

On the Plains

Haigler News

By
Floy
Ruggles



Leigh Renzelman from Parker, Colo., visited here with her mother, Lucile Corder, from Monday until Thursday. They enjoyed supper at the Sandhillier in Wray on Monday night with Dorothy Juranek and Clarence and Virginia Renzelman. On Tuesday they visited Irene Thompson in the Hester Home in Benkelman.

Woods family reunion

Royal and Helen Woods of Wray hosted a reunion of the Woods family at the roundhouse on Aug. 27. They were assisted by their children, Marcia and Bryan Gustin of Cozad; Woody, Stephanie, Austin, Brandon, Morgan and Megan from Akron; Bruce, Val, Brianna Shelby, and Seth of Haigler.

Others of the more than 50 guests included Craig and Angela Woods from Honolulu; Janine Nelson of Tulsa; Leandra (Males) Woods from Altadena, Calif.; Don, Phyllis Woods, Diane, Joshua, Jacob, Jenna Gore, Duane, LuAnn Wall, all of Cheyenne, Wyo.; Donni Raye and Kevin Clark of Greeley, Colo.; Andrew, Kimberly Jackson, John Biegger of Erie, Colo.; Carol Fleming, Heather, Logan Klein, Wendy and Blaine Lee all of Yuma; Quentin and Tonya Simmons; Dwight Wall, Robert and Merry Lu Simmons; Randy, Laurie, Laura, Madison and Spencer Perila of Westminster, Colo.; Dusty Wall, Richard and Laura Pearl Wall. Betty Lee Green was an afternoon

visitor at the reunion.

The star of the gathering was one-month-old Jackson John Biegger, son of Kimberly and Andrew Biegger of Erie. He withstood all the admiration and handling.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Woods, Diane Gore and children, Joshua, Jacob and Jenna Woods and a friend from Cheyenne visited in the Wall home on Sunday evening.

On the 13th of August, cousins of the Harford's, Roger and Nancy Clarke of Brock, Neb., came for an overnight visit before they continued their trip west through the Rocky Mountains. Sunday evening Karen hosted a small family gathering for supper. Those who were able to attend were Don and Virginia Harford, Melba Harford, Ted and Vicky Harford, Gail and Wanda Harford and Tom Harford.

Saturday dinner guests in the Richard Wall home included Craig Woods and his daughter, Angela of Hawaii, Janine Nelson, Tulsa, Okla.; Helen Woods, Marcia Gustin of Cozad and Dusty Wall.

Family members of Velma Neville, a former Haigler resident for many years, have made trips to Sterling, Colo., these past two weeks to see her. Stanley and LaNeta Carlock visited with Velma last week, and this week, nieces Myrna Mulligan, Galena Webster, and LaNeta Carlock were visitors. Velma is in the Sterling Care Cen-

ter, and not doing very well as of this writing.

Farmers' Market

The Haigler Farmers' Market has had a good three weeks. This Labor Day weekend will be the last market for this season. Saturday morning from 10 a.m. to noon mountain time, there will be garden produce, canned and baked goodies available at "the station"- located on Highway 34 and Porter Avenue. Most of the proceeds from the market go to the Haigler Improvement Committee funds, and this year's focus on the gazebo park on main street in Haigler.

Haigler Printing Office

Concerning the Haigler Printing Office in earlier days, Donna Northrup writes - Yes, I'm sure the Haigler News came out weekly, as my mother (Evangeline Brown) wrote the Clough Valley news column for years for both the *Haigler News* and *Saint Francis Herald*. It was her regular Monday morning procedure to call each neighbor for their news items.

Memories of Don and Virginia Harford

The following report comes from Don and Virginia Harford.

"After reading the article by Alice Straub in the Haigler items and noticing your question about the newspaper, it started us to thinking about Haigler when we were country kids and came to town with our parents in the 1920's and all of the changes that have taken place since then. We thought that you might be interested in some of our memories of that period of time."

Indeed we are interested! Here is the article:

Haigler in the 1920's Written 8 - 24 - 2006

Hey! Let's talk a little about the business district of Haigler during the 1920's as I remember it. It will no doubt be subject to corrections by history buffs and people with better memories than mine.

First, starting at the railroad tracks and heading west, was the Equity's wooden, tin-covered elevator. Next was the Equity coal sheds. All coal was shipped in by rail and unloaded by hand into the coal shed where it was sold out to customers. Next were the stockyards where livestock was driven into town by horseback and loaded out on rail stock cars. Somewhere in that area was a flour mill run by

Sam Hofer. Also, Joe Warner had a blacksmith shop on the east side of the street (west of Main Street) a ways south of the stockyards.

