

Events of Yesteryear

By Joan Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1887
 Frost showers have been quite prevalent of late. S.J. Morrish has returned from his western trip. The passenger train from the east now arrives at 1:30 p.m. Hollister's boarders complain of too much quail on toast. Miss Della Goss is now assistant in the post office. A telephone line between Atwood and Blakeman is the latest Rawlins County enterprise. D.C. Moser will move into his new house soon, having sold his old one to H.C. Hollinger. Miss Ella Goss, long time compositor in the Herald office is enjoying a well-earned vacation. The Burlington Railroad has inaugurated a new fast train between Chicago and Denver cutting the running time going east 6 and 1/2 hours over the old schedule and clipping 8 hours from the westbound schedule. The number of stops has been cut from 54 to 15 for this fast train.

100 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1912
 Pearl Stowell and wife came up from Belleville to attend the Barnard funeral. Fay Smick of Custer and Essie Adwins of Summit were married Wednesday evening at the home of the bride's mother. We note by the Norton Telegram that Dr. C.S. Kenney has been appointed superintendent of the state hospital for tuberculosis at Newton, Kansas.

Henry Lippelmann, who has been in the bank at Norcatur the past two years, has been given a change of work to the Benton-Hopkins Investment Company of this city. A.M. Frost and wife of Portland, Ore., dropped in on their friends Wednesday and were accorded a royal welcome. Major S.J. Morrish dug up Jack's old drum major band suit and led the band to the depot to welcome the arrivals.

J.A. Redd sold his property in the southwest part of town to Adam Koehler of Bassettville. Chas. Clark and wife who have been living at Leavenworth arrived in the city last week and will again occupy their spacious home in the northeast part of town. The new parcel post law will go into effect on Jan. 1.

75 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1937
 Work has begun on the new high school building as the Peterson Construction Company issued a call for 10 unskilled laborers to begin work. Loren Alexander has been appointed as the local re-employment clerk. The estimated

need for unskilled laborers is about 30 according to Mr. W.N. Carlson, district employment supervisor from Abilene. Later there will be calls for about 30 bricklayers, 2 carpenters, 1 hoist man and 6 steel placers for reinforced concrete. The superintendent of construction and the resident engineers are in town and the architect, Mr. Joseph Radotinsky, is expected to arrive here Friday from Goodland where he has been located. All unassigned men certified on the relief roles will be given preference for work and when the supply is exhausted, men will be drawn from the WPA roles.

Work continues on the 475-foot dam being constructed by WPA laborers in Oberlin Sappa State Park two miles east of here. When completed early next spring this dam across Sappa Creek will impound water covering 170 acres in the center of the 483-acre State Park area.

School News: The first annual Future Farmers of America Father-Son banquet was held at the high school Tuesday evening with the meal prepared by the DCHS Home Economics class from raw materials brought from the homes of the FFA members.

Miss Maybelle Juanita Hunt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G.E. Hunt, and Mr. Robert Shorb were married in St. Francis Sunday afternoon by the probate judge. Mrs. Shorb is well known here having graduated from DCHS and is teaching a country school in Decatur County and Mr. Shorb is at the CCC Camp.

Hospital News: A baby boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Matt Kleidusty of Herndon and Mrs. C. J. Hutfles and baby daughter were dismissed. Three Oberlin students, John Willcox, Bill Stowell and Gwendolyn Dimmitt, are three of the 16 students on the Fort Hays State College debate team.

The local high school debate team of Maxine Walker and Elma Cramer on the affirmative and Leo Bendon and Ralph Smith on the negative lost only two debates in a recent tournament in Hays in which 14 teams competed.

Kanona: Friday evening, Dec. 10 a supper of chili, pie and coffee will be served by the Kanona Ladies Aid at the school house. Immediately following a Major Bowes program will be given after which bazaar items will be sold.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Bobbitt of Atwood are the parents of a son born Dec. 8. Mr. and Mrs. R.C. Leake and their daughter Ann left Saturday for San Marcos, Texas, where they will stay

for several weeks while he is working on a state highway tree-planting project.

50 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1962
 Approximately 3,381 Decatur Countians — 54 percent of the county's population — participated in the Sabin oral polio vaccine clinic Saturday. Drs. Coffman, Bickford and Nelson supervised preparation of the oral vaccine through the afternoon and evening.

