

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1887

Very heavy snow storm set in Saturday.
The Oberlin post office registered 100 letters last Tuesday.
Remember that the passenger train now leaves at 5 o'clock instead of 4.
The proprietors of the Commercial House have built an addition to the building.
N.A. Lloyd and Company is the name of a new firm that has opened out a neat stock of groceries in the old Babcock harness building.
The lack of a bridge at the Bliss crossing is still the thorn in Oberlin's flesh.
Geo. H. Hand has sold the Opinion to W.D. Street who took charge of the office Jan. 1.
G.H. Houghton, formerly of Hebron, Nebr., has opened up a tailor shop in the Palmatier jewelry shop.

Marriages:
Dec. 30, Mr. S.L. Allen and Miss Debbie Burrus, all of Decatur County;

Dec. 26, Mr. Gideon W. Cobbs and Miss Rosetta A. Swander both of Cedar Bluffs;

Dec. 29, Mr. Geo. W. Jackson and Miss Nettie A. Hunt, both of Oberlin.

Jan. 1: Mr. Duane A. McCarty and Miss Maria A. Redman, both of Decatur County;

Jan. 5: Mr. Wm. H. Woodruff of Madison County, Nebr., and Miss Jennie B. Mitchell of Franklin County, Neb.;

Dec. 28, Mr. John W. Johnson and Miss Mary A. McKeighan, both of Sherman County, Kansas.

100 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1912

Homer Murlin, bookkeeper at the Farmers National Bank, spent Christmas vacation with home folks in the eastern part of the state.
Tudor Stevenson will take the place of Ted Seavey at the Central Drug Store. Tudor is a bright young man and will make good.
The telephone company will soon have all their lines in working order again. It has been a big job.
The high school boys have rented

the garage on Hall Street and will fit it up as a gymnasium.
W. H. McMullen has contracted for a centrifugal pump and will do some irrigating on his farm north of town.
Paul Nitsch, the horse and mule buyer, returned from a trip to Florida last week.

Ted Seavey has severed his connection with the Central Drug Store on Jan. 1 after four years and two months service without missing a day.

G.A. Steele has accepted his old job on the road and will attend to those duties as well as managing the Benton-Smith Hotel.

County Treasurer T.M. Anderson announces that the first distribution of tax money amounts to 60 percent of the total.

75 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1937

The year 1936 was a record-breaker in more ways than one and the worst of it is that the records are not the kind of which to be proud. The total rainfall for the entire 12 months was under 10 inches for the first time since records have been kept since 1887.

Jan. 11 is the date for the change of county officers. Frank Garver will vacate the office of sheriff after four years and Corral Bainter will move into that office. Mr. Bainter and family have moved to Oberlin from the Allison neighborhood.

Phil Wallack, who ends his 8th year as county commissioner, will be replaced by Henry Wahlmeier of Pleasant Valley Township. The change in the office of county treasurer will be made in October when Mrs. Angie Everist replaces Miss Caroline Wiggins who by law could not hold a third term.

Dr. L.H. McCartney, 60, Hoxie osteopath, while making a call last Friday night left his car where it had run into a ditch and apparently was lost in the blizzard before he found shelter, and froze to death. He is survived by his wife, a daughter, Mrs. Ray Mahanna of Hoxie, and a son, Willard McCartney, a student at the Kansas City School of Osteopathy.

Mrs. Gladis Gaumer started this week at the Herald and will take over the bookkeeping and office work and other duties which Mrs. Woodward has been in charge of the past year.

The carnival given by the Sappa 4-H Club at Dell Brown's barn on Dec. 30 was successful considering the fact it was a cold, stormy night. Leota Brown won the amateur contest and Ohmie Brothers placed second. Virginia Landau was elected carnival queen with Helen Kiser a close second.

Gaylord Weimer returned Sunday night from Cambridge, Nebr., where he has been helping for a short time in the bakery. He and Russell Leake plan to leave next Monday for Oregon where both have work awaiting them.

