

Rattlesnakes, cars highlight events

Things will be jumin' and shakin' down in Wallace County this spring.

The 14th annual Rattlesnake Roundup festival will be held Saturday and Sunday, April 30 and May 1, and the Wallace County Cruisers' second annual car and bike show will be Saturday, May 7, in Sharon Springs.

The Fort Wallace Museum will open its doors earlier this year also.

On Saturday at the rattlesnake festival, the gates open at 9 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. The Koshare Indian Dancers will perform Saturday only; Rex Getz, a magician, will perform both days; and there will be a petting zoo on Saturday and Sunday.

The rattlesnake pit will have shows every half hour. A talent con-

test will be held on Sunday with cash prizes. Call (785) 852-4935 for information.

The car and bike show will be from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, May 7. Classes are Pre-'49, '49-'53, '74-present, under construction, bikes and young guns. Pre-register by Friday, April 15. Dash plaques go to the first 100 cars.

Go to www.wallacecountycruisers.com or call (785) 852-4935 for information.

Starting in April, the museum will be open on weekends only, but in May it will resume its normal business hours of 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday. Make sure and check out the seven-foot barbed-wire statue of a buffalo. For information, call (785) 852-4935.

Couples celebrate lifetimes together



Ken and Vi Peck (left) celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary Tuesday, April 5, 2005, at the Sherman County Good Samaritan Center. Rudy Gemmer (right) gave his wife Thelma a



bite of their cake Thursday, March 31, 2005, when they celebrated their 65th anniversary at the center.

Photos by Sherry Helton/Good Samaritan activities director

4-h news

The Glendale Livewires 4-H Club held its regular meeting Monday, Feb. 21, at the Sherman County 4-H building.

Vice President Michael Johnson called the meeting to order. Roll call was "What is your favorite thing to do on Saturday morning?" There were 31 members, two leaders and no guests present.

Megan Siruta led the club in singing "Songs of the U.S. Presidents" in honor of Presidents Day. Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Julica Bonsall and approved.

There were no communications. Treasurer Cassie Cooper reported that there was an ending balance of

\$505 with no outstanding bills or deposits.

Jordan Siruta and Stephanie Lee celebrated their birthdays in February, and everyone sang "Happy Birthday" to them.

Historian Ellie House once again reminded all members to bring their school pictures to put in the historian book.

Leader Michelle Cooper advised that 4-H T-shirts are in and need to be paid for. She also said there was still time to sign up for 4-H Days and Talent Night on March 11.

Leader Gennifer House mentioned this year is 4-H's 100th birthday and discussed the possibility of

decorating a hay bale for the fair. There was no unfinished business.

Cooper Slough had a demonstration on how to raise a happy hamster. Jason Cowan did a project talk on shooting sports and rules of safety. Ian Bonsall gave a health and safety tip on child safety seats. Colton Cooper told a series of knock-knock jokes.

The meeting was adjourned, and refreshments were served by Connor Simpson.

The club's next meeting was scheduled for Monday, March 7, which would be the model meeting.

Submitted by Megan Siruta, club reporter.

Notorious 'Fleagle Gang' Fingerprint ended nationwide '20s manhunt

True crime from the roaring 20s begins with a brazen daylight bank robbery of the First National Bank in Lamar, Colo. on May 23, 1928. Four men are dead, and the robbers escaped.

"The Fleagle Gang, Betrayed by a fingerprint," details the case which hinges on a single fingerprint found on a murdered Dighton, Kan., doctor's car. The fledgling Federal Bureau of Identification and the new boss J. Edgar Hoover play a crucial role in turning the fingerprint into solid evidence used to find, arrest and convict members of the Fleagle Gang. The book includes many photos taken from the court files and places where the gang robbed banks.

The Fleagle Gang robbed banks and trains in Larned, Kinsley, Marysville, Ottawa and McPherson Kan., Lamar, Colo., Eugene, Ore., Pittsburg, Calif. and countless others of over \$1 million in the 10 years they operated.

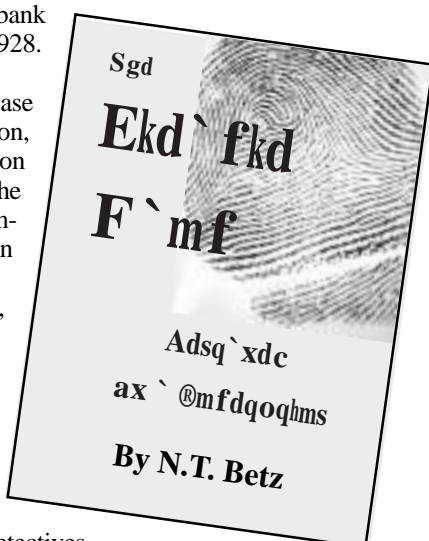
Three gang members — Ralph Fleagle, George Abshire and Howard Royston — were "jerked up" at the Colorado Penitentiary a little over two years after committing the Colorado bank robbery. The fourth, Jake Fleagle, was trapped and shot on a train in Branson, Mo. in Oct. 1930, by postal inspectors and detectives from several states.