The DCHS debate team of Joyce McMains and Chris Russ, affirmative, and Mark Torluemke and Linda Nemeth, negative, placed first in a field of 21 teams at the tournament held at Hoisington High School. Mrs. Cloyd Railsback, debate coach, said this year's topic, to establish a policy of reciprocal trade, is very difficult and their determination, study and competition has brought them along.

Mrs. George Wendelin announces the engagement of her daughter, Karen, of Denver, to Carter M. Farrar, Jr., son of Carter M. Farrar Sr. of Los Angeles.

Theresa Kennedy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kennedy of Indianola, Neb., exchanged wedding vows with Richard Solko, son of Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Solko of Herndon on Nov. 24 at St. Catherine's Catholic Church in Indianola, Neb.

Paula Harmon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Harmon, rural Oberlin, has completed her nurses training and is employed as a registered nurse at Hadley Memorial Hospital in Hays.

The DCHS A-team cheerleaders started the season in bright new red and white outfits: Karen Pavlicek, Georgia Richards, Marsha Henningsen, Carolyn Kelley and Linda Purvis.

The Red Devil wrestlers of Coach Jim Kinyon tied 22-22 in a home match opener with Atwood but lost to the Norton Bluejays 24-16. In basketball, Oberlin dropped their opener to Almena 54-44 and were bombed by St. Francis 61-37. Coach Ron Temple's Norcatur Cardinals downed Jennings 63-49 after losing to Lenora 54-53. Funeral services were held at Sa-

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

Roberta Petracek, her sister, Vada Jensen, Minnesota, and Vada's daughters Deb Simon and Nancy Brye of Wisconsin, went to Oklahoma for Thanksgiving. They spent time with Roberta and Vada's brother, Robert and Mary Ballard; their sister, Alice Fisher; and Alice's daughter, Linda Hatton and Janice.

Those enjoying cards at the Sunflower Senior Center on Nov. 28 were: Eleanor Morel, Agnes Wahlmeier, Linda Spresser, Scott Taylor, Stan and Ramona Shaw, Wayne and Louise Cressler. Playing cards on Dec. 5 were: Agnes Wahlmeier, Scott Taylor, Eleanor Morel, Diane Carter, Carol Carter, Stan and Ramona Shaw, Wayne and Louise Cressler. We have lots of fun playing cards and everyone is welcome to join us at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Remember, the Senior Citizen Christmas dinner is Thursday at noon at the center. Meat and fixings are furnished, if you would like to bring a salad or dessert. The senior organization is collecting items to be taken to the Oberlin Food Pantry and they may be left at the center.

The Lions will be serving soup from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the Community Hall. Santa will arrive at 1 p.m. and a Community Drawing will follow. There will be a

cred Heart Church for Linda Louise Goltl, age 5, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Evan Goltl, with Father Ernest Gallager conducting the services.

Other recent deaths of Decatur County residents or former residents included Harry Counter, Elmer Ufford, Mrs. Emma Jane VanPelt-Vandiver, James Holmes, James Baker and Torry Avery.

25 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1987
 Warren Weibert, manager and co-owner of Decatur County Feed Yard, was chosen president-elect of the 9,500-member Kansas Livestock Association meeting held in Wichita. He will succeed Be-loit cattleman Max Deets who was elected president. Weibert, a native of the Wichita area and a graduate of Kansas State University, has been operating the local commercial feed lot since 1977.

Robert Crawford has been named supervisor of operations at Cookson Hills Christian Home and Schools and his wife, Ruth, services coordinator. Presently there are two sets of houseparents at Cookson Hills, Orlin and Kay Wentz and Bill and Joy Haney.

Mr. and Mrs. Rick Michel and three-month-old son, Jay, arrived last week from Albany, Ga., and he has been discharged after serving in the U.S. Marines. They are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Dave Nichols.

An open house on Dec. 27 at St. John's Fellowship Hall will honor Henry and Hildegard Euhus on their 60th wedding anniversary.

Guests of Mirla and Mike Coleman this past week have been Rosemary Austen of Canberra, Australia, and her friend, Lyn Ritchie of Melbourne, Australia. Rosemary and Mirla were friends at the University of South Wales when Mirla spent a year in Australia as a Rotary International Exchange Scholar.

The Oberlin Red Devil wrestlers notched their first league dual victory by defeating Goodland 32-24.