Miss Della Kathka, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Kathka, and Mr. LaVelle Carter of Jennings were married at the home of the bride's parents on Sunday, Dec. 27th. The Rev. Mr. Smith performed the ceremony. The bride is a graduate of DCHS and a teacher in the rural schools of the county.

The members of Monday Evening club entertained their husbands with a New Year's party the evening of Dec. 31 with a turkey dinner at the Fontanac Cafe followed by a pleasant evening of bridge at the home of Mr. and Mrs. D.G. Campbell.

Dresden: The primary room at the school has two new pupils, the Sloan children, who are staying with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Deupree.

50 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1962

Top ten news stories for year 1961:

- 1. Construction**
Commercial buildings: 17-unit apartment house, kindergarten, Centennial Bowl, R.C. Williams shop & office, 6 units added to Frontier Motel, Nitsch & Nitsch office building, bids let for new post office.
- 2. New families**
Population reaches high of 2450 with 13 families brought in by R.C. Williams; Rock Island Oil and

Walker Oil activity and construction on Norton dam.

3. Indian remains
Evidence of Indian encampment and burial grounds found 11 miles southwest of Oberlin on Gaylord Shields' land.

4. Celebrations
Oberlin Centennial observed Sept. 15-17; Norcatur observes 75 year Jubilee with 2000 persons in attendance.

5. Unification
Senate Bill 400 provides for organization of unified school districts

6. Accidents
Accidents of various kinds kill, injure, hospitalize many in 1961. Most tragic was one-car accident involving six students at Leoville High School.

7. Robberies
Break-ins at Ray Jewelry, Oberlin Clinic, OES, Smith's United Super Market, Giant Wash.

8. Dial conversion
Over 2,000 persons attend open house April 25-26 marking conversion to dial telephone service.

9. Acquittal
Twelve-man jury brings in verdict of acquittal on both counts of sodomy in the State vs. Dr. R.G. Young case in district court.

10. City elections
City elections were quietest on record. Jennings had larger turnout due to the liquor vote which carried 119 to 48.

25 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1987

Top news stories of 1986 as reported by the Herald staff:

1. Oberlin home of new Quay floating trailer and boat industry.
2. Funds sought for bus factory.
3. Dr. and Mrs. Hooper open amaranth bread bakery.
4. Teacher, school board relations waiver.
5. US-83 highway widened, resurfaced.
6. Area votes for Hayden, funding methods.
7. Valuation, wheat, gas prices dip.
8. Economic development is ongoing concern.
9. Youth capture many honors
10. Norcatur celebrates centennial.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

The Christmas decorations are packed and put away and the new year is off and running at Cedar Living Center. We are looking forward to a great year ahead.

We spent the last week of 2011 with our usual round of activities. Several residents met on Monday afternoon to try their luck at a game of penny cards. Snacks were served following the game. Residents enjoyed a sing-along time before supper.

The bingo players had a lively game on Tuesday afternoon. Volunteers Marian Dempewolf and La Ray assisted.

The activity department hosted the December birthday party on Wednesday afternoon. Wilma May and Clarence Hoppas were recognized for having birthdays in December. Each received a 2012 calendar. Everyone at the party enjoyed a root beer float.

Tara Votapka hosted her last events as activity assistant on Thursday afternoon. She has moved on to her next job as a full-time nursing student. The residents and staff of Cedar Living Center wish her much success in her studies.

Tara's replacement has not yet been named.

The baking group made peanut butter cookies on Friday afternoon. Several guests and staff members helped us eat the cookies.

We continue to look for a volunteer to lead our Bible study group at Cedar Living Center. We are always in the market for individuals willing to host parties, provide musical entertainment, or play games with residents. If anyone made a New Year's resolution to become involved as a volunteer, please give us a call and check out these opportunities.

Recent visitors: Stephani and Adrian Hawkins, Euless, Texas; Rick and Sharon Gamblin, Columbus, Neb.; Iris Osborne, Wichita; Isabella Gano, Salina; Kelly Olson, Manhattan; Juliann Sis, Delpha Sis, Susie Youngblood and Linda Files, Atwood; Esther and Ann Pennington, Bob and Julie Hafner, Herndon; Norma Ward, Clayton.

