

THE OBERLIN HERALD

Events of Yesteryear

By Joan Betts

125 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1887

Fairly warm weather Monday and a cold wave Tuesday. The loan and land firm of McBride & Scott has been dissolved. Jack Butters recently purchased a cow in Chicago, in Sheridan County, and drove her home. Remember that the Herald is now located at the southwest corner of Penn Avenue and Hall Street. S. and C.S. Maddox last week commenced work by breaking ground for a new 2-story brick business house. The Rock Island track-layers have reached Phillipsburg and are busy filling in the gaps between that place and Norton. The Allison Breeze is for sale, its proprietor having purchased a paper at Arapahoe, Neb. A fine deer, with a generous amount of native antlers, adorned the front of O'Toole's Meat Market Tuesday. It was on sale in slices yesterday and some of it may possibly be had today. Business on Hall Street has improved materially since the opening of the F.A. Hunt stock by Bishop & Co. It now has the appearance of being as busy as any thoroughfare as any in the city.

100 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1912

Will Curry took three loads of monuments to Atwood Monday. Ray Bobbitt who has been working in the eastern part of the state returned home Tuesday. The sudden and unexpected death of John Quinn Tuesday night was a great shock to the entire city. Mr. and Mrs. William Love of Olive Township celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Dec. 12. Of those years 39 have been spent in Decatur County and from all appearances they are likely to be in the future. The Decatur County News that has been published by William E. Landau the past two years was discontinued last week. The Oberlin Herald and The Oberlin Times buying the subscription list and good will. We understand Mr. Landau is expecting to move the News plant to some point in Wyoming. Traffic on the Rock Island was delayed Tuesday on account of a freight wreck near Norton. R.W. Spires of Center Township, who has been working at the carpenter trade in Jewell County, returned home last week.

75 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1937

Tuesday afternoon about 1:30 o'clock a man walked into the Dresden State Bank where Ben S. Bowman, the cashier, was in the bank alone, had just finished counting a new shipment of money. The man quietly drew a gun and demanded

the pile of bills amounting to just \$422 which had just been placed in drawer. Another pile of bills which lay to his left he completely overlooked. He asked if that was all and when Mr. Bowman started to open the currency drawer to show him that there was no more there, the bandit told him to put up his hands. He directed Mr. Bowman to the back and to the basement where he bound his hands with wire and told him to lie on the floor. When Mr. Bowman objected, the man did not insist but went up the steps and out the back door and walked a block east to the Foster Lumber Company where he entered a sedan which was parked there.

R.R. Helmer, manager of the Foster Lumber Company, who had been at the bank had met the strange man on his return to his business. Shortly afterwards he realized he had left something at the bank and on his return met the man again who passed the time of day with him. When he reached the bank he discovered what had occurred and released Mr. Bowman's hands and they immediately called Sheriff Corral Bainter at Oberlin. Sheriff Bainter called the Vigilante Committee of Ralph Brown, Elmer Carman and Dick Grice and they got their guns and ammunition and followed the sheriff to Dresden in Ralph's car. The Highway Patrol and officers in every direction were notified but at last report there was no notice of the reported large black or dark blue sedan.

Jennings: On Sunday afternoon at the Jennings Methodist Church an art exhibit entitled "Scenes from the Life of Christ" will be on display through the courtesy of the Kansas Federation of Women's Clubs. During the afternoon there will be Christmas carols and other musical selections from Jennings and Clayton school groups and others in the Jennings and Allison neighborhood.

Both of Coach Paul Sandy's teams were defeated at the opening of the court season in games played Tuesday at Selden. Lineup for Oberlin was Smick, Ellis, Claussen, Van Pelt, Maddox and Johnson while for Selden it was Criswell, Sulzmann, C. Shaw, D. Shaw, Ashley, Zodrow, Sloan and Short.

Mr. C.T. Alman, building superintendent of the new high school building, has rented the home of Mrs. Tom Fisher and with his family will move from Parsons the first of the year. Liberty Star: Working up wood and butchering seems to be occupying the men's time these days and making something out of nothing for Christmas presents gives the

women something to do. Prairie Dog: There will be a program and Christmas tree at the North Valley school house Dec. 23. Miss Iris Moore is teacher and everyone is welcome.

