

THE OBERLIN HERALD

# Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

**125 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1886**

Norcatur is to have a new newspaper. A man by the name of McDermott is to be proprietor.

The B. & M. surveyors are in town laying out additional side track at this point.

Lots of railroad talk floating around.

Conductor McClure has been returned to his old place on the Oberlin line.

H.O. Douglas, who has been quite sick with typhoid fever, is convalescing.

Oberlin has four meat markets and five flour and feed stores, all doing a flourishing business.

The interior of the Oberlin Opera House is being painted and otherwise improved.

Conductor Birdsell has removed from this place to McCook and now has charge of a passenger run from that town to Denver.

**100 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1911**

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Pollnow are the happy parents of a son born last week.

Gerald Benton and wife left for Topeka Saturday evening.

Jerry Cook, who we noted as having a bad runaway some two weeks ago in which he was badly knocked out, is now able to get around and be up town again.

Perry Bradley, son Vernie, and Glen Wilson took the three Bradley autos Saturday morning and went to Stratton, Nebr., where they traded them off for a 4-cylinder Buick and some cash.

Prairie Dog Items: Some of the curious ones went to Dresden Sunday to see the imported bloodhounds try to help solve the mystery of the burning of Wirt Bartlett's barn east of town.

The friends and neighbors of Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Hoppas gathered at their home Saturday evening and tendered a surprise to them as a little token of respect and good wishes before they move to their new home at Kanona.

**75 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1936**

More than 100 persons attended the 4-H Achievement banquet and program held at the Methodist Church and sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Following the turkey dinner, awards were presented and Mr. Coe, the state 4-H Club leader from Manhattan, delivered an inspiring speech.

Three baby boys were born in

Oberlin this week: a son, David Jay, to Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Herzog; a son, Phillip Richard, to Mr. and Mrs. George McMullen, Jr., and a son, Clifford John, to Mr. and Mrs. John Fiala.

Paul Griffith, county agent, has been notified that some additional federal funds are available for farmers needing to list land to prevent blowing caused by the dry conditions.

According to recent word, new streamlined trains on the Rock Island lines called "The Rocket" will be speeding through Norton on the Kansas City-Colorado Springs and Denver lines before next June.

Dresden: Vincent Muirhead, who is a graduate of Norton High School, has received an appointment from the Sixth Congressional District to attend the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md. He is currently a student at Kansas State College. He is a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Bert McKinney.

Tuesday evening as Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Ayers were driving home from town on the highway south of town their car came over the hill into a herd of cattle said to belong to Mr. Anderson and they were taken to the hospital for treatment of cuts and bruises. The three girls in the back seat, Clara Counter and two daughters of Harry Montgomery, were uninjured.

Will Stiner, 63, died instantly when his car and a car driven by a Mr. Ritchey, met at the top of the hill near the Jake Riley place two mile northeast of Oberlin. Mr. Ritchey is in the office of the WPA headquarters at the Sappa State Park project.

Dresden: A baby boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Walter McCreary Dec. 4. He has been given the name of Walter A. She is at the home of her parents, Dr. and Mrs. F.R. Funk.

**50 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1961**

Snowy Saturday was moving day for grade school principal John Bearley, kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Howard Mathews, and grade school custodian, Edwin Black. The trio moved furniture and teaching materials into the beautiful new split-level brick and concrete Oberlin kindergarten building situated immediately north of the grade school. On Monday morning they opened its doors to pupils who had been attending classes at St. John's Lutheran Church school building. There are 16 desks with two chairs

at each desk.

Monday night the temperature plunged to a minus 14 degrees and the ground was covered with 10 inches of snow. The -14 is not a record as according to Ned Coldren, retired official weather man, the temperature dipped to -19 on Nov. 14, 1940 and to -26 on Dec. 12, 1932.

Selden: Funeral services were held for Tracy Monteith, 74, at the Selden Methodist Church with graveside services by the Masonic Lodge at the Selden Cemetery. He was born in September 1887 and during the first year of his life the railroad was completed through Selden and his parents moved their house to town where he resided until his death. He was married to Amy Phillips in 1906 and started as rural mail carrier in 1907 and served in that capacity for more than 47 years. In addition to his wife he is survived by two sons, Dallas of St. Francis and Harlan of Wichita and a daughter, Maxine Power, Denver.

Norcatur: Services were held for a longtime Norcatur area resident, Mrs. Ora (Julia) McConnell, 72.

Funeral services were held for Vining J. Owen, 68, who had farmed east of Oberlin most of his life. In recent years he was a member of the musical group known as the Kanona Hot Shots. He is survived by his wife, June.

Floyd and Dottie Lotker and children recently completed a 300-hour, four month, do-it-yourself project of building an organ from a kit which he had read about in Popular Mechanics Magazine.

Hospital News: Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Stacey, Oberlin, daughter, Tina Michelle, 12-6-61; Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Walker, Oberlin, daughter,

Sherri Lea, 12-9-61.

**25 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1986**

Oberlin City Council members moved acceptance of a contract with the Decatur County Area Chamber of Commerce to administer tourism and convention funds and carry out an economic development program.

