

Player in county seat war killed wife, then himself

By Evelyn Ward
Sherman County Historical Society
October 10, 1904: “Bad Man” of the Frontier, and Leader of the Gang in Eustis/Goodland County Seat War, That Took Records from Eustis by Means of a Six Shooter — Hank Carpenter Kills Wife, Then Commits Suicide in Clifton, Ariz. — *The Norton Champion* of Sept. 29 contained the following sensational article about Hank Carpenter, a historic figure in the county seat war in this county in 1886 and 1887:
“A telegram from Harry Carpenter to his grandfather, John T. Renoe, reached here stating that Hank Carpenter killed his wife and then himself The tragedy occurred in Clifton, Ariz.
“After his first wife died, Carpenter married a Nebraska woman, but

today in history

they parted. Then he took up with ‘Big Fred,’ a celebrity of ‘Pea Green Alley,’ and they lived together in Topeka, Kansas City, and as report shows, Clifton, Ariz. But whether married or not, we do not know.
“Hank Carpenter posed as a bad man, a gun artist and in the early days made quite a record as such in the county seat fights between Eustis and Goodland, for which see the last report of the of the State Historical Society.
“For some years he was on the Topeka police force, but lost out on account of his uncertain methods and character. The daily papers have it that he quarreled with his wife and separated from her through jealousy. In dividing the property between them, the fatal quarrel came up that cost them their lives.
“Carpenter was not his real name. In early life he committed some crime that made him change his location and name. He was a man of fine physical proportions, but of fierce temper and ungovernable passions.
“The bad end was before him ever, as from choice he followed the broad ‘pike’ of pleasure not devoid of thorns, and a wild cactus in Arizona must stand as his fittest monument.”
The article above referred to is in volume eight of the Kansas Histori-

cal collections, which pictures Hank Carpenter as half cowboy and half citizen, one of those bold dashing men of the frontier, who enjoyed a round with guns better than a good dinner.
He mustered a posse of like fellows and some real cowboys who cared no more for the life of a man than most people for the life of a dog.
They offered to bring the county books to Goodland for a stipulated sum of money, in time for the new officers to be installed on January 1, 1888.
At this crisis of trouble, might was right, and the officers could be regularly installed if the books were there, and there was some fear that the Eustis faction might destroy or hide them.
“Early one morning,” says Mr.

Blackman, the writer, “a number of cowboys drove a team into the streets of Eustis, captured one of the old county officials, forced him to mount the stairs ahead of the cowboys and unlock the safe.
“The boys were aware of the guard across the street and knew the orders they had, but Carpenter conducted the raid as though he was ignorant of any danger.
“He threatened to fire the town if a shot was fired, and declared he would shoot the first man that showed his head. The books were quickly loaded, and not a man appeared until the rising sun showed the departing cowboys.
“A few shots were sent after them to arouse the town, but it was too late; the county seat was at Goodland, not only by a majority vote, but by right of possession,

which was more effective.”
Two weeks from that day, Eustis ceased to be as a county seat, and the next summer all its buildings were moved to Goodland. The Eustis town site is now used as a pasture, and all that remains to mark the spot are a few old cellar holes.
October 11, 1904: Photo tent closed until Nov. 1. Gone to the world’s fair. — Greuter
October 12, 1904: Roy Marshall, post office clerk, is in Leavenworth as a witness in a case wherein it is charged that the post office regulations have been violated in Goodland.
From weekly issues of The Goodland News, provided by the Sherman County Historical Society. Since the paper was published weekly, some items were arbitrarily assigned a date.

Goodland library adds books, cassettes, compact disks to collection

The Goodland Public Library has the following books, cassettes and compact disks as of Oct. 1:
In adult fiction: “Tanequil,” by Terry Brooks; “Saucer — the Conquest,” by Stephen Coonts; “Crofton’s Fire,” by Keith Coplin; “Trace,” by Patricia Cornwell; “The Rocky Road to Romance,” by Janet Evanovich; “Murder List,” by Julie Garwood.
“Secrets,” by Kristin Heitzmann; “The Marriage Wish,” by Dee Henderson; “Hawkes Harbor,” by S.E. Hinton; “Blind Alley,” by Iris Johansen; “Sarah’s Song,” by

Karen Kingsbury.
“The Dark Tower,” by Stephen King; “Shotgun Alley,” by Andrew Klavan; “Babylon Rising — the Secret of Ararat,” by Tim LaHaye; “Melancholy Baby,” by Robert B. Parker; “Are You Afraid of the Dark?” by Sidney Sheldon; “Third Watch,” by Bodie Thoene; and “The Queen of the Big Time,” by Adriana Trigiani.
In adult non-fiction: “Mortgages for Dummies,” by Eric Tyson; “Rome Wasn’t Burnt in a Day,” by Joe Scarborough; “Green River, Running Red,” by Ann Rule.

“The Complete Idiot’s Guide to Etiquette,” by Mary Mitchell; “The Everything Wedding Book,” by Shelly Hagen; “Diabetes for Dummies,” by Alan Rubin.
“The Mayo Clinic on Headaches,” “The New Antidepressants and Antianxieties,” by William Appleton; “The Cat Owner’s Manual,” by David Brunner; “Consumer Reports Digital Buying Guide — 2005 edition.
“The Essential Eating Well Cookbook,” “Sewing for Dummies,” by Jan Maresh; “Retirement Places Rated,” by David Savageau;

“Family First,” by Phil McGraw; “NASCAR Now,” by Timothy Miller; and “American Soldier,” by Tommy Franks.
In children’s books: “Child of the Dark Prophecy,” by T.A. Barron; “The Umbrella,” by Jan Brett; “It’s Hard to Be Five,” by Jamie Lee Curtis; “The Wrath of Mulgarath,” by Tony DiTerlizzi; “Rakkety Tam,” by Brian Jacques; “Flappy, Waggy, Wiggly,” by Amanda Leslie; “Winter of the Ice Wizzard,” by Mary Pope Osborne; “Happy Haunting, Amelia Bedelia,” by Herman Parish.

