

kanorado chronology

By Dixie Hooker

Kanorado Correspondent

Useless facts: It's against the law to catch fish with your hands in Kansas. Getting to know Kanorado people, places and things — PEOPLE: Introducing Jake as in Jacob Fritz.

Jake has been in the Kanorado area since 1933. He arrived here from St. Louis, Mo. He's a retired farmer who started farming with his dad when he was a kid. Jake married Judy Sivey in 1964. Judy has since passed away.

He and Judy have three kids, Lanette of Columbus; Rusty of rural Goodland and Kelly of Goodland. Jake is a regular icon around Kanorado and serves on the city council and the senior citizen center board.

He volunteers to be the driver of the senior van and takes a load of people on jaunts across Kansas and other states. If you need an opinion about various subjects, just visit with Jake as he is quite refreshing and you will know where you stand.

A few years ago Jake started taking discarded bicycles, trikes and little red wagons and repairing and painting them until they looked new again. He gave them to kids who didn't have any.

When the PRIDE program started up again in Kanorado, he gave the excellent repaired items to their committee for them to resell. The purpose was for a child to come to the committee and offer 25 or 50 cents for a bike and take it home with pride in his or her eyes on the purchase they had just made all by themselves.

Jake said he always has "piddled" in woodworking, making miniature items like tables and chairs, etc. About ten years ago he went to bigger items and began creating cabinets, rocking horses, cute door frame hangers and clocks.

He gives all his door frame hangers away to family and friends. You can ask several people in town and find they are

the proud recipients of those cute hangers. I for one own an outstanding set of happy dangling green frogs.

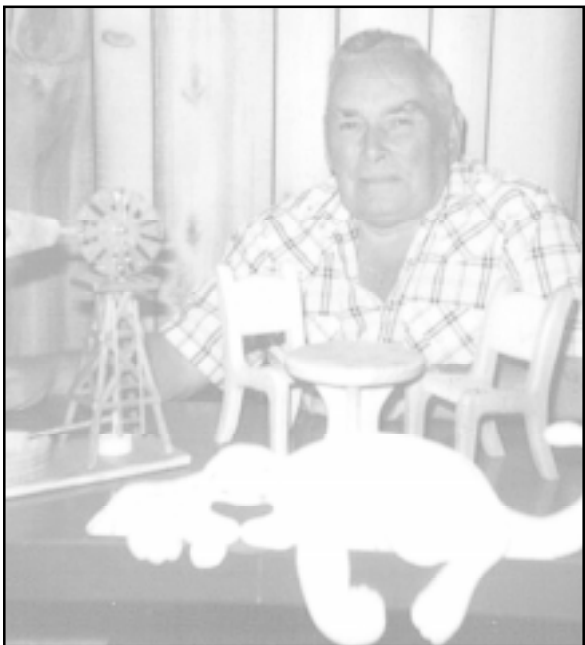
But Jake has ended up specializing in windmill clocks. He has given a few away, but it became a business. The clock is in the center of the windmill's blades and at the base he may choose to place a cattle or supply tank. They take him about a day and a half to create.

Old Town Emporium in Burlington, Colo., started selling Jake's windmill clocks and they went like hot cakes. He finally put the skids on this as he told them he only does these things in his spare time and doesn't want another job! So now he just delivers the clocks to the Emporium at his leisure.

All of Jake's patterns are original and his own design. From cabinets to bi-plane shelves where the propeller spins in time to a music box. All these little masterpieces come from Jake's creativity.

Yep, Jake is truly a home townner and even though he says he's retired, his next project is a gristmill with a water wheel where actual water flows around and over the gristmill wheel. So, we will all give him time with his new mills before we descend on him wanting one!

How To Observe Thanksgiving: Count your blessings instead of your crosses; count your gains instead of your losses. Count your joys instead of your woes; count your friends instead



Jake Fritz with some of his treasures.

of your foes. Count your smiles instead of your tears; count your courage instead of your fears. Count your full years instead of your lean; count your kind deeds instead of your mean. Count your health instead of your wealth; count on God instead of yourself.