Nearly \$600 was collected by the 25 walkers who participated in this year's CROP Walk for Hunger, according to the Rev. Keith Madsen.

The basketball season opened with a 61-58 loss to the Oakley Plainsmen for the boys team coached by Dan Buchanan and 36-33 loss for the girls team coached by Duane Dorshorst. The Oberlin matmen coached by Tom Alstrom won over Oakley in dual action, 48-15 and placed third in the Hoxie tournament behind Hoxie and Scott City.

Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Meitl have moved into their new home at 203 N. Griffith which they purchased from Mrs. Vena Bogart.

Michelle Bader and Kevin McCarty exchanged wedding vows Sept. 27, 1986, at the First Baptist Church in Ellinwood. The bride is a graduate of DCHS and Barton County Community College Cosmetology Dept. and is employed in Great Bend. The bridegroom is a graduate of Ellinwood High School and Fort Hays State with a degree in agri-business and is employed by FarmPlan Inc., of Kansas City. They will reside in Geat Bend.

Angie Krizek, 16, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenny Krizek, Dresden, was named one of the six winners of a national 4-H scholarship for her food preservation project.

## Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

The annual Ladies Shopping Night sponsored by the Oberlin Business Alliance will be from 9 to 11 p.m. Thursday at participating businesses in downtown Oberlin.

Each business will have a Christmas tree hidden in their store for shoppers to find. The person finding it should take the tree to the Chamber office to trade for \$25 in Santa Bucks that may be spent at participating businesses. There will be refreshments in some stores to make your shopping lots of fun.

Santa will be at the Business Entrepreneurial Enhancement Center from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday with a sack of goodies for the children. A free kids' movie will start at 2 p.m. that day at the Sunflower Cinema.

The alliance is again offering the Santa Bucks for anyone to purchase. These make nice gifts and helps keep the shopping dollars here in Oberlin.

Have a great week!

## Good Samaritan News

By Lisa Paulson

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 of those that meet mine.

The dining room is blanketed with the grandeur of snowy white heads waiting with quiet anticipation. These mature individuals have experienced His abundant blessings and are keenly aware of His love! How sweet it is to meet God every morning with these devoted

ones. Anita opens her mouth, it is as if the angels join her singing, and then, when Eva Bryan starts, the whole room is filled with music.

As winter has settled in for a while, the daily plans must be flexible to accommodate the cancellations the weather dictates. Not only that, it is a little humorous, when inviting residents to activities, you are greeted with "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!

Tuesday, our First Hand Friend readers cheerfully braved the weather to come read. When they were finished they didn't have to search for Sammy, the squirrel; he was waiting right out in the open! He shared the Candy Cane

story with them and they all got to choose a gift to take with them.

We had a great time with the 180 Boys this week, too. Using the photo cards from My Soularium, we had wonderful conversation that ended with a prayer and blessing given for the boys by Amy Rehm.

Children, bring us such joy and once again the doors opened and the grade school children paraded through the hallways singing Christmas carols spreading joy all around.

Wednesdays we are especially blessed with many volunteers. Songs of Worship, Marilyn Horn joins Anita and the angels on piano. Bible study, manicures, Dorothy Alstrom. Social Hour, Bernice Martin. Bingo, Colleen Geishler, Pat Fringer and Marilyn

Horn. Other Volunteers for the week include: Dennis Brown, Devotions. Larry Smith, Computer. Keith Rutherford and Frank McEvoy, Men's Coffee. Max Carman, Poker. Current Events, Carol Duncan. One to One visiting, Gladys Geis. Thank you all for your dedication and hard work.

Friday the snow had been successfully removed, but the temperature was still a bit frosty. A perfect setting for the "In House Club" to build felt snowmen and a game played by Edith Persinger, Leone Porsch, Opal Bryan and Margaret Vacura. A wonderful ending to a wonderful week!

Thank you to all our visitors this week and thank you for remembering that in Christ's Love, everyone is someone.



**BRENDA CLAASSEN AND JESALYNN GRIFFITHS** cut out candy canes from sugar cookie dough during a bake day at The Shepherd's Staff in Rexford. — Photo by Gwen Griffiths

## Rexford News

By Gwen Griffiths

As we draw nearer to Christmas, more and more homes in Rexford are decorated with lights and more. "It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!"

The elementary students put on a good show Tuesday. They performed a variety of Christmas songs for members of the community.

Saturday was a busy day at the Shepherd's Staff. In the morning and early afternoon, area women came and made all sorts of Christmas sweets: sugar cookies, spritz, bon-bons, wreaths, saltine toffee and ritz cookies. In about five hours, they made over 1,400 cookies! They each went home with platters to share with family and friends.

On Saturday evening, the community was invited to a Christmas Open House, featuring the soup and the music of Trevor Baker from Canada. Darla Dible read "The Legend of the Candy Cane" to children in the Ranch House and "Veggie Tales" Christmas movies played

in The Hall. The Girl Scouts came to help serve in the Main Center. The staff at Shepherd's Staff was very blessed by each person who attended.

