



McPherson County News

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-- Graphic Files --

TEN YEARS AGO
FEBRUARY 7, 2008
Gayle Neal was the winner of the Husker quilt the sophomore class of MCHS raffled off.

Another filing for the May Primary Election had been received. Douglas E. Schmidt joined Michael Janeczek and Rochelle Kemp, in re-filing for their current positions on the District #90 School Board.

The McPherson County Schools Board of Education would act on the Starr and Daly Schools operational status for the 2008-09 school year.

Jalyn Starr was featured in this week's MCHS Senior Spotlight.

The MCHS boys played their final home game against undefeated Cody-Kilgore. Playing their final home game were four seniors Duell Arensdorf, Ben Cochran, Petar Pavlovic, and Tui Bogoborowicz.

TWENTY YEARS AGO
FEBRUARY 12, 1998
McPherson County Clerk, Judy Dailey reports that several additional filings have been made at her office. Two filings for McPherson County Board of Commissioners were: Harold E. Arensdorf, Incumbent, Democrat; and R. Edward Sowders, Incumbent, Republican. Incumbent, Barry Hinkle has filed for Sheriff on the Republican ticket.

Vern and Joy Neal are the parents of a baby son named Jesse David Neal. He was born February 3.

Services were held for Vada Licking Warren with Rev. Linda Martin officiating.

Carolyn Beth Biltoff's funeral services were held February 7.

THIRTY YEARS AGO
FEBRUARY 4, 1988
Robert Long filed for the position of McPherson County Commissioner.

Tom Woracek hit a patch of ice and upset his pickup two miles south of Ringgold.

Named to the President's Honor Roll at Mid-Plains Community College were Kirk Neal, Scott Neal and Kim Trumbull.

The Tryon boys won the junior high basketball tournament. Named to the all-tournament team were Rusty Moore and Brett Gosnell, Tryon; Mike Saathoff, Hall; Tory Swanson, Arthur; and Tony Lang, Our Redeemer.

FORTY YEARS AGO
FEBRUARY 9, 1978
Ed, Don and Monte

Bullington and Wayne Connell attended the Lawler, Marvin Bull Sale at Ogallala, Saturday. The Bullingtons purchased three new bulls and Wayne Connell, one.

There was a baby shower given by Carol Moore, Helen Trumbull and Barbara Gragg for Heather Lavon Gale on Sunday the 5th. A nice crowd was in attendance at the church.

Mrs. Louelva Hatch, Mrs. Audrey French and Mrs. Alice Bassett attended a baby shower last Thursday in Mullen in honor of little Aaron John, son of Mr. and Mrs. Pat Simonson of Seneca.

FIFTY YEARS AGO
FEBRUARY 8, 1968

Queen of Hearts finalists were Beth Black, Ellen Coty, Reva Cotton, Lynelle Ellis, Renee Ellis, Susan Kinsman, Patty McNutt, Sandra Nicholson, Jean Snyder and Donna Stoddard.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Neal would be honored with a miscellaneous bridal shower at the Tryon Lodge Hall.

John R. Cotton reported he was going to Omaha to see a doctor and County Clerk, George R. Daly, had been appointed and bonded to act as acting County Judge in his absence.

The Ringgold Community Club met with Jessie Jividen with nine members and two visitors present. The group voted to give donations to the March of Dimes and to the Heart Fund.

SIXTY YEARS AGO
FEBRUARY 6, 1958

Tryon edge Hyannis in the final seconds to win 56-54. Scoring for the local Longhorns were O'Connor, 18; Munson, 15; Jameson, 11; and Pettit, 10.

Tom Neal, 79, prominent and longtime McPherson County rancher, died January 31. Stapleton-Tryon came out ahead in their basketball game with Cedar Bowl. Karn scored 21; Cash, 15; and Barner, 14, for the local team.

The McPherson County Grade School basketball team won over Arthur County, 33-11. Eldon Starr was the high scorer with 12 points. The team was coached by Olaf Ahlquist, high school teacher and coach.

Mrs. Tom Ellis and Mrs. T.W. Haddy returned home from Sioux City, Iowa, where they attended the mid-year senior graduation of their

nephew, David Ellis.

SEVENTY YEARS AGO
FEBRUARY 5, 1948

The primary room was getting a "new look." Our blackboard border consisted of bright red Valentines and white cut snowflakes.

Twin sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Dawson of Flats at St. Mary's Hospital.

The health contest is now well under way. Peggy Miller is now serving as inspector, but we will choose a new one each week. Requirements of the contest were clean face, hands, fingernails and handkerchiefs, combed hair, and a glass of milk or have milk in some way for breakfast.

Mrs. Ray Kemp, Mrs. Tom Kemp, Mrs. Loren Neal, Mrs. Bennie Shimm, Mrs. Archie Neal and Mrs. Tom Neal attended the bridal shower for Maxine Priest.

Bobby Cotton gave a very interesting account of his trip to a Denver museum and zoo.

EIGHTY YEARS AGO
FEBRUARY 10, 1938

In an official notice from officers of the Tryon State Bank, it was made known that the institution will accept no more deposits after February 25 and asked that all money be withdrawn by March 4.

A surprise carry-in dinner was held at the Delbert Schmidt home February 6 honoring Mr. and Mrs. Joe Schmidt on their 25th wedding anniversary.

Charles K. Bassett, owner and for many years' editor of the *Grant County Tribune* at Hyannis, has had his name appear in many newspapers over the nation the past few weeks, as a man who has owned and edited his own newspapers for 60 years. Last fall, Mr. Bassett leased the *Tribune* and is at present spending the winter in Arizona.