Paul Taylor just underwent knee surgery at Presbyterian/St. Luke's Hospital in Denver. He is getting along fine, but he said it was the most expensive vacation he has ever been on as he figures his little jaunt ran around \$6,500 a night!

But he said it did include meals, baths and physical therapy, with a few pain pills thrown in to keep him happy. But like everything else, we know in this day and age the new knee joint was an extra \$21,000.

Short wit: A friend of mine confused her Valium with her birth control pills. She had 14 kids, but she doesn't really care.

that the other stores offered, and they aren't available, especially when it comes to produce, vegetables and fresh goods.

Harding said profit margins for grocery stores are not very high anywhere, but they are higher here than average and this is a plus for potential store owners.

"The whole report should be attractive to someone looking to open a store," he said.

The economic development committee and the chamber are trying to draw a new grocery into the downtown area. Many shoppers said they wanted a store within the town and the store could be used to pull people into the town also.

He said the it is convenient to have a store downtown and there are two empty former grocery buildings available.

A majority of the comments made by shoppers on the survey were directed at how inconvenient it was to have the only grocery so far from residential areas.

"It's inconvenient to go to Wal-Mart and it is a big hassle to just run in for something little," said one Goodland resident. "We need a grocery store other than Wal-Mart. I would pay more for the convenience."

"I would like a grocery store in Goodland," said another. "The Wal-Mart is far from my house. The downtown area is much closer for me and it is also a good place for a grocery store."

Harding said another reason for wanting the store downtown was to eliminate direct competition, because Wal-Mart is already out on K-27.

The advantage of the survey, he said, is that all the comments come directly from the customers so that a potential client can see what issues they are going to need to address.

The next step, he said, is to recruit a client to open another store, but it is still going to take awhile.

"It will take time to put this together," he said. "The survey wasn't an answer. It will just be used to assist in putting together a plan."

Racism issue affects everyone sometime during their life

Racism is an on-going threat. Everyone at some point in time has been affected by racism. Racism by its very nature hurts everyone.

As defined in the American Heritage Dictionary, racism involves the idea that one race is superior and has the right to rule others.

Being of Hispanic/Latino background, my husband and I have always taught our kids to be proud of this fact, and they are. But, we have also discussed with them the other fact, that their race and other races aren't always welcome in America.

This is usually a very sensitive issue for many and I wasn't sure whether to touch on it or not. But something really neat happened to our family and another family, which I felt was important to share.

My daughter and another student were in a "pushing" fight in school. This began because there was a game going on and tempers flared, which led to the other student using some racial remarks against my daughter. We certainly do not condone fighting, no matter what the situation is. This is why we have rules and a school staff, who we trust our kids will go to.

Both students were suspended from school for a day and a half. I understood why they had to be suspended, but I



cris lovington

• prevention center

also thought, "What is this alone really going to teach them? Is there maybe something else that can be done?"

I spent quite a bit of time talking with my daughter about what had happened and what she could have done differently and how to be better prepared next time. The next day, I was contacted by one of the parents of the other student. We spoke for awhile over the phone. They were sincerely apologetic. Both parents agreed that their daughter's behavior was uncalled for. This made things much better for us that we all agreed that the behavior both students demonstrated was not OK. We made arrangements for both families to meet and were able to discuss this in a responsible manner.

I certainly do not believe the other student meant the remarks which she made. I just believe she was angry and wanted to say something which would get my daughter's attention, which it did. I don't believe my daughter meant

the way they did. This young lady should be very proud of them. This will be a lesson learned, at least for two young girls, to help them think twice before either one says or does anything to the other or anyone else.

The girls were able to apologize to each other and mean it. They may never be the best of friends, and that is OK. But it's important for them to understand that their reactions cannot be handled in the way they were every time something does not go the way they would like it to. And that hurtful words and fighting do not take care of it.

Every culture makes a contribution to America: customs, career skills, ethnic foods, music, dance, civil rights and spiritual life, just to name a few. Sharing this with our children can help them understand and appreciate what we all, as humans, contribute to make our country "one nation under God and justice for all."

Farming dangerous despite advances

FARMING, from Page 1

he said. "I think there's going to be a lot of insurance companies in the next five years that will look at that as a way to reduce claims."

