

Delving into family histories reveals treasures at museum

We always strive to make the Prairie Museum of Art and History a place where visitors can discover new information about familiar history as well as topics about which they may know very little. Several current projects have served to remind us how much this is true for staff members as well.

One of these projects is getting ready for the upcoming year's programs and displays on the settlement era of the late 1800s. Next year, 2012, marks the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Homestead Act in 1862. That same year saw landmark legislation creating a cross-country railroad, the system of land-grant colleges and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Each of these acts had an impact on the pattern of settlement in northwest Kansas, and we will be exploring those over the next couple of years.

The discovery part has been delving into the boxes of Thomas County family histories in the vault and finding information and personal accounts we didn't even know we had. Several original Homestead and Timber Claim documents are housed there, along with some very detailed letters, a couple of diaries and other primary documents that will help us more fully tell the story of that time.

It is easy to get lost in the past, reading these fascinating accounts. Reminding us of how precious paper was at that time, it is not uncommon to run across letters with handwriting running down the page and along the margins, front and back, in an attempt to use every bit of space available. One innovative letter-writer wrote down the page vertically, then flipped it



Ann Miner

• Around the Museum

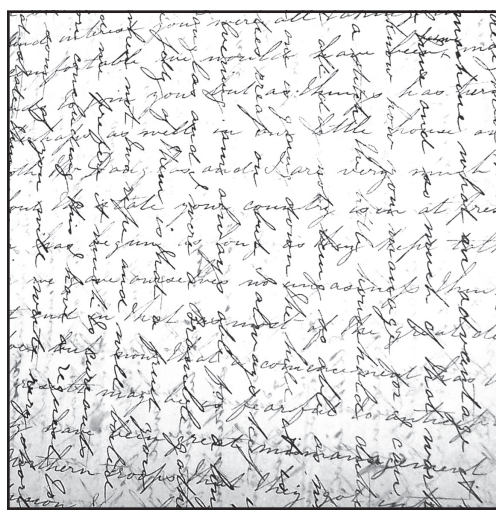
and wrote across it horizontally.

Another project we are completing is a settlement-era trunk and packet of activities for use by teachers, and much of our research is going toward that effort.

Meanwhile, in the Kuska collection, we continue to revise information about the pieces on exhibit. Sometimes knowledgeable visitors help with identification of items about which we are unsure, and on other occasions the answer is found with the help of expertise available through the Internet.

We recently opened the Meissen cases so that Chris could photograph the maker's marks and other details on these ceramics. She submitted the photographs to experts in Meissen, Germany, who were helpful in clarifying dates and other information, including which items are Meissen and which are Meissen-type. We will be updating our labels in those cases to reflect what we have learned.

We are currently displaying Theresia Aschenbrenner's lovely quilts through Tuesday, Sept. 6. We had a bit of a schedule mix-up, so our fall exhibits are different from what you may have read. In September and October, we will have art by the Colby Community College Art Department. Bonnie Stasser will be showing her mixed media artwork in November and



ANN MINER/Prairie Museum of Art and History Chris Griffin (Above left) checked details on one of the Meissen pieces. A closeup (Above) shows a letter making maximum use of space.

December. The Art Club will be exhibiting next March and April.

Our first Food for Thought program will be at noon on Thursday, Nov. 17. Eunice Petramala will be here from the Sand Creek Massacre National Historical Site to talk about the settlement period from the Native American perspective.

Come on out and see what's new around the museum!

Ann Miner is the Education Director at the Prairie Museum of Art and History.

Senior Progress Center

Come join in the fun Tuesday at the Senior Progress Center, when there will be a dart game.

Activities for the week: **Monday:** 10:30 Rummikub. **Tuesday:** 10 a.m. exercise; 10:30 dart game. **Wednesday:** sweets day. **Thursday:** 10 a.m. exercise; 10:30 pinochle. **Friday:** 10 a.m. exercise; 10:30 pool game.

Menus for the week: **Monday:** steak fingers, mashed potatoes, gravy, beets, apricots. **Tuesday:** chili dog with cheese, winter-blend vegetables, watermelon, bar cookie. **Wednesday:** pasta salad with ham, pineapple, bread sticks, cottage cheese. **Thursday:**

turkey and noodles, seasoned carrots, creamy cucumbers, mandarin oranges. **Friday:** cheeseburger upside-down pizza, potato salad, rosy pears, cook's choice complement.

The Thomas County Nutrition Center invites anyone 60 and older and guests to lunch Monday through Friday at the senior center. Home delivery is available, as is pick-up service. A contribution of \$3 per meal is suggested for seniors, \$5.25 for others. For anyone under 60, home delivery is \$5.75.

Make reservations at (784) 460-2901 by noon the day before.

Vintage baseball game coming up in Abilene

The third annual vintage baseball game will be played on the grounds of the Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum. The "Abilene IronCutters" will once again face the Wichita "Cowtown 9," donning uniforms from the 1860s. The game is scheduled at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 13.

The game is played using baseball rules from the Victorian era, which are quite different from today's game. For instance, outfielders can catch the ball on one bounce for an out and base stealing and sliding are prohibited.

"This is a fun event, recreating the game from a bygone era,"

states Tim Rives, Deputy Director, Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum. "We encourage individuals and families to take advantage of this great 'Americana' experience."

