

Individual challenge

By Fleta Hanlon

I am now 82 years old, and remembering the challenges we faced surviving and getting an education in the 1930s is much on my mind, even more so than what I did yesterday or last week. I and my older brothers and sisters did go eight years to a one-room school. I thought we got a great education, even if music and social skills weren't much in evidence. During my eight years, I had only one teacher who could play the organ. The lack of these things was a challenge when we got to high school, but that is another story.

My earliest memory of the first grade in school is in a big school with 17 students. One teacher was Lester Reed, and he rode his horse from his parents' home, a total of four miles, and carried water, as we didn't have a well. There was no shelter for his horse. I really did walk one and three-quarter miles one way, rain, shine or snow.

Snow was the biggest challenge. No road graders! We were on an east and west road that drifted very badly. Now comes the challenge: My Dad hitched two work horses to the big wagon with iron wheels. Mom heated bricks for our feet and a blanket for our laps. We did have a bench to sit on and Dad put up the backboard (used when picking corn) to break the north wind. The horse had to break a track pulling the big wagon. It was very hard for them and I was very scared that they would get hurt. The fun part was that other kids knew that my Dad would do this and they came down the draw from the north and we picked them up. We had at least ten kids in the wagon by the time we got to school. Fun, fun.

Dad was too proud to come and get warm, so he had to walk back home with the team to keep from freezing. Later we got a trailer with rubber tires, so it wasn't so hard on the horses. I

was glad of that.

Getting to school was definitely a challenge. Besides snow, there was rain (don't forget it was one and three-quarter miles on a dirt road). Sometimes there was a sudden blizzard (Dad usually came after us) and, yes, a dust storm. When the weather was good, it was great, most of the way there were other kids to walk with, more fun.

Just getting a good education in a one-room school with all eight grades was a challenge.

When I was in high school at Norton, there was only one town boy in my classes that got as good grades as the country kids did. Guess most of us met the challenge.

I will write again about the actual school, not just getting there, and the good and not so good about learning and playing at Plainview School District No. 78, Norton County, located five miles north of the cemetery.



In 1936, Fleta Hanlon, along with her brother and sister, attended this one-room school house five miles north of town. Sixteen students, of all ages, were educated at the Plainview School, District 78, in Norton County.

—Photo courtesy of Fleta Hanlon

Logan craft fair a success

The 40th Annual Arts & Craft Fair was held on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2013. We were blessed with a beautiful fall day for our event. We had 61 crafters lining the plaza lawn. Crafters and food vendors started checking in at 6 a.m. with the help of Beth VanRoekel. The membership table opened at 8 a.m. with Irene Koester and Waunnie Parsons. We also had help from Donna Lowry, Sue Jackson, Delores Fischli, Janene Schneider, Mariana Kemper, and Christina Rundle. The gallery opened at 9 a.m. with Lynette Stockman, Karen Clements, and Dawn Berry. Other help in the gallery included Allyson Switzer, Stephanie Watts, April Teves, Delores Becker, Carol Bales, Edith Schick, Rosemary Horn, Lisa Pinkerton, Verlaine Schooler, Shari Buss, and Nicki Sammons.

The Kids' Games ran from 10 - 11 a.m., and included sand box treasure hunt and egg toss. We did not have the turtle races, as we had no one bring a turtle. Volunteers for the games were Lisa Uhland, Logan Kiser, and Karen Boys. The Kid's Tent opened at 1 p.m. The KAY Club, Rhonda Plummer, Theresa Shellito, Dillon Schmidt and our own Lisa Uhland manned the tent with face painting and handing out helium balloons.

Our local EMS volunteered their time all day and was available for any emergency situation that might arise.

A big thank you goes to our many volunteers. We could not have done this without your

help.

Our Master of Ceremonies for the day was Tad Felts. Tad has emceed our Arts & Craft Fair for 38 years out of the 40 years that the Arts & Craft Fair has been in progress.

Our food vendors for the day were the St. John's Catholic Church, Logan KAY Club, Logan Junior High School cheerleaders, Jill Lively's Sno-Shack, Joe Cheeseman's Cotton Candy, and a bake sale by the senior class at Logan High School.

The musical entertainment for the day on the south stage were bagpipers, Terry Ferguson, Salina, Lonny Liljegen, Lindsborg, Randy Gibbs, WaKeeny, and Logan's own Jim McDonald. Also, on the north stage was Left of Center Band from Concordia. Each group gave crowd pleasing entertainment throughout the day. Chain saw artist, Blair Smith from Iowa, created four sculptures for the day and two were given away. The winners of the chain saw artist sculptures were Eric Lemon and Sonya Montgomery.

Bob Jones, our antique appraiser from Jennings, was kept busy during the day giving free verbal approximations of value.

There were many artisans around the square with demonstrations: The Deer Creek Regulators Fast Draw booth was busy all day with adults, and kids alike practicing their shooting skills. Janie Lowry gave two demonstrations on how to make a T-shirt quilt in the community room. The crowd kept a watchful eye on "Fleece to Fabric" by

the area weavers, spinners and The Shepherd's Mill. The transformation was amazing! Staci Hartman from Logan, demonstrated how to make a beautiful oil painting. Brian Bethke (originally from Stuttgart, KS) was our black smith for the day. We were glad to have Brian back in the area! Josh Novak from the pottery department from Fort Hays created several clay pots during the day.