Marian Dempewolf, Penny Fringer, Jody Betts, Mirium Fisher, Connie Olson, Herb and Carol Shirley, Oberlin.

Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

Christmas Day guests of Bud and Vicky Mumm were Anita Mumm and boyfriend, Marco Ferreira, Greg Mumm, Kenny Mumm, Stan, Becky, Heather and Muriel Faimon, Cork and Jacque Riener, John and Keri Riener, Jim and Amy Riener, Jeff Riener, Megan Cahoj, Jessica Riener, Calvin and Kayla Hughes and Luke Marintzer.

The Herndon community extends sympathy to the family of Melvin Frank Huss who died Dec. 31, 2011, at Lexington, Neb. Melvin was born June 2, 1929 to Frank and Pauline (Kogl) Huss in Herndon and attended Auctioneer School in Mason City, Iowa. Mass of Christian Burial will be today, Thursday, at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Lexington with burial following at St. Ann's Cemetery.

St. Mary's Altar Society will hold their post Christmas celebration on Monday at Roger's Bar and Grill beginning at 6 p.m. Please bring an item for the Rawlins County Food Bank and RSVP to Deanna Williams.

Celebrating Christmas on New Year's Day at the Sharon Ecker home were Troy and Brandi Ecker and Bart Ecker of Hays, Marlin and Dana Marintzer of Oberlin and Carla Marintzer, Herndon.

Dean, Deb, Marcus and Neil Pertschky spent the Christmas holidays in Stockton. After attending Christmas Eve Mass celebrated by Father Galen Long, they joined

family at the home of Freddie and Shirley Reed for gifts and snacks. Christmas day was spent with family at the home of Deb's sister, Scott and Denise Murchie. Dean and the boys returned home on Monday and Deb returned home on Tuesday.

Jason Hafner and Raquel Freichs, Lexington, Neb., met Bob and Julie Hafner in North Platte Wednesday. They traveled to Galla and Scottsbluff to be with family for Christmas, returning on Thursday. Happy Birthday to Joe, who turns the big 4-0 today.

Christmas guests of Carol Kompus, Oberlin, were Brian, Stef and Adrian Hawkins and Brian's mother, Jan Hawkins of Dallas; Lauri and J.L. Fox of Valley Center; Doug Bobinmyer, Herndon; and Kathy Brainard, Oberlin. Doug took the family to lunch in McCook on Monday before Lauri and J.L. and Jan returned to their homes. Last Tuesday, Brian and Stef celebrated their 14th wedding anniversary. Childhood friends of Stef's, Tammy Haselhorst and friend, Sam, came from Denver to celebrate New Year's with the family. Brian, Stef and Adrian will return to Dallas on Friday.

Emmie Lou Sattler celebrated her birthday and New Year's Eve together with family and friends. Weekend guests were John Sattler, Cassi and boyfriend Chris, from Derby, and Terri Dechant of Greeley, Colo.

Lyle News

By Veda Wood

Happy New Year!
On Saturday, the wind blew and it rained and snowed. It was terrible. But this is a new year, and thank the good Lord, it cleared up and we had a nice Sunday.

Everyone I have seen say they had a good Christmas. Veda Wood and Dennis enjoyed a good Christmas dinner at home with John and Carol Moye, Brandy Cohart and Tom Baker. We had a delicious dinner at Dwight and Teresa Wood's home in McCook on Dec. 24 with Carol and John Moye and Sheryl and Richard Patterson.

The dinner at Lyle on New Year's Day was the scene of three birthday celebrations; Joyce Sumner, Judy Easton and Mike Horney. Pam had asked Toots if they could make taffy, as Mike had never helped with it, so they had a taffy pulling party. Greg and Von Sumner; Deanna and Todd Sumner, Brooke and Brady; Gracie Mae, Sumner and Sophia brought ice cream for Joyce, to go with a cake and candles from Toots Magers. Joyce and all her family had

Christmas dinner at Greg's home. Last Monday Joyce and family went to Ward's home.

Dewayne Jackson gave a wonderful sermon. We always enjoy having his family visit.