“The Grim Grotto,” by Lemony Snicket; “Beware!” by R.L. Stine; “Wormwood,” by G.P. Taylor; and “Holy Enchilada!” by Henry Winkler.
In audio books: “Saucer — the Conquest,” by Stephen Coonts (CD); “Trace,” by Patricia Cornwell (CD); “The Rocky Road to Romance,” by Janet Evanovich (CD); “Murder List,” by Julie Garwood (CD).
“Hawkes Harbor,” by S.E. Hinton (CD); “Blind Alley,” by Iris Johansen (CD); “Babylon Rising — the Secret of Ararat,” by Tim

LaHaye (CD).
“California Girl,” by T. Jefferson Parker (CD); “Hidden Riches,” by Nora Roberts (CD); “Green River, Running Red,” by Ann Rule (CD); “Are You Afraid of the Dark?” by Sidney Sheldon (CD); “Before Midnight,” by Rex Stout (CD); “Dragon Rider,” by Cornelia Funke (AC JF); “More Perfect Than the Moon,” by Patricia MacLachlan (CD JF); “Amelia Bedelia,” by Peggy Parish (CD JF); and “The Grim Grotto,” by Lemony Snicket (CD JF).

Now is the time to plant spring-flowering bulbs, such as crocus, tulips, daffodils

Late September through October is an excellent time to plant spring-flowering bulbs such as crocus, tulips and daffodils.
These plants need to develop roots in the fall and must get cold over the winter to bloom in the spring.
Choose a planting site that has full sun to partial shade. The ideal soil would be a sandy loam, but even poor soils can be used if organic material such as peat moss, compost or aged bark is mixed in.
For example, mixing in one-third



dana belshe

- ag notebook

given 12 inches of prepared soil. If one-third organic material were added, this would require mixing four inches of organic material with eight inches of soil. Incorporate about three pounds of a complete fertilizer, such as a 5-10-5, per 100 square feet during preparation, or fertilize according to soil test.

Planting depths vary depending on the size of the bulbs. For example, tulips and hyacinths are set about six inches deep, and daffodils are put 6 to 8 inches deep. Smaller bulbs are planted shallower.
As a rule of thumb, bulbs are planted two to three times as deep as their width. Planting depth is the distance from the bottom of the bulb to the top of the soil. Large bulbs are normally spaced four to six inches apart, and small bulbs about one to two inches. Planting in clumps or irregular masses produces a better

display than planting singly.
After placing the bulbs at the proper depth, replace half the soil and add water. This will settle the soil around the bulbs and provide good bulb/soil contact. Add the remaining soil and water again.

Although there will be no top growth in the fall, the roots are developing, so soil needs to be kept moist but not wet. Mulch can be added, after the soil has frozen, to prevent small bulbs from being heaved out of the ground.

club news

The Goodland Federated Music Club met at the Carnegie Arts Center at 7 p.m. Monday. President Eva Lou Selby called the meeting to order and led the club in singing the state and local theme songs and in repeating the Federation Collect.
Linda Lucas reported on the Hymn of the Month composer and led in singing “Come, Thou Almighty King,” by Felice de Giardini.
Ten members answered roll call: Birkley Barnes, Martha Gunderson, Linda Koons, Lucas, Marilyn Mangus, Sammie Mills, Sharon Palmquist, Selby, Nancy Shores and Isabelle Hellerud. President Selby welcomed a new member, Melanie Biel, and two guests, Dana Inloes of Brewster and her mother Margaret Inloes of Quinter.

The program, “Sing a Round and a Round,” was introduced by the program chair, Gunderson. Barnes led the members in singing several three-part and four-part rounds: “Toembai,” an Israeli folk song; “French Cathedrals,” a French folk song; “Grasshoppers Three” and “Rose, Rose,” folk songs; “Hungarian Round,” a Hungarian folk song; and “Soft Falls the Dew,” a Slovak folk song.
Mangus read a poem by Rod McKuen, “To the Memory of Stan Kamen” (1986). Palmquist sang “Sunshine on My Shoulders,” by John Denver, Dick Kniss and Mike Taylor and “The Music is You,” by John Denver. She was accompanied by Sammie Mills on piano.
Barnes, clarinet, played “The Yellow Dog Blues,” words and

music by W.C. Handy, and was accompanied by Selby on piano.
Mills, piano, played “Smoke Gets in Your Eyes,” by Jerome Kern, and “Begin the Beguine,” by Cole Porter.
The program concluded with a guest performance by Dana Inloes, piano. She played “Nocturne,” Opus 27, No. 1, by Frederic Chopin; “Notturmo,” Opus 54, No. 4, by Edvard Grieg; “Sonata,” Opus 120, by Franz Schubert; and “Rhapsody,” Opus 79, No. 2, by Johannes Brahms.
A short business meeting followed the program. Barnes gave the treasurer’s report. In the absence of the secretary, there were no minutes read. Shores reported on the student essay contest.
Palmquist reported on the upcoming Northwest District Meeting

in Atwood and encouraged everyone to attend. Palmquist is president of the district.
Members were also encouraged to attend the United States Marine Band Concert in Colby on Oct. 16. Flyers were distributed for the Duo Piano Concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 24, at the Goodland United Methodist Church.
The meeting adjourned, and refreshments were served by hostesses Selby and Barnes.
The Nov. 1 meeting will be at the arts center and will be hosted by Lucas and Gunderson.

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