Gauging trends is difficult, said George Maher, agricultural safety specialist with the North Dakota State University Extension Service. Many farmers treat injuries at home and go right back to work without reporting them, he said.

Steele said farmers age 55 and older are a high-risk group.

"A lot has to do with them operating older tractors that are not protected (with safety measures); a lot has to do with them slowing down, the aging

characteristics," he said.

In North Dakota, the average age of farmers is 51.4, according to the 1997 Census of Agriculture. That's up from 50 in 1992, and 48.3 in 1987.

"We're going to have to change our focus on farm safety to meet this change in our farming population," Maher said.

He said getting older farmers to change their ways is difficult. Farm safety experts have relied on educating young people, and hoping the message will rub off on parents and grandparents, he said.

A poor farm economy has forced many farmers to forgo newer, safer machinery and buy their equipment "as is" at auctions, Maher said. The stress

of surviving through lean times puts safety issues further back in many farmers' minds, he said.

In North Dakota, officials of Nodak Mutual Insurance, affiliated with the Farm Bureau, and Farmers Union Insurance both said premium incentives for "certified safe" farms are being discussed but not yet aggressively pursued.

Farmers Union Insurance is trying to do more to prevent accidents, starting a risk-management program for farmers, said Gary Geiszler, marketing manager.

The Farm Bureau is trying to increase awareness of safety issues through several programs aimed at young people, said safety coordinator Gail Scherweit.

Study shows city good place for grocery

STUDY, from Page 1

spending amounts for groceries, said Harding, is because the area is isolated and so there aren't many choices. A high percentage of people from other counties are shopping here and the average income in the area, \$28,364, was relatively high for the region.

On average, 3,910 people drive through the Goodland area every day. Harding said this included mostly local traffic, including people driving to work in the area.

"People will shop here if they have to drive to work in the area and then drive back," he said.

Price was listed as one of the most attractive features in a store, said Harding, and this might make it more difficult to attract a new grocery to the area. Ninety-one percent of respondents said price was an important factor when selecting which store to use. Other important factors were availability of products, with 96 percent of those surveyed identifying this as important; products being easy to find was 93 percent; knowledgeable personnel hit 92 percent; and selection 91 percent.

One Goodland respondent said

"prices were really reasonable until we lost our stores in the area." The last regular grocery here, a Jubilee story which once was part of the Boogarts chain, closed more than a year ago as part of a general pullout of area stores by the Fleming Co.

A high number of customers, 75 percent, said they were unsatisfied or very unsatisfied with the current lack of grocery selection in Goodland, with many comments directed at the produce and meat selection available as well as the lack of a deli or bakery. About 66 percent of residents said they were unsatisfied with their choices for fruits and vegetables and about 50 percent said they were unsatisfied with the quality of service in general that they receive when grocery shopping.

"Wal-Mart is doing very good with what they do," said Harding. "They never meant to be the only (grocery) store in town and they can't offer everything."

He said he thought the customers wanted more choices that Wal-Mart might not be able to offer and so they aren't finding all that they want.

In some cases, he said, the customers want to find some brand products

Police chief and manager could be on their way out

GARDEN CITY (AP)—A group of residents in Garden City wants its police chief and city manager removed.

In the wake of the Garden City Police Department's planned reorganization, the group Citizens For Progressive Change distributed petitions calling for the ouster of Garden City's city manager and police chief, The Garden City Telegram reported Friday.

The group's interest stemmed from the police department's planned reorganization, which was to take effect Oct. 29. The plan included numerous promotions and the demotion of Capt. Stan Wojdylak, a 20-year veteran of the force.

That demotion sparked outrage with more than 100 people attending the Oct. 31 Garden City commission meeting, when commissioners temporarily stopped the department's reorganization.

Bob Halloran is the city manager,

and James Hawkins the police chief.

The petition to oust Hawkins spoke of an "absolute lack of confidence in the Police Chief James Hawkins."

The petition also claimed Hawkins abused his position and failed to follow procedure in restructuring the department.

Reached at his home as he recovered from heart surgery, Hawkins said he had not heard of the group and declined having the petitions read to him.

The petition against Halloran made similar charges.

It asked the city commission to "return the ultimate control of the city to the elected commissioners."

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