

School kicks off with welcome breakfast

By Kathryn Burke

The Goodland Star-News
Goodland teachers, administrators and school board members shared plans for the new school year over eggs and bacon at the annual back-to-school breakfast last Thursday.

A check-in booth was set up in the hall outside of the cafeteria at the high school. Mary Porterfield, Spanish teacher at the high school, was poised inside the buzzing cafeteria to hand out professional development council literature to passing teachers.

Two lines were set up for teachers to fill their plates with mixed fruit, eggs, biscuits and gravy, bacon, sausage and orange juice, coffee or water.

Tables were set up, and almost every seat in the house was full.

Teachers, aides, secretaries and others laughed and joked about summer vacations. Some talked about this year's teaching plans and what may be in store.

School board members LeAnn Friedrichs and Dick Short had breakfast with their spouses, teachers Dennis Friedrichs and Sarah Short.

Board President Jane Philbrick joined the Shorts, who sat with Linda Quint, custodian at North Elementary; Yvonne Koehler, high school secretary; and Marie Elias, library technician at North.

Superintendent Marvin Selby was on hand for breakfast and afterwards chatted with anyone who stopped by.

After breakfast, the group headed to the high school auditorium, where Philbrick welcomed everyone back to school. Selby came next.

The staff stuck around to watch two videos, one on confidentiality of students' information, and one about blood born pathogens.

Selby said after the video and a short break, teachers headed to the Northwest Kansas Technical Col-



Teachers share summer stories, food at breakfast

Pat Pickett (right in left photo), a second grade teacher at West Elementary, and Jackie Elliott, a math teacher at Goodland High School, shared some photos on their cameras at the back-to-school breakfast last Thursday. Yvonne Koehler (above), a secretary at the high school, stopped to talk to Superintendent Marvin Selby before she headed off to hear welcome-back speeches.

Photos by Kathryn Burke/The Goodland Star-News



lege to attend a methamphetamine prevention workshop.

Before the program, he said, public school teachers had a chance to

meet college teachers during a pizza lunch.

"It was for their own general information," he said about the meth

program. "It was really very interesting."

Walnut trees made a splash in county

By Evelyn Ward

Sherman County Historical Society
August 26, 1905: In the short grass country one surprise follows another. All "glorious" prophecies turn out to be but half hearted optimism when compared with the victories of vegetation upon these plains.

People have gotten used to hearing of 40 bushels of wheat and 60 bushels of barley, without suffering from heart failure, but the heretofore unheard of fact of young walnut trees being loaded down with walnuts on the John Wilson place may stagger some.

John Wilson lives 11 miles southeast of Goodland.

Fifteen years ago, he set out 25 black walnut sprigs. They have grown to quite good size, and this year they will yield him not less than a bushel and a half.

His son, Mart Wilson, brought a

today in history

branch of one of the trees to town and showed the walnuts to town people. The walnuts with their coats on were almost as large as hen's eggs.

August 28, 1905: Jacob Trachsel Has Fifty Bearing Trees and the Product is Good—Jacob Trachsel, who lives four miles southeast of Goodland, was in town last week with several bushels of ripe apples which he had picked from his young apple orchard.

The trees, only 10 years old, have made a remarkable growth and are producing a very acceptable yield this year. The 50 trees are set out at regular intervals, making a real orchard.

Western Kansas is becoming known by what it produces. A num-

ber of years ago, about the only thing it had on the market was hot winds and a bad reputation. Everyone passed us by, and here we lay, by circumstances wounded like the man slugged by thieves in Jericho, without benefit of a good Samaritan.

And today men are actually gathering grapes of thorns and figs of thistles in the short-grass country. Verily, it has come to pass after all that western Kansas was not born at the wrong time of the moon.

August 29, 1905: Water Rent Due—Water rent for the next quarter is due and payable at the office of the city treasurer.

The city is in need of all its current revenue, and if you have not paid, the water commissioner is au-

thorized to turn your water supply off at once.

Pay promptly and save expense. George Kelly, Mayor.

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.

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WANTED

Wanted Homes, needing repairs OK. Under 10K call Mark at 620-285-3392 or 620-285-4626. -9-

Kansas' 'Fleagle Gang' Fingerprint ends nationwide '20s manhunt

Today we watch Crime Scene Investigation shows about using fingerprints to find criminals. This is a true crime story from the roaring 20s. "The Fleagle Gang, Betrayed by a fingerprint," begins with a brazen daylight robbery of the First National Bank in Lamar, Colo. on May 23, 1928. Four men are dead, and the robbers escape.

Author Tom (N.T.) Betz, editor of *The Goodland Star-News*, has spent a lifetime in journalism and on the Great Plains.

Check out the on-line five-star review at Amazon.com.

This book would make a great Christmas gift - order now.

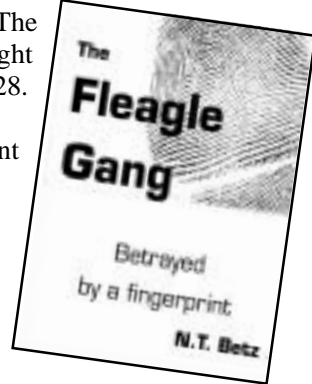
Betz will be at the Greeley County Museum in Tribune at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10; at the Finney County Museum for a picnic from 1-4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 2; At the El Quartejejo Museum in Scott City on Saturday, Oct. 15; and at the Fick Fossil and History Museum in Oakley on Saturday, Oct. 29.

"The Fleagle Gang" details the robbery/murder case which hinged on a single fingerprint — precursor to today's CSI shows — found on a murdered Dighton, Kan., doctor's car. The fledgling FBI plays a crucial role in turning the fingerprint into solid forensic evidence used to find, arrest and convict members of the Fleagle Gang. The FBI credits the Fleagle case as the first time a single fingerprint was used to identify and convict criminals. The book includes over 100 photos and maps taken from court files and places where the gang robbed banks. The Fleagle family lived near Friend, Kan. in Finney County.

A U.S. Navy journalist and a graduate of the University of Colorado, Betz started his career delivering papers for his family's newspaper (1920-1989) *The Lamar Daily News* in Lamar, Colo., winning the first of numerous journalism awards as a teenager.

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

"The Fleagle Gang" is available at the Big Timbers Museum in Lamar, Colo., the Lane County Museum in Dighton, Kan., the Fick Fossil and History Museum in Oakley, Kan., the Finney County Museum and Hastings in Garden City, Kan., and the High Plains Museum in Goodland, Kan. It is available on-line from the publisher Authorhouse.com, Linda Knott's new web bookstore knottjustbooks-spreadtheword.com, Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble and other major stores. Check out "The Fleagle Gang" web site at: nwkansas.com/home/fleaglegang.



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