, Leone Porsch, Alice Bobbitt, Evelyn Olson, Dorothy Pryor, Myrtle Ross, Loren Schrock, Ben Jorns, Edla Olson and Mary Waldo.

The cold weather kept some of our normal visitors and the First Hand Friends away this week, but we were so happy to see: Sharon Slabaugh for **Opal Bryan and Alice Bobbitt**. Audrey and Murry Pavlicek for **Mary Lemman**. Jerry and Cheryl Miller, Keith Schrock and Cara Anderson for **Loren Schrock**. Jerry Hill for **Cheryl Hill**. Reva Marshall for **Dorothy Hunt**. Glen and Carolyn Strevey for **Crystal Moore**. Connie Simonsson for **Amy Rehm and "Ollie"**. Ralph and Norma Unger for **Walt and Betty May, Ben Jorns and Elden Long**. Maurice and Rita Schaller for **Faye Miller**. Peggy Carman for **Myrtle Waldo**.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Norma Anderson has returned home after spending over two weeks over the holidays with her daughter, Carol and Robert Fink, and family at Wamego.

Officers elected at the annual meeting of the Herndon Covenant Church on Sunday included: Orrin Holle, chairman; Chris Schmidt, vice chairman; Rosalie Capo, secretary; Lacy Walker, assistant secretary; Gayle Carlson, treasurer; Gerald Benda, assistant treasurer; Dick Kelley and Gerald Benda, deacons; Donna Kelley and Patti Benda, deaconesses; Margaret

McEvoy, financial secretary; Mary Ann Erickson, assistant financial secretary; Beth Holle, Covenant Women Ministries chairman;

Norma Anderson and Greg Jones, auditors; Christian Education board: Melinda Carlson, Gail Bergling and Kristi Dirks; Ethan Walker and Kyle Grafel, trustees; Sherri Schmidt, Steve Noren, Mandi Jones, music committee; Jason Anderson, Ben Grafel and Mark Bergling, ushers.

The church is making plans to celebrate its 125th anniversary next year.

Rexford News

By Vicki Allison

Most of the outside Christmas decorations throughout town have been removed and stored away in the attic, basement, garage or storage unit for another year. Midwest Energy removed the power-pole ornaments along Main Street during the first week of January. Thank you, Midwest employees, for helping out in our community.

The community also thanks Wes Bencken and Terry Preston for helping City Supervisor Bill Scott with snow removal. The snow has just

about melted and is disappearing from all the sidewalks.

Sympathy and condolences are extended to Tanya Schwarz and family on the loss of her beloved brother, Eric Robben of Monument, who passed away Saturday evening due to a motorcycle accident.

My contact information is (785) 687-8525, e-mail to vallison56@yahoo.com.

Until next time, may your week be filled with valuable memories.

Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

It looks like 2011 is going to pass as fast as 2010!

With January well on its way, spring will be here shortly. The new garden magazines are in the book stands with lots of new things for spring. You would think all the ideas would have been told by now, but those editors have new thoughts and ideas every year. At least they are new to me.

With all the space at the house I purchased a couple years ago, it is still going to take lots of plans to fill up this yard. One project at a time, and maybe it will get done.

As the year is continuing, we also have a new beginning here at the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce. We held our annual banquet last Thursday at the Golden Age Center with a meal of roast beef, baked potato, corn, salad, homemade rolls and luscious desserts. Entertainment was provided by the DCHS Singers directed by Susan Nelson, and they were wonderful, as usual.

Our newly-elected board members for 2011 are Amanda Grafel,

Carol Stamm, Janice Guthrie, Marvin Slabaugh and Candy Ketterl. They will join our remaining board members, Ken Shobe, Richard Kimble, Ken Morris and Shelby Hackney, to start off our new year.

I don't have a business to acknowledge this week, but will continue with that next week. I will be out of the office some this week taking a little vacation time and then visiting some of the businesses and taking pictures for stories on the new "GetRuralKansas" website.

As weather permits, I will be traveling to a couple of meetings next week and meeting with other Chamber people. The afternoons I plan to be out are Wednesday, Thursday, Friday of this week, and Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week. If you need information or assistance, our Chamber volunteers are in the office each morning from 9 a.m. to noon, or you can leave a message at 475-3441, and I will return your call. I will be checking in for a few minutes on most mornings.

Have a great week!

Cedar Living Center

By Teresa Shaughnessy

After our week of sickness at Cedar Living Center we are happy to report that life has returned to normal.

We are back to our usual round of activities and visitors once again walk the halls. It has made us very thankful for good health.

There were lots of winners at the dice game played on Monday afternoon.

Residents joining in on the fun included Dale Butler, Darlene Fisher, Irene Fringer, Doris Gilbert, Elsie Goodnight, Ira Kolsky, Bob Keller, Edna Mott, Agnes Pruitt, and Mary Votapka.

Wilma May won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Elsie Goodnight won the blackout game.

Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler gave the monthly Communion Service on the Cedar Living Center patio before supper on Tuesday afternoon.

Several residents met to spend a little time with an old friend on Wednesday afternoon.

The facility received a set of Johnny Carson DVDs for Christmas.

Many of the residents reported being big fans of the Tonight Show back when Johnny was on every night. Snacks were served.

Stuart Euhus gave the Bible study lesson on Wednesday afternoon.

There was a lot of laughter in the dining room when the bowlers met on Thursday afternoon.

Not everyone bowled a strike, but everyone had a good time.

Several residents also met to play games on Thursday evening. Tara Votapka hosted the group.

The baking group made peanut butter oatmeal cookies on Friday afternoon.

They were a big hit and the tray of cookies disappeared very quickly.

The dietary department and activ-

ity department teamed up on Sunday evening to make ice cream sundaes for all of the residents.

Staff members Roberta Blake, Anna Cressler, Laysha Medina, and Teresa Shaughnessy layered up the ice cream and assorted toppings.

The sundaes were as pretty as they were tasty.

Recent visitors: Patsy Marintzer, Colorado; Glen and Carolyn Strevey, Norcat; Lillian Sulzman, Dresden; Maxine Van Pelt, Cedaredge, Colo.; Linda Bosler, Herndon; Norma Ward, David Ward, Clayton; Sarah and Bailey Wolf, Colby;

Dolores Koeperich, Carol Kompus, Nora Bell Manning, Eunice Richards, Lyle Gamblin, Oberlin.