June Jolly had Christmas dinner with Linda and Dennis McFarland. The Jolly and McFarland family: June, Dean and Rhonda, Louis and Laveda McFarland, and Jennifer's family, celebrated Christmas together at Linda's. On Wednesday, June and Karen Brown played in a pitch tournament in Indianola.

Toots Magers enjoyed a visit with Helen Helm one day last week.

The Senior Citizens enjoyed a potluck dinner at the Community Building on Friday, and debated whether they should try to play cards, or if the roofers noise would be too disturbing. And managed to outdo the roofers for noise. It was fun and the meal was wonderful.

Kathy VanMeter and Lloyd Frandsen joined the Lyle group for church and dinner on Sunday, and headed for Quinter.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Frank and Becky Foster and Ethan from Texas, and Matt Hall and Jenan Rodriguez from Brighton, Colo., visited Pat Hall and Violet Foster during the Christmas holiday. All of the above spent Christmas Eve at the home of Gary and Marsha Richards, Oberlin.

Family at the Tom Votapka farm for Christmas Eve were: Rollie and Jean Halligan, Goodland; Ann Rowh, Jodi Inguanza, Meagan Anderson and Christopher, Cimarron; Jason Rowh, Drake and Brecken and Sue Long, Jennings; Lori Schiefin and Katlyn, Overland Park.

Lori Schiefin and Katlyn, Overland Park, were guests of Sue Long Friday to Sunday for Christmas.

Mary Votapka fell and was a surgery patient at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. She is now back in Oberlin.

Missy and Adam Cawfield and two children of San Diego, Calif.; and Allan and Sherry Carter of Kansas City made a pre-Christmas visit with Rachel Carter the week before Christmas. On Tuesday

before Christmas, Denise and Scott Taylor and their children; Carol Carter and Heather West and her children visited with the Cawfields at the Rachel Carter home.

Rachel Carter spent Christmas Day at the Pat McKenna home with the Max Ward family. That evening Ann and Dick Graner of Bethany, Mo., spent a week with Rachel.

Pat and Shelley McKenna's family members home over the Christmas holiday included: Sarah from Topeka; Jacque of Macomb, Ill.; Chris of Scott City; and Marcus of Wichita. While they were home, they helped their parents host a Christmas Eve supper for the McKenna family. Guests included: Nick and Kathy Otter and Sean, Hoxie; DiAnn and Dick Gardner, Jalen and Rylan, Mankato; Pam and Nathan Dieckmann, Parker and Mason, Woodbine; Mike and Joan McKenna, Jennings; Becca and Brock Peterson, Will and Henry, Demotte, Indiana; Amy Osborn, Overland Park; Brett and Tracy McKenna, Clafin; Jerry McKenna; Greg and

Paula McKenna, Marlee, Landee, Halle and Baylee of Selden.

Guests of the Pat McKenna family for dinner on Christmas Day were: Max and Norma Ward, Dave Ward of Clayton; Jodi and Braxton Ward; Ken and Julie Carter; Rachel Carter; Becky Carter and Stann Hartzog; Clayton and Anna Carter of Jennings; Ann and Wes DuBois, Abby, Madison and Aubrey from Norton; and Lori and Kelly Wycoff and Kelly of Scott City.

The Imogene Keenan family held their Christmas dinner at the Sunflower Senior Center on Dec. 31.

The Decatur Tomorrow Committee met with the Decatur County Commissioners on Dec. 19 about having bus service from Jennings to Oberlin for doctor's appointments and to Raye's Grocery once a week. Decatur Health Systems, Decatur County Commissioners and Decatur Tomorrow have worked to arrange regular bus service to follow-up doctor's appointments and Raye's Grocery each week. Each Wednesday the

Decatur County Bus will pick up passengers at the Jennings Clinic at 8:30 a.m. leaving for Oberlin at 9 a.m. The bus will go to the Oberlin Clinic to deliver patients for follow-up appointments made on Tuesday at the clinic or made by the patients themselves. Anyone wishing to shop will be taken to the Golden Age Center or to the Business Building on Penn Ave. for coffee, (suggestions are welcome). Riders will meet at Raye's Grocery at noon for the return trip to Jennings. As always, the bus will be available to Jennings residents as needed at other times by appointment. For further information call Connie Grafel at 475-8101. This service was requested by Jennings residents at the Decatur Tomorrow meetings and is greatly appreciated.