Funeral services were held for Jennie May (Diehl) Brown, age 100, who was born in Ipava, Ill., and moved with her family to Decatur County in 1895 where they settled south of Oberlin.

basket out if you would like to bring items for the Oberlin Food Pantry.

Norton Correctional Men have worked in Jennings on Thursday and Friday the past two weeks. They were cutting stickers and cleaning the drainage ditch north of the highway here in town. We really appreciate their working for us.

The Czech Museum held its meeting on Dec. 6. President, Neoma Tacha, presided with directors Mary Wahlmeier, Lila Jennings, Doyle Brown, Bob Tacha and Dean Gawith present. After the minutes of the last meeting were read and the treasurer's report given, the group had a walk through the new addition. It will soon be finished as only the painting, carpeting laid and trim work is to be done. A new sidewalk along the west side of the Royal Neighbor Hall will soon be run weather permitting. A discussion was held concerning the need for an outside storage building on the museum grounds.

The wreaths for the veterans were placed in Jennings and Big Timber cemeteries on Dec. 7. They will be picked up in a month.

At the next board meeting on Jan. 17, directors whose terms will be up for election are Bob Tacha, Lila Jennings, Steve Hirsch and Mary Wahlmeier.

Rexford News

By Gwen Griffiths

What a busy week in Rexford! The residents of this area are finding lots of great ways to celebrate this Christmas season and its meaning.

On Saturday, Shepherd's Staff held a Cookie Making Day; ladies came to bake cookies, then got to take home plates to share while leaving the mess for us to clean up. We made at least 100 dozen cookies.

That evening, Shepherd's Staff held its Christmas Open House. Many people from the Rexford area and beyond came to enjoy soup and cookies.

Teens for Christ held their Christmas meeting at Shepherd's Staff on Saturday night, too. They enjoyed hamburgers, fries and old-fashioned shakes at the Ranch House and then viewed "October Baby."

Saturday was Bingo night at the Red Barn. They had a good turn out.

The Decatur County Ministerial Association met at Shepherd's Staff on Monday morning.

Red Hat Ladies from Oberlin will enjoy a Christmas Luncheon on the Historic Philip Houston House on Tuesday. This 1906 Victorian house was built in Gem and moved to Rexford after its donation to Shepherd's Staff.

Well, this is my last column for Rexford News. I have enjoyed sharing the happenings of our little community with you. Keep in mind that Rexford needs a new columnist. If interested, contact the paper at (785) 475-2206 as soon as possible. Have a Merry Christmas!

Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

The tree-trimming party held in the Cedar Living Center dining room on Monday afternoon was a big success. Several residents gathered around the tree to help with the decorating. We had fun placing some old favorite ornaments as well as a few new ones. When the work was finished everyone enjoyed snacking on Christmas cookies and coffee.

Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack led the sing-along time on Monday afternoon as the group sang all of the favorite Christmas songs.

Irene Fringer won the first bingo on Tuesday afternoon and Wanda Heller won the blackout game. Other residents joining in on the game included Juanita Eckhart, Vern Heller, Helen Helm, Lois Lamb, Wilma May, Beth Sebaugh and Alice Shirley.

Several residents met on Wednesday afternoon to decorate the tree on the patio. Some of the decorations on our patio tree were made by the craft group this year and in previous years.

Fr. Mark Berland brought Communion for the Catholic residents on Thursday morning.

The dining room smelled especially good during the middle of the day on Friday while homemade bread was baking. The baking group met in the afternoon to sample the freshly baked bread.

Carolyn Miller brought treats to serve during the coffee time on Saturday morning.

Everyone was covered with frosting and sprinkles on Saturday afternoon during the annual Cookie Decorating Party. Ten children joined us for an afternoon of creative and delicious fun. Teresa Shaughnessy and Julie Weigel baked the sugar cookies and gingerbread men. Residents, staff and children covered the cookies in the sugary toppings. The children took home the cookies they did not get eaten during the party. One child noted that she was saving her plate of cookies for Santa. Some of the residents took a few cookies home as well, but everyone took home some wonderful memories.

Beth Sebaugh played the piano on Sunday afternoon while residents and staff sang Christmas carols. St. John's Lutheran Church gave the worship service, which also included some lovely music.

Members of the Sappa Valley 4-H Club brought Christmas decorations to hang on the doors at Cedar Living Center on Sunday afternoon. The group also made and delivered decorations to Wheat Ridge Terrace.