Walter Pogson of *The Stapleton Enterprise* office, was in the Graphic office one day last week getting out a job of printing for a Stapleton rancher. The job was a large bill for the Fowler Hereford Sale to be conducted at the North Platte Auction Company yards in North Platte.

Dust clouds hung over most of Nebraska. The dust bowl has not been fully reclaimed and many dust storms are expected when spring winds begin to blow.

NINETY YEARS AGO
FEBRUARY 9, 1928

Charlie Cumpston had the misfortune to receive a broken arm when cranking a car.

Geo. Embree was advertising a huge public sale as he had decided to quit farming. The sale would take place at the Chas. Baker place, two and one half miles southeast of Tryon. There would be 10 head of horses, 15 head of cattle, farm machinery and miscellaneous.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Daly are the proud parents of a fine baby girl.

Lee Dobbins came down from Flats Monday and moved his furniture to that place where he is employed in the Flats store.



Quote: "If you are going to stir the pot, make sure you know what's cooking so you don't get burned." Folk Sayings

This story is a bit long, but it should make everyone stop and think...and take some time to thank people for their time.

The telephone rang, it was a call from his mother. He answered it and his mother told him, "Mr. Belser died last night. The funeral is Wednesday."

Memories flashed through his mind like an old newsreel as he sat quietly remembering his childhood days.

"Jack, did you hear me?" "Oh, sorry, Mom. Yes, I heard you. It's been so long since I thought of him. I'm sorry, but I honestly thought he died years ago," Jack said.

"Well, he didn't forget you. Every time I saw him he'd ask how you were doing. He'd reminisce about the many days you spent over 'his side of the fence' as he put it," Mom told him.

"I loved that old house he lived in," Jack said.

"You know, Jack, after your father died, Mr. Belser stepped in to make sure you had a man's influence in your life," she said.

"He's the one who taught me carpentry," he said. "I wouldn't be in this business if it weren't for him. He spent a lot of time teaching me things he thought were important. Mom, I'll be there for the funeral," Jack said.

As busy as he was, he kept his word. Jack caught the next flight to his hometown. Mr. Belser's funeral was small and uneventful. He had no children of his own, and most of his relatives had passed away.

The night before he had to return home, Jack and his Mom stopped by to see the old house next door one more time. Standing in the doorway, Jack paused for a moment. It was like crossing over into another dimension, a leap through space and time. The house was exactly as he remembered.

Every step held memories. Every picture, every piece of furniture...Jack stopped suddenly...

"What's wrong, Jack?" his Mom asked.

"The box is gone," he said.

"What box?" Mom asked.

"There was a small gold box that he kept locked on top of his desk. I must have asked him a thousand times what was inside. All he'd ever tell me was 'the thing I value most,'" Jack said.

It was gone. Everything about the house was ex-

Over The Hills

By J.R. Trumbull

actly how Jack remembered it, except for the box. He figured someone from the Belser family had taken it.

"Now I'll never know what was so valuable to him," Jack said.

"I better get some sleep. I have an early flight home, Mom."

It had been about two weeks since Mr. Belser died. Returning home from work one day Jack discovered a note in his mailbox. "Signature required on a package. No one at home. Please stop by the main post office within the next three days," the note read.

Early the next day Jack went to the post office and retrieved the package. The small box was old and looked like it had been mailed a hundred years ago. The handwriting was difficult to read, but the return address caught his attention.

"Mr. Harold Belser" it read.

Jack took the box out to his car and ripped open the package. There inside was the gold box and an envelope.

Jack's hands shook as he read the note inside.

"Upon my death, please forward this box and its contents to Jack Bennett. It's the thing I valued most in my life." A small key was taped to the letter. His heart racing, as tears filled his eyes, Jack carefully unlocked the box. There inside he found a beautiful gold pocket watch.

Running his fingers slowly over the finely etched casing, he unlatched the cover. Inside he found these words engraved: "Jack, Thanks for your time! - Harold Belser."

"The thing he valued most was my time!"

Jack held the watch for a few minutes, then called his office and cleared his appointments for the next two days.

"Why?" Janet, his assistant asked.

"I need some time to spend with my son," he said. "Oh, by the way, Janet, thanks for your

time!"

"Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take but by the moments that take our breath away."

Think about this. You may not realize it, but it's 100 percent true.

1. At least 15 people in this world love you in some way.

2. A smile from you can bring happiness to anyone, even if they don't like you.

3. Every night, SOMEONE thinks about you before they go to sleep.

4. You mean the world to someone.

5. If not for you, someone may not be living.

6. You are special and unique.

7. When you think you have no chance of getting what you want, you probably won't get it, but if you trust God to do what's best, and wait on His time, sooner or later, you will get it or something better.

8. When you make the biggest mistake ever, something good can still come from it.

9. When you think the world has turned its back on you, take a look: you most likely turned your back on the world.

10. Someone that you don't even know exists loves you.

11. Always remember the compliments you received. Forget about the rude remarks.

12. Always tell someone how you feel about them; you will feel much better when they know and you'll both be happy.

13. If you have a great friend, take the time to let them know that they are great.

Pass this on to all the people you care about. If you do so, you will certainly brighten someone's day and might change their perspective on life...for the better.

To everyone who reads this: "Thanks for your time."

"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention."

Oscar Wilde

TIME

The years pass by
And life goes on,
Heartaches, laughter,
Opportunities gone.

Another year
Now we face.
As the days go by
In a frantic race.

Take time to think
As time flees past.
Make wise decisions
And hold fast.

Most of all,
Hold fast to Christ
And through Him
Know everlasting life.

Life eternal
Beyond this vale-
A promise given
That will not fail.

Hold fast to Jesus
As the days go by
He will be with you
As earth time flies.

J.R. Trumbull 25 December 2010

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