

Events of Yesteryear

By Jody Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1887
Mercury 8 below zero Monday morning.
A billiard hall now occupies the basement of the First National Bank.
John Kelso, the invisible iron pounder of Decatur, was taking in the city Tuesday.
Tuesday morning the departure of both the freight train and the passenger was delayed due to the collapse of the turntable.
Mr. C.M. Bailey and Miss Clara Engles were married in Red Cloud Jan. 5th and at once returned to Oberlin to make their home.
Jack Butters' smiling phiz is again visible on our streets. He has sold out his business in Norton and has returned to reside in the only great metropolis in the northwest.
Commissioners proceedings:
The petition that town 3, range 27, be set off from Prairie Dog Township and organized as a separate township to be known as Summit was granted with the following officers: A.P. McElroy, trustee; Nels Anderson, treasurer and Henry Sage and Charles Noren, constables.
The petition that town 3, range 27, be set off from Garfield Township and organized as a separate municipal township known as Alton Township was granted and the following officers appointed: Lewis C. Johnson, trustee; Chas. Bayes, constable.

weather is the longest spell of zero weather this county has experienced in 12 years and reminded old settlers of the winter of 1885-86.
Otis L. Benton is having his icehouse filled this week. The ice is of fine quality and about 14 inches thick.
W.H. McMullen has the misfortune to get one of his fingers badly mashed week while hauling ice.
West Liberty Items: The warmest weather we had from Friday to Monday morning was 6 below zero and the coldest was 26 below. It certainly feels like winter.

75 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1937
A large enthusiastic crowd was at the city school auditorium Tuesday night where DCHS opened its home schedule of wrestling and basketball with the St. Francis teams furnishing the opposition. The DCHS boys won the basketball game by a score of 24 to 16 but lost on the mat 23-18.
Miss Naomi Griffith of Fort Hays attended Governor Huxman's inauguration and ball at Topeka Jan. 11. Her roommate at Hays is a niece of Huxman and 22 girls from the college went to Topeka by bus as his guests.
Several deaths have resulted from flu and pneumonia in recent weeks. Oran C. Wilson a member of the local CCC Camp died Dec. 27 at his home in St. Francis while on leave. Mrs. Sam Berry, one of Oberlin's longtime citizens, died Jan. 11 at her home of double pneumonia. George Wonderly, 66, died Jan. 12 at his home after a brief illness of pneumonia.
Herndon: Dr. Gilbert T. Wray who has practiced medicine in Herndon since 1930, died Saturday at the home of his mother in Culbertson of heart trouble. He is also survived by his widow and a son, John Gilbert.
Hospital News: Thursday, Jan. 7 a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Dewey McBride.
Gladys Corcoran was the guest of honor at a birthday party at the home of her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. John Bivans, on Saturday

afternoon.
The flu, mumps and a few cases of chicken pox have decreased the attendance at the City School in the past week according to Principal Ira Laidig.

50 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1962
A sub-zero deep freeze moved into Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado Monday and the Kansas-Nebraska Gas Company, Inc., asked Oberlin and area schools to close. According to high school principal Francis Stanley, Bob Fredrickson manually operated the high school furnace to keep the pipes from freezing.
Three Decatur County families were honored at the 17th annual Soil Conservation District meeting: Don and Glee Jom of Olive Township and children, Nancy, Evan and Peggy Jo; Art and Lucille Holmberg of Custer Township and daughter, Marcille, now Mrs. Gary Coulter of Hutchinson and grandchildren, Tommy, Lori and Meg; Walt and Betty May, Logan Township, Richard, Robert, Rhonda, and Roland.
Of the 163 babies born in Decatur in 1961, eight more boys were born than girls. An unusual coincidence is that births and deaths reported equal the same total — 163.
Representative and Mrs. E.R. Woodward leave today for Topeka and the 1962 budget session of the Kansas Legislature. The Woodwards have a room at the Jayhawk Hotel and mail will reach him there during the 30-day session.
"Sky Region," a sleek black racing dog trained at the Harmon Kennels five miles southeast of Oberlin, was the winner of a Jan. 1 race in Miami which paid his owner, Leo Harmon, \$25,000. The trophy was accepted by Harmon's son, Murel.
Sixth District Congressman Bob Dole conducted a question and answer session at the DCHS auditorium on Jan. 3 at the meeting of the Decatur County Wheat Producers. Officers are Henry Euhus, president; Bartos Brown, treasurer and Ival Kathka, secretary.
Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bickford and their four children, Brian, 6 Cecilia, 4, Beth Ann, 3 and Brice Pearson, 6