Recent visitors: Laurie Helm, St. Joseph, Mo.; Kathy Shaffer, Tracy Ruggles, Mishae Lepper and Jaime Helm, Jim and Yanis Helm, McCook; Kathy Brashear, Curtis, Neb.; Deb, Matthew, Timothy, & Mike Helm, Norcatur.

Oberlin visitors: Dorothy Cochran, Robert Fringer, Dolores Koerperich, Sherri Shuler, Laurie Wasson.

Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Our sympathies to the family of Louise Pollnow, 93, who passed away Friday. She is survived by two daughters, Sharon Addleman and Rita, and was pre-deceased by her husband Ted. Ted and Louise were long-time farmers in the Mount Pleasant community.

The Decatur Community High School scholar bowl varsity team of Elizabeth Nedland, Jalyn Shaw, Sierra Lohofener, Caleb Koerperich, Matthew Helm and Nick Ashley placed third in the "Black Bracket" behind Goodland and Thomas More Prep in Colby on Dec. 3. Also competing was the Decatur Community High School junior varsity team of Garret Scott, Daniel Lerew, Kade Grafel, Austin Hendrickson and Jonathon Howland who placed first over Thomas More of Hays. Their coach is Marlene Moxter.

Susan May, serving on the Kansas Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee, attended the Kansas Farm Bureau's 94th Annual Meeting and Summit volunteer training for counties workshop Dec. 3 and 4 in Manhattan.

Alexandra Waterman, sixth chair clarinet; Hannah May, fourth chair flute; and Elizabeth Nedland, fifth chair French horn, were among

those chosen from Decatur Community High School to play in the Kansas Music Educators Association high school honor band performance Saturday afternoon at the Beach/Schmidt Performing Arts Center on the Fort Hays State University campus. Cassidy Shields was in the association's high school honor choir.

Mollie Tate, soprano, was one of six fifth and sixth grade students from Oberlin Elementary chosen to sing in the association's Treble honor choir directly before the high school honor band and honor choir performances. All students interested in participating in the honor choirs and honor band had previously sent in their audition tapes and were later chosen by the judges.

Elizabeth Nedland was one of three students from Decatur Community High School receiving a four-year honor award for having played in the Kansas Music Educators Association honor band for each of her four years in high school.

Becky Tate, Dakota and Grace, and John and Edith Tate traveled to Hays on Saturday to watch Mollie Tate sing in the Elementary Treble Honor Choir. Jay Tate was unable to attend due to his work schedule.

Selden News

By Jacque Boultinghouse

Birthdays and anniversaries: Dec. 7, Don Juenemann; Dec. 8, Margaret Kaus; Dec. 9, Tarina Aumiller, Patty Albers, Rilee Spresser, Lavina Paulson, Jacob Astalosh; Dec. 10, Dale Smith, Rick Shaw; Dec. 12, Betty James, Paul Zodrow, Brock Brown;

Dec. 13, Kyle and Tasha Carman, Emmie Pauls; Dec. 14, Travis Smith, Chris Koerperich, Jay Lynn Wenger; Dec. 15, Vicky Albers, John and Helen Karls; Dec. 16, Steve Carman, Dana Brockelman;

Dec. 17, Todd Walker, Robyn Mendiola, Tyson Paulson, Nick Koerperich; Dec. 18, Kami Miller; Dec. 19, Renee Bruggeman Filmore, Chad Focke, Avery Spresser, Ben and Christa Wessel;

Dec. 20, Stephanie Ritter, Dave Neff, Nathan Zodrow, Cole Anderson.

During the December Pinochle Tournament Carl Mumm and J.R. Albers won high with a score of 745; Wilma Ritter and Robert Ritter took second with a score of 721; Ann Hazlitt and Shirley Emigh took third with a score of 713; Jeanie Spresser and Lillian Sulzman had a score of 513; and Vicky Ray and Jacque Boultinghouse had a score of 601.

The next pinochle night will be at 7 p.m., New Year's Eve at the Community Center. If you would like to play, find a partner, bring some goodies and \$10 per person.

School Calendar: Friday, High School Basketball at Weskan; Saturday, "Snowflake Swirl" Winter

Dance; Monday, Grade School Soup Supper 5 to 6:30 p.m. in Selden, Grade School Christmas music program at 7 p.m.; Tuesday, high school basketball with St. Francis at Rexford; Dec. 20, junior high and high school Christmas music program at 7 p.m.