Coming back to the Main Street (Porter Avenue) and heading south was the office and hardware store of the Equity. The lumber yard and other storage building was west of the office. South of the Equity was a Creamery. Across the east/west street was the Drug Store operated by Bud Logan, the Ventis Millinery and Clothing store, Premer Hardware Store, Barber Shop with two barber chairs and a room with a bathtub in the back where a man could take a bath after getting a shave and haircut, change clothes and be ready to go to a dance on Saturday night. Next was probably the Drovers and Traders State Bank operated by the Crone family. Next was L.B. (Billy) Armstrong's Grocery and Dry Goods Store. Next was Schmutte's Café and a Butcher Shop south of it. Schilts Grocery and General Store was the last business on that block.

Across the street (highway 34) south, was the Haigler State Bank operated by the Larned Family. A block west was the Cozy Inn - a sort of rooming house and hotel. Across the street north of it was a garage with a gas pump run by Garnet Hoover. The building had originally been a livery barn.

Back to Main Street and south of the bank, was Mrs. Ainslie's Variety Store and the Post Office. Next a rooming house and dwelling operated by Mrs. Carroll. The Telephone Central Office was on the southeast corner of the block and was where all of the country party lines came into and could be connected to a long distance line. The building also served as a dwelling for the switch-board operator and their family.

Crossing the street to the east and south was the Opera House where probably some silent movies were shown. School plays, operettas, other entertainment, along with dances, were held in this building. It was sort of a community building.

Crossing the street and heading north on the east side of Main Street was Charlie Roach's Blacksmith Shop and Well and Plumbing business. I can't remember what building or business it was that stood on the northwest corner of that block.

In the middle of the intersection of Main Street and the highway was a large concrete water trough and flag pole.

Crossing the highway north was the Wagel Hotel with rooms on the second floor and a dining room and kitchen on the ground floor where meals were served.

Moving on north, I can't remember the sequence of business, but there was a bakery, Odd Fellows Hall (which was used quite a bit as a community building,) Munson's Hotel and a shoe repair shop run by Ed Egley - a fellow with crippled legs who used special blocks of wood held in his hands to move around. It always amazed me how well he could maneuver himself and use the machines of his trade. A Creamery operated by a black couple, Dick and Molly Green was also on that block.

The *Haigler News* newspaper was published in the lower part of a two-story building in which the lower floor was a semi-basement having a few steps leading down to it. There were a few steps up to the Doctor's Office on the top floor. The office and Lumber Yard of the Wood-Found Lumber Company was in the northwest corner of that block.

Crossing the street to the north was the large concrete elevator of the Equity which, along with the west elevator, sat next to the rail siding. The Depot sat to the northeast of this elevator, next to the main line track of the CB&Q railroad. The railroad had a water tank to supply water for the steam engines that might be running short of water. It was supplied by a well a short distance north of the track. The depot agent, Fred Kelley, kept the tank filled.

The Section House where the section foreman and his family lived sat north of the depot. West and a little north of the section house was a large concrete Sale Pavilion where purebred cattle sales were held. It had an elevated stage in the sale ring where the auctioneer and sale secretaries sat and where plays and entertainment were presented. A Christmas program was usually held there. Many Haigler celebrations were held there. One picture we have shows a ferris wheel in front of the building. Several summers a Chautauqua was held there for a week. This building was torn

down when the railroad changed the main track to lengthen the curve and it ran about where the building stood. North of this building was Bill Wall's dwelling and Dairy Barn. They had a milk route and delivered milk to Haigler customers. A little north of this and closer to the river was the town water well and pump house. Loc Stafford was in charge of keeping the pump in operation and the Stand Pipe full of the mineral-rich water.

The W.F. Wood Garage and Filling Station and 220 DC (current) Light plant stood a block east of the Wood-Found Lumber Yard. This generating plant furnished electricity for the town.

All mail came into Haigler by rail and left by rail with the Postmaster carrying it back and forth in a two-wheeled cart pushed by hand.

All freight came in by rail and Haigler had a Dray Line that made deliveries to the various business places. I think Emmons Adams had an open cab, hard rubber tired truck that he used to make deliveries.

During the 1920's, Saturday afternoon was the time that almost everyone came to town to do their trading which was basically what was done - Trading cream, eggs, chickens and other farm products for groceries and supplies. Shopping was mostly an unknown word. You gave the grocery clerk your grocery list and she or he gathered what was ordered and put them in or by your egg crate to be picked up when you left town. Much visiting was done on the sidewalk in front of the buildings. Sometimes one would hear about as much German as English in the conversations.

During the 1930's, the main time for coming to town changed from Saturday afternoon to evening with stores staying open until possibly midnight or until all of the groceries had been picked up.

My wife, Virginia Clegg Harford, has been a great help in putting together this reminiscing by helping remember some of the things I had forgotten.

