

# Man's father was murdered; two were hanged

By Evelyn Ward

*Sherman County Historical Society*  
**September 18, 1905:** The mention of Ralph Corley's name brings up an incident of tragic history in Wallace County. His father was murdered by some of the McKinley family and his body chopped up and cast into a hog pen.

The mystery in the crime was soon uncovered and two of the McKinley family were hanged to telegraph poles by enraged neighbors.

Corley's wife and Ralph moved to Goodland, where the boy was left by his mother to shift for himself,

## today in history

and he was adopted by his grandmother. His mother remarried and is now living in Michigan, but her address is unknown.

**September 19, 1905:** Town Company Brick Sold — The large two-story Town Company Brick, so called because it has for years been the property of the Sherman County Development company, of which H.A. Clark of Wallace is president and A.B. Montgomery is secretary, was this week sold to Ernest Bower

for the sum of \$4,000.

The building has been occupied as a hotel for a number of years, the present occupant being A.B. Yarnell, proprietor of the Alamo Hotel. Mr. Bower will get possession of the property Jan. 1. He does not purpose, however, to move his furniture store into the building. (Historic Note: The Town Company Brick building is on the northwest corner of the intersection of 13th and Main. The Sherman

County Development Company was instrumental in the beginning of the town of Goodland in August of 1887.)

**September 20, 1905:** Bolt Goes Through Him — D.A. Long, who owns and operates a large ranch in the neighborhood of Ruleton, has fairly had to creep about the house for a week. He complains of being extremely tired, and occasionally an electrical shock seems to pass through his left side, which causes him to shudder.

His condition is the result of being struck down by a bolt of lightning. In speaking of the matter he says, "A fierce storm came up that morning, and I and my hired hand went to the house. My wife was needing some water, and I started with a galvanized pail on my left arm to the well, which was about a hundred yards away. I was within about 30 feet of the well when a bolt of lightning struck my left shoulder and

run down my left side and hip, and down my arm, paralyzing my hand. "The pail rattled as though a handful of rocks had been thrown against it and was dented in a dozen places. The sensation was as though a heavy body just mashed me to the earth, and I felt smothered.

"The sharp clap of thunder that followed caused the hired man to look out, and he saw my body lying on the ground. He called my wife and had they not resuscitated me, the worse might have happened. For about two days I hardly knew what had happened. I am truly thankful it was no worse."

And Mr. Long's many acquaintances all over the county are thankful, too, that it was no worse.

**September 21, 1905:** Two Feed Mills — Goodland has not a flouring mill, which it much needs, but it has two well-equipped feed mills, one operated by Bartholomew & Jayne and the other by J.G.

Hamilton. Recently a new building was put up on the Hamilton site and the interior of the building rigged with bins, chutes and six-horsepower MorseFairbanks gasoline engine.

Both the engine and the grinder are in the basement and the ground product is elevated to bins above. The plant is in operation grinding all kinds of grain for feed.

Bartholomew & Jayne have purchased a Dempster eight-horsepower gasoline engine for the milling of feed and grain. They will tear down and reconstruct their feed room. It will be 24 x 28 and two stories high for grain storage and bins. Work on the building was begun this week.

*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.*

## Time to see bang for buck in schools

This week, Kansans are getting a first glimpse of how much bang for the buck they receive for the money they invest to support their local schools. It's about time.

For all the talk about funding education in Kansas, we've never assessed how well our school districts spend our money. So I posed a simple question: What kind of return do Kansas taxpayers get on their large and growing investment in our public schools?

To provide an answer, in 2004, I asked the Legislature to finance an independent assessment of educational spending across the state. When the lawmakers refused, I contacted Kansas City's Kauffman Foundation, and it has funded a Standard and Poor's review of how well Kansas school districts use the money provided by state and local taxpayers.

The initial report, out this week, identifies 16 Kansas school districts as "highly resource effective," that is, they get the best results for the money they invest. This represents an important first step in under-



**kathleen sebelius**

• governor

standing what works best and where every Kansas school can improve.

Over the next two months, the company will closely analyze four specific school districts, which should give us an even better idea of how to make the most of our tax dollars.

Although the analysis is important on its own, it also demonstrates how Kansas government on my watch has emphasized and reemphasized the need for accountability in every department and agency. This attention to accountability and efficiency has already saved taxpayers almost \$1 billion.

As President Harry Truman famously observed, "The buck stops here." That's what accountability is all about: taking clear responsibility for our actions as public figures.

When the accountability results for all Kansas districts are released later this year, some superintendents may well be upset. But even good schools can improve, and all schools can operate more efficiently.

As the *Topeka Capital-Journal* put it this week, in an editorial praising pay raises for teachers, "Now the accountability ball will bounce into the schools' court. Kansans have a right to expect better student academic achievement in return for the extra dollars flowing into school district coffers."

That's right. We need to set our expectations high, not only for improving student achievement, but also in making sure all schools use our money wisely. Holding school districts accountable ensures all Kansas students will have the best possible opportunity to succeed in the classroom and throughout their lives. And nothing can be more important than that.

## matters of record

### Municipal Traffic

The following traffic fines have been paid in Municipal Court:

**Aug. 22** — Kendall L. Morris, 30, Colby, \$76 for following too close and \$40 for inattentive driving.

Kyle F. Schulte, 20, Goodland, \$236 and 30 suspended license for

minor in possession.