The Artist of the Month winners were: Paula Rumback - Oakley, Ashley Schilowsky - Phillipsburg, Sandra Hilburn - Halstead, Linda Whiteman - Hill City, Nancy Williams - Stockton, Janice Kenney - Elm Creek, Neb., Sharon Sahfeld - Beloit, Sheldon VanAmburg - Lincoln, KS, Connie Daake - Kearney, Neb., Carol Stanton - Logan, Mitch and Vicki Vandament (North 40 Alpacas) - Osborne, and Crystal Vette - McCook, Neb. Two alternates were also chosen: Mitzi Befort - Bison, and Roy Jessup - Oakley.

The winners of the Purchase Prize Awards totaling \$500 were Irene Koester, Dawn Berry, Janet Nichol, Joyce Eckhart, Verlaine Schooler, Carolyn States, Dorothy Zillinger, Sonya Montgomery, Staci Hartman, and Don VanRoekel.

Our September Artist of the Month is Virgil Deges from Damar. He has watercolor and oil paintings on display. Come in and check out his display of talent.

NEW ALMELO NEWS

By Betty Otter

On August 10, Dorothy Mindrup accompanied her son, Mike and Arleen Mindrup to Olathe. She got to see her granddaughter, Amanda Strauss and hold her great-granddaughter, Hailey before Dorothy and Mike flew to Kalispell, Mont., to visit her brother, Herman Androes.

Roxie and Ed Schuster and family, Milford, Ohio, came to the home of Roger and JoAnn Long on August 18, for a week's vacation. On their return home, they took their son, Daniel to college at Benedictine College in Atchison.

On August 24, Levi Ninemire and Jessica Arehart were married in St. Joseph Church by Father Kerry Ninemire. Parents of the groom are Jim and Peggy

Ninemire. Parents of the bride are Donald and Nancy Arehart, Norton.

Coming to spend Labor Day weekend with Alfred and Betty Otter, were their sons, Karl Otter, Great Bend and Charles Otter, Salina.

Morgan Marie Howland was born September 3. She weighed seven pounds, 14 ounces. Her parents are Cody and Becky Howland, Ellis. She has a brother, Jackson, who is four years old. Grandparents are Larry and Angie Feldt, Lenora; Jim and Karen Howland, Ellis; and great-grandparents are Keith and Janice Hadley, Ellis.

On September 7, Alfred and Betty Otter attended the baby shower held for Ashley and Travis Redeker, Kearney, Neb.

Also attending were Ashley's parents, Mark and Sheila Otter, Anna and Marshall, Ulysses, her grandmother Lorena Taylor, and her great-grandmother, Veda Hiesel, Lenora as well as great-aunts, aunts, cousins and friends.

George and Vickie Gassmann attended grandparents day at St. Mary's Grade School in Ellis on September 9.

On September 11, Alfred and Betty Otter attended the funeral of Nadine Oberkrom, formerly of Lenora.

Marion and Marilyn Otter attended the 90th birthday celebration for Louis Linden in Concordia on Saturday, September 21.

etc., and heard someone had deliberately mixed ammonia and bleach on the floor at Walmart. At least three people went to the hospital.

The Lyle benefit for the Community Building is planned for Saturday, Oct. 12. We will have potluck at 6 p.m. followed by entertainment. Whoever likes to sing, play, give poetry, readings, or just listen, come join the fun. Sandy McNames is telling the Prairie Rose Harmony group that she sings with. They enjoy coming and we really like hearing them.

Carol and John Moye and I attended the 'belated' Wedding Party for Thomas and Cheryl Baker. It was fun, the decorations were pretty and the food was wonderful.

Dwight and Teresa Wood went to Winfield, for the annual Bluegrass Festival. Dwight has been having trouble with his dialysis site bleeding. After they returned home Sunday evening, his fever came up and he was taken by ambulance to North Platte, Neb., and is in the intensive care unit. His fever is down today, Monday. He is having tests done.

LYLE NEWS

By Veda Wood

J.T. Guy, grandson of Toots Magers, came by her place Sunday on his way home from elk hunting, and stayed to visit with Judy and Charlie Easton and Jane Engelhardt.

June Jolly came to Norcat on Friday, thinking she would play cards at the educational building and found the Highway 36 garage sale going on instead. She visited with her son, Dean, on her way home. She was hostess for her card group in McCook, NEB. on Thursday. She served a spooky lunch which included coffins and monster cookies. Her granddaughter's husband, Colt McDonald, who was helping with the Colorado flood, made it home. June heard a commotion of ambulances,

Homecoming

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will be excused to attend the parade and pep rally if picked up at the school by their parent(s) or guardian(s).

Buses will run at the normal afternoon dismissal time. Junior high and high school students who ride the bus home will be picked up at the courthouse square at 3:35 p.m.

Activities at Travis Field will begin at 6:25 p.m. with the performance of the Dance Team. The Cheerleaders will follow with a dance routine at 6:30 p.m.

The NCHS Marching Band, under direction of Don Mordecai, will take the field at 6:40

p.m. and the Coronation of the King and Queen will occur at 6:45 p.m.

The Marching Band will perform a pre-game show at 6:50 p.m. and will perform again at halftime. In case of inclement weather, the coronation will be held at 10 p.m. in the 4-H Building.

Kickoff is 7 p.m. for the football game between Norton and Ellis.

The Homecoming Dance will be held at the 4-H Building. It will begin 30 minutes after the game and continue until midnight.

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