Don Harford

Haigler News

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Idalia News

By
Bessie
Dent



Saint John United Church of Christ

The Reverend Sue Gardner will lead worship on Sept. 3 while Chuck is on vacation.

Youth fellowship will meet Wednesday, Sept. 6 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Supper will be served.

Kick-Off Sunday is Sept. 10. Be sure to invite neighbors and friends to join worship and Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. Worship will begin at 10:30 a.m., with the children being dismissed after Children's Time to Sunday School. A nursery will be provided during church and Sunday School. After worship, a potluck lunch of Mexican dishes will be served, followed by a variety of activities including kite flying.

Join the choir! There will be two Wednesday evening practices on October 4 and Oct. 11 at 8 p.m. and possibly optional Sunday morning practices. The music will not be difficult and there is a place for you whatever your age, voice or ability! Contact Betty E. Moellenberg for more information.

Tapes of the Sunday morning Worship Service are available each week from Bill Carpenter. He also has a separate tape featuring the special music performed at church each week.

Women's Fellowship will start fall meetings beginning on Sept. 13 at 1 p.m. The leader and hostess will be Jerry Weisshaar.

Adult education class will begin on Sunday, Sept. 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. before Worship Service. The Pastor will conduct a series of lessons from the book "Purpose Driven Life" for 6 to 8 weeks. An adult class on baptism, confirmation, and the history of the church is also planned.

Aug. 27 Worship Service began with lighting of candles by Faith Carpenter. Scripture was Luke 4:14-21. Renee Carpenter sang "Daddy's Hands" and Pastor Wright's sermon was "For What Has God Anointed You?"

Lion's Club Picnic

The Idalia Lion's Club is hosting the annual Idalia back to school picnic on Thursday, Aug. 31 at 6 p.m. This event will be held on the school tennis court. The Lion's Club is providing hamburgers and drinks. Please bring side dishes and desserts. All students, parents, staff, faculty and community members are invited to this event.

Football Schedule

There have been some changes to the Idalia Wolves football schedule. Sept. 1, Kit Carson at Idalia 7:30 p.m. HS; Sept. 8, at Prairie 7:30 p.m. HS; Sept. 15, at Woodlin 1:30 p.m. HS; Sept. 22, Deer Trail at Idalia 7:00 p.m. HS; Sept. 30, at Hi-Plains 11:00 a.m. JH, 1:30 p.m. HS; Oct. 6, at Liberty 4:00 p.m. JH, 7:00 HS; Oct. 13, at Lone Star 4:00 JH, 7:00 HS; Oct. 20, Bethune at Idalia 4:00 p.m. JH, 7:00 p.m. HS; Oct. 27, Weldon Valley at Idalia 7:00 p.m. HS

Pageant Winner

Erin Weisshaar of Lingle, Wyo. was recently selected Miss International Job's Daughter from a field of candidates from the United States, Canada and Australia. Job's Daughters is a religious organization for girls focusing on leadership development, patriotism and honoring parents. It builds self-confidence, poise and public speaking skills. Erin won Miss Wyoming Job's Daughter in June. She traveled to British Columbia, Canada from July 29 to August 6 for the international competition. Erin will be traveling for a year to promote the organization at local Bethels. Erin left August 18 to travel to Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan and Ontario, Canada for three weeks and will be spending time in Australia and Brazil. After her year of travel, Erin will attend the University of Wyoming. Erin is the granddaughter of Junior and Jerry Weisshaar of Idalia.

Memorial Services

Memorial services for Scott Hilzer, eldest son of Rodger and Lois (Moellenberg) Hilzer were held Aug. 10 at the Cowboy Church arena near Eaton. Delmar and Roberta Moellenberg and Glen Wudtke were among those attending.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Rehder of Denver and Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Zabel of Steamboat Springs were Tuesday afternoon and evening visitors of Delmar and Roberta Moellenberg. They parked their motor homes overnight in the Moellenberg's yard.

Jerry and Lawrence Crites and Debbie Bowman traveled to San Luis Obispo, Calif. They enjoyed several days visiting Jerry's sister.

On Sunday, the Carpenter family gathered at the Prairie Vista Cafe in Idalia for lunch to celebrate Faith's birthday. Those in attendance were Faith, Hannah and Renee Carpenter; Briar, Adeline and Avery Carpenter, Mary Blanchard and Bill and Peggy Carpenter.

Corrections

The *Saint Francis Herald* will correct or clarify any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at 33203162 to report errors. We believe that news stories should be fair and factual, and appreciate your calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

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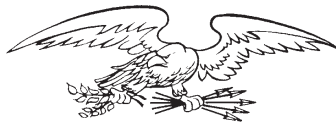
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