Cartoonist Al Capp used Jake to create his character Evil Eye Fleagle in the Lil Abner cartoon strip and Broadway show. Cartoonist Carl Barks used the Fleagle Gang as the inspiration for The Beagle Boys who have tormented Donald Duck since 1951. The author N.T. (Tom) Betz has spent a lifetime in journalism and on the Great Plains.

A U.S. Navy journalist and a graduate of the University of Colorado, Betz started his career delivering papers for his family's newspaper in Lamar, Colo., winning the first of numerous journalism awards as a teenager. He grew up on stories of the First National Bank robbery, and the Fleagle gang, originally reported on by his grandfather, Fred Betz, Sr.

Betz is editor of the Goodland Star-News. He has spent much of his free time exploring the history of the Great Plains of Kansas, Colorado and Oklahoma.

"The Fleagle Gang" is available at **Knott Just Books** in Goodland (Call 890-7105 to reserve your copy. A book signing is being planned for May.), the **Finney County Museum** in Garden City, and online from the publisher Authorhouse.com, Barnes & Noble, The Tattered Cover in Denver, Amazon.com and other book stores.



Internet tonight! Call 899-2338.

FARM MACHINERY AUCTION

Saturday, April 9, 2005 • 11 a.m. MT 10 a.m. CT

Lunch will be served

Location: I-70 exit to Ruleton, Kansas, then north 2 1/4 miles on Road 10

Sellers: Merle Stasser and Gaylord Stasser

Planter & Grain Drills

John Deere 7300 8-row, 30" Maxi Merge 2, planter, herbicide and pesticide, hydraulic markers, S.N. A07300A105640. Always shedded, like new.
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Dual 600 P.T.O. Manure spreader
Eversman 4012 Leveler
Rotary mower, 3-pt., 7', Model 7000, S.N. 1209910184
Donahue 34' trailer
Everson 10' hydraulic tilt and angle back blade, 3-pt., SN 1122
500 Gal. sprayer, pull-type, stainless steel tank, 40' booms w/foam marker system

Tillage Equipment

Flex King 50' rod weeder w/ Degelman harrows
IHC 18' disc 760, good blades, just sharpened.
Rhino 15-1/2' flex mower

Orthman 8-row 30" Cultivator 610-332.
Small 3-pt cultivator
Drag disc
Old John Deere disc
Sunflower 1443, 29' disc, discs just sharpened w/Sunflower harrows, Model #144329, S.N. 1490416
Krause 12" sweep machine w/ Krause harrows, Model 4133. S.N. 3839
IHC 5-18", 3-pt. roll-over plow, S.N. 10500000001459
IH 26' Packer
Sunflower 5x5 sweeps, good blades, Flex King treaders, anhydrous, Model 80J5-24, S.N. 0352

Tractors

1994 IHC 9230 Power shift, 3-pt, dual 18.4x38 tires, 4-hydraulic couplers, Category 3 Quik Hitch, Leon 803 loader w/ grapple fork, engine model 6TA830, S.N. 44975074. Very Clean and real good!
Olive 88 diesel, new injectors and diesel pump. Collector's tractor!
1960 John Deere 630 w/front all restored, looks like new!
John Deere 4440 8-speed, power shift, Category 2 Quik Hitch, S.N. 4440P0002363R, triple hydraulics, 8623 hrs., equipped with John Deere 158 loader w/ grapple fork. Set of bolt on 18.4x38 duals
Massey Harris 1949 Twin Power 101 Senior, Chrysler engine, new front tires. Great for restoring!
Oliver 70 gas, original spoke wheels, real straight and runs like new. Another collector tractor!

Harvest Equipment

Hutchinson seed cleaner, Model 1500, S.N. 121935
Mayrath 60"x18" auger, 10 H.P. electric
6" auger, 36', 5 H.P. electric
Belt-a-Vator, 12" w/hopper
John Deere 853 crophead, new belts, S.N. 346799H, 8-row, 30" IHC 1083 8-row, 30" cornhead, SNJJC0144344, Model 1083C06000 BN, always shedded

Hay Equipment

IHC 3-pt. sickle mower
Dual haybasket, steel teeth w/ push off
IHC side delivery rake, R-50-51.

Trucks

1958 Ford F600, 4x2 trans., engine overhaul 2000 miles ago, 57455 actual miles, 13-1/2' steel box w/hoist, grain fill auger, 8.25x20 tires, VIN. NO. F60C8U14961. This truck has always been shedded, runs and looks like new!
1946 Ford Truck, flathead engine, body is straight, Good for restoring.
1981 Ford 1/2 ton pickup 4x4, 4-speed, needs engine.

Irrigation Equipment

Check it all out
Many items too numerous to mention

Auctioneer's Note: Merle and Gaylord have decided to sell some of their excess machinery. Merle says it's time he gets to play and participate in tractor pulls with his restored collection of Oliver tractors. You won't want to miss this auction of very good farm machinery, always serviced and well-kept.

Check out our web side at: www.johnson-real-estate.com

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