50 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1962

In a meeting of the Oberlin Chamber of Commerce, Wallace Wolfe, chairman of the street marking committee, recommended that the Chamber go on record as being opposed to renaming city streets recommending that a numbering system be incorporated into existing street names. Miss Marlene Smith, Internal Auditor for American Telephone and Telegraph, Kansas City, MO., has been selected by the Local and National American Association of Women Accountants as a junior member. Douglas Jorn of Hastings, Neb., has been elected 1963 president of the Hastings Chamber of Commerce. The DCHS auditorium was filled as the vocal and instrumental departments under the direction of Paul Massey and Jerry Vance presented a joint Christmas concert. New Arrival: Mr. and Mrs. John Wright, son, John Douglas, Dec. 12.

25 YEARS AGO — Dec. 1987

Oberlin Lions Club members distributed 46 baskets of food to needy families on Sunday. The Lioness Toy and Gift Store located on South

Highway 83 will be open afternoons and evening this week with a "beautiful selection" of gifts according to Lioness Barbara Marshall.

School News: The Student At Risk program begun this fall at DCHS is attracting the attention of school administrators in other areas according to Principal Gordon Matson. "We need to log it for at least two semesters before explaining how it works to other districts," he added. The tutor, Ora Milner, explained the program to USD 294 members at a recent meeting.

Hospital News: Kelly and Monte Moore, Oberlin, son, Gabriel Thomas, Dec. 19, 1987.

Carol Knudson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. VOLLIE POLLNOW, has been selected Employee of the Month at St. John's Mercy Medical Center in St. Louis where she is the chief physical therapist in rehabilitation. She is a 1968 graduate of DCHS and a 1972 graduate of the University of Kansas where she also received a master's degree in 1975.

DCHS vocal students who were chosen to be members of the KMEA District Honor Choir were: Kim Fringer, Chika Yamamoto, Bev Gee, Lewis Plotts, Scott McVay, Colette Jones, Amanda Arasmith, Randy Berls, Larry Dempewolf, Chris Reynolds, David Unger and Thaniel Castle. Students who played in the District Honor Band were: Luanne Votapka, Michele Walters, Aaron Lauber, Billy Harmon, Kelly Miller, Dan Huntley and Brandon Russell.

Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

A caroling party will begin for the congregation of the Herndon Covenant Church at 4 p.m. Saturday at the Good Samaritan Center in Atwood, followed by caroling in the community. The group will then go to Oberlin to carol.

The Christmas Eve service will begin at 11 p.m. Monday at the Herndon Covenant Church.

Cowen Anderson was honored with a party on Saturday at the home of his parents, Clay and Jennie Anderson, and Brodie in observance of his fourth birthday. It was a super hero party and all the kids wore super hero capes and played games as well as enjoying cake and ice cream. Others in attendance were Mary, Conner and Creo Reichert, Beth, Henry, Eli, Maggie and Will Holle, Lacey and Trace Smith, Ethan, Lacy, and Shy Walker, Kristi, Kaci, Kylie and Kodi Dirks, Merlin and Bonnie Anderson, Vince and Gayle Carlson, Norma Anderson and Jason Anderson.

Rex Olson of Boulder, Colo., visited from Thursday to Sunday with his parents, Keith and Mary Lou Olson. On Sunday, Keith and Mary Lou Olson attended dedication services for their great-granddaughter, Tessa Dawn Witt, daughter of Tyler and Tiffany Witt, during morning worship services at the Evangelical Free Church in McCook.

The children presented their Sunday School Christmas program Sunday evening at the Herndon Covenant Church. Those participating were Shy Walker, Joshua and Asa Popp, Cowen Anderson, Henry, Eli and Maggie Holle, Kaci, Kylie and Kodi Dirks, Andrew, Eric and Ian Anderson and Ryan Jones. Narrator was Pastor Keith Reuther.

Howard and Suzanne Wehrman of Sylvan Grove were weekend guests of their daughter and family, Beth and Orrin Holle, and attended the Christmas program Sunday evening.

Jennings News

By Louise Cressler

The Jennings Tuesday Study Club met at the United Methodist Church Dec. 11 for their Christmas luncheon. The festive table decorations, delicious ham, turkey, meatloaf and cheesy potatoes were provided by the hostesses, Carla Latimer and Lila Jennings.