months, have moved from Atwood to their Oberlin residence at 211 North Cass. Brice was adopted on Dec. 13.
Dresden: Funeral services were held at Leoville for John Paul Karls, 22, who died Jan. 5 in Denver. He was a student at Regis College and had recently spent the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F.J. Karls of Dresden.

25 YEARS AGO — Jan. 1987
First baby of the new year born at Decatur County Hospital is Shawn Scott Daffer, son of Shelly and Steve Daffer of Lebanon, Neb., who arrived on Jan. 4, 1987, with Dr. Allen Hooper in charge of the delivery.
A new training course for Emergency Medical Technicians will begin Jan. 20 according to Ken Lines, county director.
Norcatur: Bob Rapp, manager of the former Morrison-Gregg-Mitchell grain elevator for the past 39 years, has announced the purchase of the business. Employed at the Norcatur business are Rodney O'Hare, fertilizer manager; Dickie Beachel, feed mill manager; Helen McVay, bookkeeper and Dwight Wentz, part-time help who serves as mechanic and float operator.

New manager at the Oberlin Pizza Hut is Steven Oakle who moved from Plainville after three years' experience there. His wife Kimberly is assistant manager and they have one child, Jeremy, one year old.
Allen Strunk, publisher of the McCook Daily Gazette, announced the sale of that publication Dec. 31 to Gozia Company, Borne, Texas. The area daily newspaper was founded by the late Harry Strunk in 1911.
Decatur County Hospital administrator Charlie Myers has announced the purchase of two new exam instruments, a colonoscope and a gastroscope, at a cost of \$10,000 each, which will enable surgeon Dr. Robert Simpson to increase diagnostic services to persons in the area on an outpatient basis.

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

Football has been a popular pastime at Cedar Living Center over the last week or two.
Many of the televisions in the building have been tuned into the various bowl games and some of the men have had to hurry home after meals to catch the start of the next game. It may seem very quiet around here after Monday night.
Several residents met on Monday afternoon to try their luck with a game of dice. Joan Noble won the most games. Snacks were served following the game.
Mirla Coleman provided the accompaniment for our sing-along time before supper on Monday. We sang all of our favorite hymns.
Max Ward won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Ira Kolsky won the blackout game. Ila Ray and Marian Dempewolf assisted.
We celebrated the fact that Tuesday was National Chocolate-covered Cherry Day by handing out

candy to each resident after bingo.
Trivia games were on the agenda for Wednesday afternoon during social hour. Residents met in the dining room on Thursday afternoon for ice cream sundaes. Margee Wilson, Teresa Shaughnessy and Shelby Hardy made the sundaes with the supplies provided by the dietary department. A few residents even managed to eat more than one sundae.
The baking group made snickerdoodle cookies on Friday afternoon. Sherri Shuler led the residents in a lively discussion about times past while everyone enjoyed cookies and coffee.
Recent visitors: Stephani and Brian Hawkins, Euless, Texas; Cliff, Judy and Lisa Raile, St. Francis; Linda Bosler, Herndon; Susie Youngblood and Linda Files, Atwood. Robert Fringer, Carol Kompus, Dolores Koeperich, Oberlin.

Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

Weekend visitors of Justin and Jennifer Davis were his dad, Jeff Davis and brothers, Tyler and Jordan from Humboldt, Iowa. They arrived on Friday and helped Jennifer cheer on her K-State Wildcats. Saturday they hunted pheasants in the Herndon and St. Francis area and finished the day with a good game of cards. They celebrated Jordan's birthday before returning home on Monday morning.

Jackie Votapka, Oberlin spent Thursday with Julie Hafner making prune keepers. They compared recipes from their mothers and decided to follow a family heirloom tradition and make them horseshoe shape, recipe from the late Alice Hutflus Kompus.

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 of Derby and Terri Dechant of Greeley, Colo. Jan and Jayme Sattler drove to Oakley on Saturday, Dec. 31, then accompanied Rob Sattler to Hays to attend the wedding of Riley Voth and Margo Sattler, daughter of Dan and Karen Sattler.

The primary students at Ave Maria Catholic School in Parker, Co participated in the Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive. Kindergarten through second grade students wore their pajamas to school and brought a pajama donation on Tuesday, December 6 as they celebrated St. Nichols Day. The mission of the drive is to provide 125,000 children

who live in group homes, shelters, foster care or orphanages brand new pajamas and books. Over the last two years classrooms across the country have donated over 110,000 pairs of pajamas and the Scholastic Book Club matched every single pair with a new book. Seth Foxhoven, grandson of Bob and Julie Hafner is in the Kindergarten class at Ave Maria.

Julie's Memory Joggers
Herndon Courier
March 30, 1888

Another Score for Herndon
It seems the boom that commenced in this city about the first of December has not, cannot cease. Immediately upon the completion of one building, the workmen employed are put to work on another. And so the ball rolls on without a loss. With such rapid advancement toward a great city before us, it is no wonder we all feel elated.

With the coming of April, so comes the commencement of another store building 25x50 feet. Joseph Barenberg is the projector and proposes to push to completion as rapidly as men can do it. It will be erected near the one owned by Mr. Scheve of Wichita and very much the same style. This will make from twelve to fourteen business houses erected since December 1st and with but one or two exceptions are regulation size. No town in the west can show as fine a lot of buildings as Herndon can. Come one, come all and join with us in the grand jubilee.

Norcatur News

By the Norcatur News Committee

Gary and Cathy Anthony hosted Christmas dinner at their home for Windy and Chris Kuhlman, Jack, Tony and Dillon, and Keith Anthony.
Todd Nelson and Garrett, Wichita, were Christmas dinner guests of his mother, Bee Nelson. The boys had target practice at their corral.
Roger Beachel is recovering from a stroke. He reports that he is in physical therapy and is doing well regaining some use in his left arm and hand. He is learning to stand and walk again and is anxious

to return to his home. He would enjoy hearing from friends. Mail will reach him at Norman Roger Beachel, Room 111A, Castle Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 541 V Avenue, National City, Calif. 91950. His phone number is (619) 791-7900.
Gary and Cathy Anthony spent a quiet New Year's Eve at home. They shared supper with Gary's brother, Keith, and gave Cathy her first pinochle lesson. The next day, the Anthonys attended church services at Lyle with the sermon presented

by Dewayne Jackson. They stayed for the potluck dinner with 25 in attendance. They also helped Joyce Sumner celebrate her birthday.
Brandon Ward arrived Dec. 23 to take his grandmother, Dorothy Ward, to Hugo, Colo., to spend Christmas season with the Mark Ward family. Also attending were K.J. and Bre Ward of McPherson. After Christmas dinner the Ward family held a large family gathering. Those present were Paula Ward and friend, Ron, Denver; Rodney and Lisa Leichliter, Seibert, Colo.; Laci,

Darren and little Alora. Goodland; Ronald Leichliter and friend, Bea, Colorado Springs; Bre's mother and two sisters, Hugo; K.J. and Bre Ward, McPherson; Mark and Deb Ward, Hugo; and Dorothy Ward, Norcatur.
Diana Ward, Denver, was a brunch guest on Monday. She is the daughter of the late Douglas Ward.
Jim and Carolyn Plotts returned Jan. 2 from a 10-day trip to Dallas, San Antonio and Acuña, Mexico. They visited family and completed another mission trip in Mexico.