**Aug. 23** — Jeffrey S. Terrell, 40, Colby, \$88 for speeding, 53/40.

**Aug. 24** — Daron Hovis, 26, Goodland, \$236 for simple battery.

Larry L. Webb, 52, Goodland, \$76 for speeding, 35/30.

**Aug. 26** — Robert L. Cotton,

79, Goodland, \$80 for speeding, 41/30.

**Aug. 30** — Jamie L. Knox, 22, Goodland, \$96 for speeding, 55/40.

Larry L. Booth, 73, Colby, \$92 for speeding, 54/40.

**Sept. 2** — Trevar J. Macumber, 23, Gordon, Neb., \$76 for speeding, 50/40.



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Pharmacist and PCCA member Jim Hampton and Deanna Feldman and Debbie Owens, representatives from Professional Compounding Centers of America (PCCA) in the Bison Compounding room.

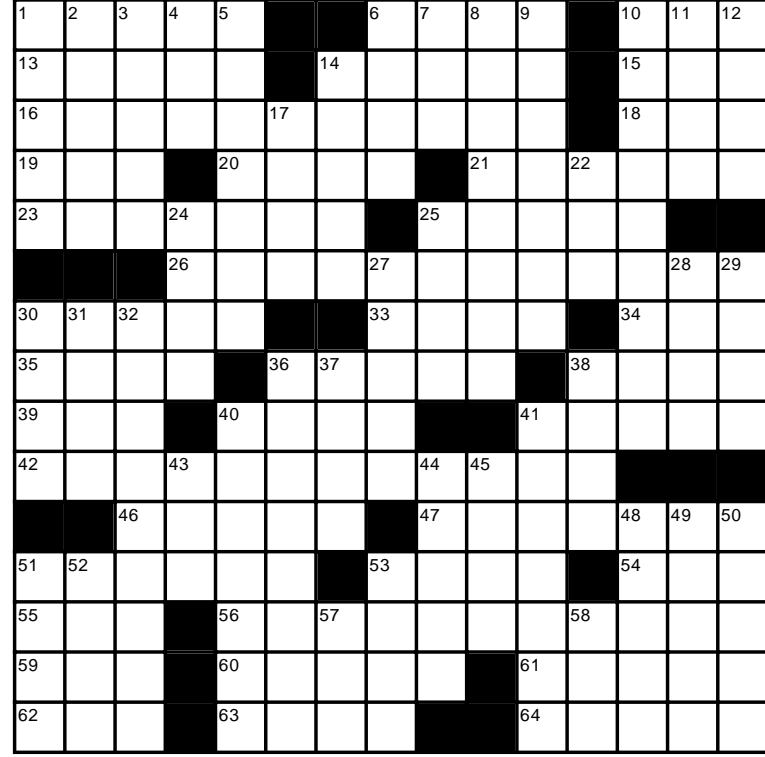
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## Crossword Puzzle

Disney and Dat

### ACROSS

1. Go together, colorwise
6. The Crimson Tide, for short
10. Links standard
13. "Am not!" rejoinder
14. Flower part
15. D.C.'s Pennsylvania, for one: Abbr.
16. "The Apprentice" star
18. WWE win
19. Te- (cigar brand)
20. Atkins or South Beach
21. Just got by
23. Jack Dempsey, "The \_\_\_ Mauler"
25. Ceremonial staff bearer
26. The Yankees' #7
30. Boston skater
33. TV's "\_\_\_ & Clark"
34. Motorists' org.
35. "Fan dancer" Sally
36. Olympic skiing champ Alberto
38. Barbecue rod
39. Egg: Prefix
40. Prefix with marketing
41. Holds a session
42. "Good Will Hunting" actress
46. Nemo creator Jules
47. To no extent
51. Worldwide relief org.
53. "American \_\_\_" (Fox TV hit)
54. Post-ER place
55. \_\_\_ "King" Cole
56. Henry James heroine
59. Put into service
60. Track shapes



American Profile Hometown Content

050911

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>61. "Oliver Twist" villain</li> <li>62. Alfred E. Neuman's magazine</li> <li>63. Marshy areas</li> <li>64. Idyllic settings</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. Data storage medium, on old computers</li> <li>11. Gung-ho</li> <li>12. Slots city</li> <li>14. T-bone, e.g.</li> <li>17. Frisbee, checker, or tiddlywink</li> <li>22. Cozy room</li> <li>24. In the center of</li> <li>25. "Butt out!", initially</li> <li>27. Fudd of cartoondom</li> <li>28. Cafe au ___</li> <li>29. Gobbles down</li> <li>30. ___ Bones (Sleepy Hollow bully)</li> <li>31. Sitarist Shankar</li> <li>32. Like a party crasher</li> <li>36. Britney Spears, for one</li> <li>37. "Ye" follower, on shoppe signs</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>38. Medical fluids</li> <li>40. Bored by</li> <li>41. Insurance company pitched by Snoopy</li> <li>43. Japanese computer giant or tiddlywink</li> <li>44. Auto racer A.J. Foyt won four</li> <li>45. "Va-va-___!"</li> <li>48. Lower part of a hull</li> <li>49. Strand in winter, maybe</li> <li>50. Lefts and rights</li> <li>51. E pluribus ___</li> <li>52. Apollo 13 org.</li> <li>53. Archipelago units: Abbr.</li> <li>57. Bond creator Fleming</li> <li>58. Young fellow</li> </ol> |
|---|---|--|

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