Club members brought mouth-watering salads and desserts to complete the feast. "My Favorite Toy" was the roll call response of members Rachel Carter, Ruth Chance, Louise Cressler, Pat Foster, Patty Foster, Violet Foster, Pat Hall, Lila Jennings, Paula Krizek, Carla Latimer, Sue Long, Wilma Mader, Roberta McAllister, Joan McKenna, Shelley McKenna, Joan Metz, Helen Muirhead, Kathy Nauert, Helen Rhodes, Sheila Rhodes, Lynn Tacha and Neoma Tacha. Guests were Marie Miller and Vicki Gassman.

An entertaining ornament exchange game was also enjoyed. Fol-

lowing the meeting, gifts for the five angel tree children were wrapped in colorful Christmas paper. Patty Foster, Lila Jennings, Lynn Tacha, Paula Krizek and Sheila Rhodes shopped for the angel tree gifts. Each child also received a handmade Christmas stocking made by Sue Long and a stuffed animal provided by Carla Latimer.

Last Thursday a Christmas dinner held at Sunflower Senior Center was enjoyed by 15 Jennings people. The organization provided the turkey, roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, dressing and the California blend of vegetables. Others brought a salad or dessert. Everyone is welcome to come and join us, regardless of age. We have several boxes of food, paper goods, soap and other supplies collected to take to the Oberlin Food Pantry this week. We want to thank everyone who contributed. Even though the doors of the se-

nior center were being replaced last Wednesday, and sometimes it was a little chilly in the center, there were still eight people to play pinochle. Those enjoying the afternoon were: Carla Latimer, Eleanor Morel, Agnes Wahlmeier, Carol Carter, Diane Carter, Scott Taylor, Wayne and Louise Cressler.

Saturday was an exceptionally happy time in Jennings with Santa coming in the afternoon to the Community Hall. He visited with a large group of children and gave them each a sack of candy. The Jennings Lions served 100 plus bowls of chili and vegetable soup. After Santa's visit names were drawn for the

many gifts donated. Many people brought gifts, the Decatur Co-op Association gave two, \$25 gift certificates to be used toward gas purchase at the Co-op, The Bank gave six, \$5 gift certificates to be used at any Jennings business, the Lions gave two turkeys and other gifts, the City of Jennings gave two turkeys and two hams for the drawing. This event is a huge success only because everyone works together.

The city water meters will be read on Friday December 21.

The Jennings area received a much-needed rain Friday night, with reports of .60 in most gauges. We are always thankful for rain .

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Cedar Living News

By Teresa Shaughnessy

We have had a wonderful week of parties, musical entertainment, delicious treats and even a few of our regular activities.

Several residents met on Monday afternoon for a game of dice. There were many winners, but Wanda Heller won the most games.

Myrna Jones and Mary Ann Amack led the residents in singing all of our holiday favorites before supper on Monday afternoon.

The Reading Buddies from the second grade classes came Tuesday morning to read to the residents and spread a little cheer. The students sang a few Christmas songs and delivered wonderful handmade Christmas stocking decorations to hang on everyone's door. Tom Votapka donated a bag of candy for the children.

The bingo players met for a lively game on Tuesday afternoon. Caroline Jacobs, Ila Ray and Mike Helm assisted.

Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler of the Faith Lutheran Church gave the monthly Communion Service Tuesday afternoon on the Cedar Living Center patio.

Residents and staff enjoyed some lovely Christmas music provided by John Juenemann before supper on Tuesday afternoon.

Wednesday was a day to check up on our regular routine with coffee time and exercise group in the morning and crafts and Bible study in the afternoon.

Bernie Goetz brought the county transportation bus by after supper on Wednesday to take residents on a tour of the Christmas lights around town. We started on the east side of town and worked our way back across town. Residents enjoying the trip included Audra Duncan, Beth Sebaugh, Lois Lamb, and Helen Helm. Timothy Helm and Teresa Shaughnessy went along for the ride.

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

The dining room was rocking on Thursday afternoon when the Red Barn Gang from Rexford gave their annual holiday program. We all got some good exercise laughing, clapping, and tapping our toes. The band members handed out Christmas ornaments to all of the residents. Refreshments were served following the program.

Mrs. Susan Nelson brought a large group of vocal music students

from the high school for a program in the dining room at noon on Friday. Several different groups sang and danced their way into our hearts.

The baking group met with Connie Miller on Friday afternoon to make sugar cookies. We ate a few of the cookies fresh from the oven, but we still managed to hide away a couple of dozen cookies to serve at our holiday party on Sunday.