The event is free and open to the public. People are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and sunscreen. Responses are appreciated and can be made on Facebook or by calling (785) 263-6700.

The Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, a nonpartisan federal institution, is part of the Presidential Libraries network operated by the National Archives and Records Administration.

Hansen museum in Logan plans big party for Labor Day

The 35th Annual Logan Labor Day Celebration, sponsored by the Dane G. Hansen Memorial Museum and Dane G. Hansen Foundation, is planned for Sunday, Sept. 4, at the Logan Golf Course. There is no admission fee.

The celebration begins at 8 a.m. with a Logan Chamber-sponsored ecumenical church service, a remote fly-in, and at 9 a.m. a sand volleyball tournament. The Logan Chamber of Commerce food booth will open at 8 a.m. and the Sno-Cone Shack will begin serving at 10 a.m. Vehicles will roll in for the Dane G. Bales Junior Memorial Car Show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The kid's tractor pull starts at 2 p.m. Scout groups will be conducting activities throughout the day for all children.

The Prairie Dusters Mounted Drill Team from the Logan area is offering horse rides beginning at 3 p.m. At 4:30 p.m. they will

demonstrate their precision drill routines.

Appearing on stage at 5:30 will be the "Jimmy Dee & The Fabulous Destinations." This group of musicians from Victoria have a show, featuring major hits from the early 1960s. In 2002, Jimmy Dee released a CD entitled "Round Trip" and followed that with another CD in 2003 called "Summer Fun." Today, the group is still going strong, playing selected dates throughout the year.

At 7:30 p.m. Night Wing performs music from the Top 40 pop and country hits of today to popular rock-n-roll classics. This country/rock showcase group of the United States Air Force Heartland of America Band has a unique vocal blend and amazing musician-ship.

Fireworks will follow the evening entertainment.

On the Beat

COLBY POLICE

Monday

12:14 a.m. - Security check at Walmart.
6:29 a.m. - Unlocked building at Fike Park.
7 a.m. - Dog at large picked up, taken to Colby Animal Clinic.
10:04 a.m. - Funeral block.
10:11 a.m. - Caller reported accident in Great Western Tire parking lot.
10:21 a.m. - Helped Social and Rehabilitation Services.
11:19 a.m. - Funeral block.
11:54 a.m. - Caller reported dog at large. Contacted owner.
12:17 p.m. - Caller reported items in road on Country Club between Fourth St. and Fire Department. Owner was picking them up when he arrived.
1:55 p.m. - Caller reported subjects arguing. All subjects spoken to.
9:36 p.m. - 911 call reported fight in progress.
11:40 p.m. - Executed a search warrant.
11:45 p.m. - Caller reported two females ringing doorbell and not wanting to answer door. Subject locked out of apartment and

needed key.

11:54 p.m. - Caller reported two guys fighting in his yard. Everything OK; two buddies wrestling.

Tuesday

1:27 a.m. - Locked building at Fike Park.
2:47 a.m. - Security check at the airport.
9:23 a.m. - Assisted Social and Rehabilitation Services. Report filed.
5:09 p.m. - Suspicious incident: caller reported possible injuries. No injuries everything OK.
6:04 p.m. - Theft of wallet.
10:30 p.m. - Domestic incident, report filed.
11:12 p.m. - Caller reported open door. Cleared building; everything OK.
11:50 p.m. - Security check at B-Hive.

Wednesday

Midnight - Helped Sherman County in locating subject and vehicle in reference to damage done in Sherman County.
12:18 a.m. - Locked building at Fike Park.
1:14 a.m. - Provided directions to Walmart for a motorist.
2:32 a.m. - Security check at

Walmart.

5:28 a.m. - Unlocked building at Fike Park.

7:06 a.m. - Assisted Highway Patrol.

9:40 a.m. - Protective custody report filed.

10:24 a.m. - Spoke to subject about weapons laws.

11:14 a.m. - 911 hangup. Spoke to subject, all OK.

12:30 p.m. - Caller reported stalled vehicle blocking road at Fourth and Range. Vehicle was moved.

10:27 p.m. - Locked building at Fike Park.

11:06 p.m. - Caller reported someone fell. Turned over to ambulance crew.

THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF

Tuesday

9:57 a.m. - Possession of drugs and possession of paraphernalia report filed on traffic stop.
11:54 a.m. - Booked Brandon Joseph Lee.
1:43 p.m. - Booked Rown Nathan Lee.
3:34 p.m. - Matthew D. Mouser arrested on warrant.
9:49 p.m. - Caller reported

vehicle broken down at Breton Grainery. Assisted subject.

11 p.m. - Booked Cynthia D. Soriano.

11:18 p.m. - Released Soriano.

11:36 p.m. - Booked Raymond M. Fagan.

Wednesday

8:28 a.m. - Brought prisoners from Sherman County to the Law Enforcement Center.

9:51 a.m. - Released Nicholas Wade Henry.

11 a.m. - Released Seth Ryan DeHart.

11:39 a.m. - Took prisoner to Sherman County.

11:44 a.m. - Booked David A. Dowdell

11:51 a.m. - Assisted Highway Patrol at I-70 mile 51.

12:34 p.m. - Booked David Lee Duncan.

3:53 p.m. - Booked Albert G. Williams.

7:50 p.m. - Report filed for damage at Hillary Motors.

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