Selden News

By Jacque Boultinghouse

On Jan. 5 during Senior Citizens at the Community Center, Gail Mumm won, Edna Schiltz took second, Helen Karls got low and Ralph Weis had the most queens.
Other members present included: Carl Mumm, Betty James, Jeanie Spreser, Shirley Emigh, Royce Cook, Lola Cook, Matt Finnesey, Bob Wessel, Pat Wessel, Ann Hazlitt, Bernita Aumiller and Paulie Neff.
School Calendar: Jan. 13, ACT Registration deadline. Jan. 18,

Noon, High School League Scholars Bowl at Tri-Plains. Jan. 19, junior high basketball at Tribune.
Birthdays and anniversaries: Jan. 13, Joe Trembley, Carl Ochs Sherry Carman, Harold Sulzman; Jan. 14, Bernie Ritter, Angel Lobato; Jan. 15, Dave Wachendorfer, Kelsey Hill.
Pinochle Night will be Saturday at the Community Center. It's \$10 per person, so bring your partner and some snacks. We start at 7 p.m., so don't be late.

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Roland and Pam (Jorns) May, Zach and Hannah; the Phillip Jorns family, Norman, Okla.; and the Tim Jorns family, Overland Park, attended the funeral of their father, Arnold "Ben" Jorns on Wednesday, Jan. 4, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Natrona. Burial was in St. Paul's Lutheran Church cemetery, rural Natrona. Ben was predeceased by his wife, Marie, and son, Kim.
Christian Rittmann, Shawnee, returned home Friday after spending five days visiting his grandparents, Ralph and Norma Unger.

Kristen Bremer, of Colby, John and Edith Tate, the Jay Tate family, Jessica Bremer, Warren and Jan Bainter and Lynn and Roberta Johnson were Saturday afternoon guests at the home of John and Dianne Bremer and enjoyed coffee, snacks and homemade Pond Butter Pudding. Pond Butter Pudding, an English dessert, is an annual Christmas tradition on Edith and Dianne's mothers' side of the family, dating back to their great-grandmother, Mrs. J.C. Lemman.

Chamber News

By Carolyn Hackney

I'm glad the snow missed us this time. I know we are never supposed to turn down moisture in this part of the country, but I am really enjoying the nice days without having to wear boots.
The Chamber's 2012 annual meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Thurs-

day at the Golden Age Center. The meal will be followed by a short meeting and an auction. Among the auction items are a tool bag with tools, a wine rack (wine is supposed to arrive by auction time), a holiday cookbook, a digital photo frame and homemade cookies.

I want to encourage all members and future members to attend. We are always open to new ideas for helping our towns and Decatur County. Please come and take part in our Chamber. We still need a couple more board members, along with three new ones so far.

There is not too much going on after this week until the Farmer-Rancher Appreciation Banquet on Saturday, Feb. 18.
Have a great week and hope to see you at the annual meeting Thursday.

Rexford News

By Gwen Griffiths

It's hard to believe it's winter, what with the beautiful weather we've been having. It looks like snow is in the forecast for midweek, though, so I'll be looking forward to that. After spending two years in Laramie, Wyo., it doesn't feel like winter if you don't get to wear your snow boots every so often. However, my kids enjoy being able

to ride their bikes all year long, so I guess it isn't too bad.
The Gideons held their monthly meeting at Shepherd's Staff on Saturday night. They had 14 members from all over northwest Kansas in attendance.
Don't forget that Bingo is slated for Saturday at the Red Barn at 7 p.m. There's plenty of room for

whoever would like to attend, and it's always a good time.
Other than that, it's been a quiet week in Rexford. If you have something exciting going on, we'd love to hear about it and print it! You can leave your news in the jar at the Red Barn, call me at 785.687.2565 or email: griffithsgang@gmail.com
Have a great week!

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