The dining room was full of residents, family members, friends, and staff during the annual Family Christmas party held on Sunday afternoon. The afternoon started with musical entertainment provided by Myrna Jones, with assistance from Mary Ann Amack and Donna Fortin. Santa stopped by to deliver packages to each resident. The party concluded with a big assortment of Christmas treats including meat and cheese trays as well as cookies, candy, and miniature cream puffs and cheese cakes. We especially appreciated assistance from staff members who volunteered their time for the afternoon including Pam Anderson, Robin Edgett, Margee Wilson and Charlie Myers. Staff members Jennifer Wolters, Linda Fox and Peggy Gassman worked hard at getting residents dressed in their holiday finest and putting every hair into place. Dietary staff and housekeeping staff made sure that everything was tidy and the food was extra special. Special thanks go out to the Decatur County Health Department who loaned us folding chairs for the occasion and to the maintenance department for hauling the chairs over from the Health Dept.

Recent visitors: Reba and Stan Porter, Cincinnati, Ohio; Ceanne Rinehart, Ogalala, Neb.; Parker O'Toole, Dalaney and Linda Brunswick, Kathy Shaffer, McCook; John and Joan Shirley, Scott City; Mike, Deb, Timothy and Matthew Helm, Norcatur; Mike and Vickie Bailey, Jennings.

Oberlin visitors: Connie Olson, Dorothy Alstrom, Carol Allen, Norbert Zander, Marilyn Gamblin, Donna Fortin, Bill and Carol Duncan, Myrna Jones, Dewaine Stapp, Charlotte Meints, Mary Ann Amack, Julie and Haley Schiessler, Herb and Carol Shirley, Marilyn Farr, Robert and Penny Fringer, Mary and Lonnie McEvoy, Sherri Shuler and Jill and Laurie Wasson.

Good Samaritan News

By Whitney True

If you take a walk around Good Sam this time of year, you will see the hallways dressed in their holiday best. There are Christmas trees, garland, shiny ornaments, but best of all, happy faces on our residents as we enjoy the Christmas season.

We enjoyed a performance from "The Red Barn Gang," a visit from Santa Claus, decorated Christmas cookies, learned of the history of Santa Claus and listened to the best of Frank Sinatra and told stories of Christmas' past and all this in just a few days!

We have enjoyed our celebrations so far, but we don't want to forget to keep our minds and hearts focused on the real reason for this joyous season. How awesome a time of year and merriment that we can rejoice in the promise of everlasting love and life!

Please feel welcome to join us each day at 10 a.m. as we gather for devotions to refocus on this real meaning of Christmas. Our volunteers and visitors help to brighten

and warm our halls each and every day and we hope to see many more of you in the coming weeks.

Our residents have enjoyed having so many visitors and volunteers this week. Visitors include: Starla Swager and Nadine Tacha for **Galen Tacha**; Reva Marshall and Penny Fringer for **Dorothy Hunt**; Pat Foley for **Lee Foley**; Gerald Olson for **Evelyn Olson**; Gary Erickson for **Phil Erickson**; Diana Rata for **Eldon Haas**; Ralph and Norma Unger for **Earl Brown**; Cheryl Miller for **Loren Schrock**; and Santa Claus himself!

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Mount Pleasant News

By Dianne Bremer

Funeral services for Louise Pollnow were held Saturday at the Oberlin United Methodist Church with Pastors Nancy Proffitt and Judi Stricker officiating. Louise is survived by two daughters, Sharon (Rusty) Addleman of Oberlin and Rita Kay Pollnow and husband Norman Tilton, Davis, Calif.; a sister, Arlyne Moreland, Camer, Mo.; grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and many friends. Her husband, Ted, preceded her in death on Feb. 24, 1992. Burial was in the Oberlin Cemetery.

Edith Tate attended funeral services for her cousin, Daniel Lee Yager, 55, on Dec. 4 at the Ahlberg Funeral Chapel in Longmont, Colo. Daniel is survived by his wife, Julia; sons Erick and Cody Yager; daughters Veronica and Brandy Yager; mother, Joanne (Holmdahl) Yager; brother, Randy Yager; and sister, Becky and Mike Knope. He was preceded in death by his father Norman Yager. Daniel's uncle, Roger Holmdahl, also attended the funeral.