Bingo night was held Saturday at the Red Barn — where everybody wins! The next Bingo night will be Jan. 14 (always on the second Saturday of the month) and Spuds and Splits will be Thursday (third Thursday) at 6:30 p.m. Everyone 40 and over is welcome to enjoy baked potatoes and banana splits. There is no charge but donations can be made towards the cost of the food.

A few Rexford residents traveled to Colby on Sunday afternoon for the Doofus Joobilee, put on by the Western Plains Arts Association. The group performed a variety of country western and Christmas melodies. After the show, the Griffiths family joined Ernest and Twila Griffiths of Scottsbluff, Neb., and Tom and Kathie Peyton of Mingo for pie at Village Inn.

## Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

Word was received recently of the death of Mabel F. Grafel. She was 97 and a resident of Billings, Mont. Ms. Grafel and her parents, Matt and Elisabeth Grafel and family, moved to Montana in 1915 from Herndon. She was an elementary teacher for many years in the Billings area.

Julie Hafner enjoyed lunch with her aunt, Joan Noble, on Saturday at Cedar Living Center in Oberlin.

Herndon senior citizens will hold their monthly dinner on Wednesday, Dec. 21, at the Herndon center. Seniors are welcome to join the group at noon for potluck and entertainment.

Sarah and Rachel Grafel, home from Sterling College, are spending Christmas break with Kyle and Cindi Grafel. Mariah Grafel joined them for a movie night on Sunday.

Cork and Jacque Riener returned from a 10-day vacation in Las Vegas on Sunday.

**Julie's Memory Joggers**

**Famous Kansas People**

**Peggy Hull 1889 — 1967**

Peggy Hull was born on a farm near Bennington, on Dec. 30, 1889. She left school at sixteen, got her first newspaper job on the Junction City, Kan. Sentinel, and between 1909 and 1916 worked for newspapers in Colorado, California, Hawaii, Minnesota and Ohio. In June 1917 Peggy persuaded the editor of the Morning Times to send her to France to report on World War I. She sailed for England, survived the submarine-infested Atlantic Ocean and made her way to Paris.

Not an easy feat, since she was without benefit of War Department accreditation, which conferred a certain government blessing on and aid to war reporters. But, no woman had ever been accredited and it was War Department policy that none ever would be. She became the first woman in the United States to become an official war reporter. She reported on several wars, including World War I and II.

**Give the gift of fitness with a membership to the Decatur Health Systems Fitness Center**

- Free weights
- Stationary bicycles
- Treadmill
- Elliptical
- Stair-stepper
- And more!

• Open from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Single, Family and Senior Citizen memberships are available.

Call 475-2208 or visit the Decatur Health Systems Business Office for more information.

**Ibanez**

Electric & Bass Guitar Packs Starting at \$199 Includes Guitar, Amp, Tuner, Cable, Strap, Picks & Gig Bag

**HERSHBERGER MUSIC CO.**  
The Complete Music Store  
Established 1956  
Downtown McCook 345-3610 800-345-8977

**Best Buys In Used Equipment**  
Call 24 Hours A Day, 7 Days A Week

<b>Planters, Etc.</b>	<b>Combines</b>
C-IH 5400 20' no-till	'00 C-IH 2388, 2,465E/1,805R
10' C-IH 1250 16R	'03 C-IH 2388 2176E/1546R
JD 1760 12R	'05 C-IH 2388, 1,625E/1,200R
JD 1770 NT 16R	'06 C-IH 2388, 1,426E/1,100R
'08 C-IH 1250 16R30 Bulk Fill	'08 C-IH 2588, 1,190E/856R
Schaben 8500 Sprayer 80' 1500 Gal	'08 C-IH 7010 908E/888R
'09 C-IH 1230 16R30 Stacker	'09 C-IH 7120 950 HRS
Schaben LA 9000 Coulter ARP	'10 C-IH 7120 631 HRS
Blu-Jet LT9400 30' Coulter App	'10 C-IH 7120 708 HRS
Schaben LA9000 Coulter	'11 C-IH 6088 235 HRS
<b>Tractors</b>	'11 C-IH 7120 240 HRS
'00 JD8410 8650HRS	Several Case IH Magnums Coming-call to check them out
JD2840 W/LDR	<b>Heads</b>
'08 C-IH MG305 2775 hrs	(2) C-IH 2212s C-IH 1010 25'
<b>Haying Equipment</b>	(2) C-IH 3412s IHC 963
MACDON 5020 NH-1431	'08 C-IH 3212 '08 C-IH 3408
'07 C-IH DCX131 Mower/Cond	C-IH 1020 30' Flex
'02 C-IH DCX131 Mower/Cond	

**CURLY OLNEY'S, INC.**  
PARTS & SERVICE CENTER  
McCook, NE • 308-345-4890 • 800-543-7512 • Imperial, NE • 308-882-4221 • 800-392-6823  
www.curlyolneys.com

**CASE IH** AGRICULTURE

Financing Available W.A.C. **CNH CAPITAL**