On Nov. 29 during Senior Citizens at the Community Center, Shirley Emigh won high with a score of 724; Lola Cook took second with 625; and Paulie Neff got low with 403.

Other members present include: Pat Wessel, Jeanie Spresser, Ralph Weis, Edna Schiltz, Betty James, Lillian Sulzman, Carl Mumm, Royce Cook, Bernita Aumiller, Bob Wessel, Gail Mumm, Janice Kruse and Helen Karls.

Last Wednesday during Senior Citizens, Ralph Weis won high with a score of 371, Carl Mumm took second with 365, Gail Mumm got low 208 and Lola Cook had the most Jacks. Other members present include: Lola Cook, Royce Cook, Betty James, Bernita Aumiller and Lillian Sulzman.

Community Christmas fun is planned for 6 p.m. Sunday at the Community Center. Those who would like to go Christmas caroling, hayrack style, please dress warm. Bring some cookies as hot chocolate will be served. Prizes will be given to the top three Christmas decorations.

Hope to see everyone there.

Herndon News

By Julie Hafner

Jared and Vanessa Solko, Rockwell City, Iowa, are the parents of a baby boy, Graham Ellis, born Nov. 25. The new baby weighed 10 pounds, 4 ounces. Welcoming Graham home are two sisters, 2-year-old Bailey Marie and 1-year-old Avery Josephine.

Don and Pam Stuczynski, Herndon, met Jim and Diana Brunson and family of Omaha in Branson, Mo., recently for a fabulous holiday celebration. The group was kept busy with laser tag, bumper cars, being thankful and enjoying a homemade Thanksgiving dinner, attending a Christmas show and touring the Veterans Museum. They played arcade games, rode the amphibious military Branson Ducks and made many memories by taking family pictures and celebrated Christmas by opening gifts and singing carols. Santa's elves read to Diana's three grandchildren and tucked them into bed. The adults toasted in the New Year and congratulated Jim and Diana on their 40th wedding anniversary. Plans are being made for gathering next year, making this an annual event since having so much fun.

Jim and Sharon Vogel spent Thanksgiving weekend with her daughter, Kim and Todd Hoffman in Castle Rock, Colo. Harvey Hoffman, Todd's dad and his brother also attended. Randy Fassnacht of Horton then spent the week with his sister, Sharon and Jim, doing some hunting. Stacey and girls came for supper one evening.

Visitors this past weekend at the home of Richard and Theresa Rippe were their family, Kevin and Megan Rippe, Lilly, Michaela, Allison, Kimberly and Connor, Tim Rippe and Wyatt, Brenda and Aaron Schilde and Addison, and Rodney and Katelyn Rippe. They were home to help their dad celebrate his 70th birthday. Additional family helping

to share the weekend were Tom and Myra Sattler, Gary and Pat Louise Sloan, David Sattler and Lauren, Marvin and Mary Ann Holle, and friend, Michelle Stevens. Richard was treated to a nice supper at Park Hill in Atwood on Saturday evening, donuts and coffee with family and friends at Roger's Bar and Grill on Sunday after church, and a family lunch with pie as the "special dessert" on Sunday noon. Richard's seven grandchildren treated him to a farm machinery display which included 70 lottery tickets.

Herndon Pride purchased new LED lights to update and re-do Main street Christmas lights. Money was used from the Farmers Grow Communities grant that was donated to Herndon Pride by Leon and Marita Portschy. Herndon Pride members are also looking at using some of the grant money to update playground equipment at the Herndon City Park this spring. Main Street flower planters have donned Christmas decorations so take notice downtown when eating or getting your mail.

St. Mary's Catholic Advent events include Advent adoration and confessions at 7 p.m. Tuesday. Confessions will be followed by benediction, all concluding by 8 p.m. St. Mary's Christmas morning Mass will be at 8:30 a.m.

Amilee Marintzer, daughter of Abe and Alex of Neosho Rapids, celebrated her first birthday this weekend. Those attending the celebration were sister, Addi; grandparents, Grandpa Greg and Grandma Rita Marintzer; great-grandmother Leen; Joe, Isaac and Bethany; Jacob and Tara Marintzer and cousins, Kade and Phoebe; Papa Roy and Mimi Paula and Gigi. All enjoyed lunch and Pink Panther cake and cupcakes before returning home.