Senior Citizens dinner will be held Tuesday, Jan. 10, at noon. Bingo will be played following the meal. Please bring two bingo prizes and join us.

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Our sympathies to Pam and Roland May, Zach and Hannah. Pam's father, Ben Jorns, passed away Saturday, Dec. 31.

Elwood and Jeanie May spent Christmas with their daughter and family, Andrew and Stephanie Frankforter, Ethan and Isaac, Cairo, Neb. Also joining them for Christmas were their son, Brandon May and Leslie Myers of Kearney.

Martin and Evelyn May entertained during the week to celebrate their May family Christmas with out-of-town family members. Brian and Sarah Shaw, Caden and Landon, Andover; Ernest and Donna May, Tonganoxie; Matthew Jecha, San Jose, Calif.; Greg and Janice Cundiff; Marvin May; Chris, Kelsey, and Hunter May; and Gage Van Meter were Dec. 27 dinner guests of Martin and Evelyn May.

Dec. 28 dinner guests of Martin and Evelyn May were Marvin May; Greg and Janice Cundiff; Ernest and Donna May; Matthew Jecha; and Martin and Evelyn's grandchildren, the Rev. Paul and Meaghan May,

Austen and Claire, Sioux Falls, S.D.; Rebecca May, Austin, Texas; and Stephen May, Lawrence.

The Brian Shaw family, houseguests of her father, Marvin May, returned home Wednesday morning. Matthew Jecha, houseguest of Martin and Evelyn, returned home Thursday, and the Ernest May family, the Paul May family, and Rebecca and Stephen May, also houseguests of Martin and Evelyn May, returned home on Friday.

Thursday dinner guests of Rhonda May and Dan Nedland and Elizabeth for their May family Christmas were Walter and Betty May; Richard May and Nolan May, Lawrence; Cameron Nedland, Manhattan; Cole May and Alyssa Rippe, Manhattan; Hunter and Rhiannon Nedland and Liam; Robert May; Roland and Pam May, Zach and Hannah; Regan Bartels, Phillipsburg; and Roger and Susan May, Ryan and Erin.

New Year's Day guests at the home of Joel and Tami Shaw and Dante were her parents, Norman

and Julie Gallentine; Tami's sister and brother-in-law, Emily and Dale Waldo, Salina, and brother, Rex Gallentine, Milford.

Bill and Bonnie Condit, Winfield, and Norman and Joanne Wendelin were New Year's Day breakfast

guests of Craig and Karen Larson at a local restaurant.

Karen Larson's sister and parents, Konnie Green, Williamsburg, Va., and Zane and Gladys Geis were afternoon guests on New Year's Day for tea at the Craig Larson home.

Rexford News

By Gwen Griffiths

The New Year always brings motivation for change and improvement! In the Griffiths' home, that often means trying to ignore the delicious goodies left from Christmas, and planning to exercise more often.

A friend emailed this quote by Edith Lovejoy Pierce to me: "We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day." We already added a couple of pages into our book, hopefully each page will be filled

with wonderful things.

High winds on Saturday blew dirt and debris all over town, and blew down a large tree in Chris and Sena Bailey's yard. We are thankful no one was hurt.

The kids headed back to school Tuesday morning. I wonder if the teachers are any more excited to resume than the students are! Book club met at the Red Barn Tuesday evening. Anyone is invited to attend.

It's a quiet time in Rexford right now. Most of us have returned from our holiday travels and are trying to

find homes for Christmas gifts and get our holiday decorations down.

I'd love to share any news you

have! Please call me at 687-2076 or e-mail griffithsgang@gmail.com to report your special event or



Twin Creeks Extension Office
Open House
Friday Jan. 6,
10a.m.-2p.m.



Come join us on the 1st floor Oberlin courthouse and meet the extension staff from Hoxie, Norton, and Oberlin offices with snacks, coffee, and tea.