

Atwood courthouse burned; records destroyed

By Evelyn Ward
Sherman County Historical Society
December 11, 1905: Atwood Court House Burns — Fire Thought To Have Been of Incendiary Origin — Building Burned to the Ground and Many Valuable Records Are Destroyed — A fire which totally destroyed the Rawlins County court house in the early morning hours Tuesday and which has done thousands of dollars of damage to the people of Rawlins County in the destruction of many valuable records, is thought to have been of incendiary origin.

But no clue to the guilty party is known. All investigation will be made. The insurance on the building and contents was \$6,000. The alarm was given when the fire first appeared from the windows of the offices of the register of deeds and the clerk of court, but the fire had gained too much headway, and the people of the town were utterly powerless to stop it.

today in history

The loss is one that can never be estimated in dollars and cents, as there were a number of valuable records for which there was no room in the safes, and the same have been destroyed.

All the files ever brought and pending in the district court were burned. The tax rolls for all years, except this year, and the delinquent tax records for all years previous to 1899 were destroyed.

In the register of deeds office, numerous record books were burned.

Most of the valuable records in the county clerk's office were in the safe, as were those in the office of the probate judge, the county attorney and sheriff.

December 12, 1905: Grace Sterling Must Appear Before April Term of Court — The case of the state of Kansas against Grace Ster-

ling, the keeper of the north end resort who shot Frank Coffin in the leg a couple of weeks ago, was finally brought up for a hearing before Justice of Peace H.H. Floyd last Thursday evening, and the defendant was bound over for trial before the April term of the district court for Sherman County, under the charge of assault and attempt to kill. Her bond was placed to \$3,000, which, up to this time, has not been secured, and the defendant is confined in the county jail.

Fred Prewitt was put under \$1,000 bond to appear as a witness in the case next April. It is reported that Frank Coffin, the man who is alleged to have been assaulted with deadly intent, has gone to Denver, and in all probability he will not appear against his assailant.

December 13, 1905: Daniel Hazen Dead — Daniel Hazen, Sr.

died at his home in Brewster. He was 87 years old and had been in feeble health for a long time. The funeral was Tuesday and interment made in the Shultz (Fairview) Cemetery north of Brewster. Mr. Hazen was the grandfather of Miss Ruby Moore and Mrs. G.W. Sherman of this city.

December 14, 1905: The New City Stand Pipe — The new city standpipe was completed Saturday. It is unquestionably the finest structure of its kind in the west.

The foundation is the broadest and the iron and riveting the heaviest of structures of its size. The city may well be proud of the new waterworks system.

The standpipe cost, exclusive of the foundation, \$5,600. It is 20 feet in diameter by 90 feet in height, with a capacity of 211,400 gallons or 6,711 barrels.

The steel alone weighs about 65 tons. There are six sheets in each section, and 118 sections, five feet in height, from the bottom to the top.

Above this is an ornamental crest, 20 inches in height.

The foundation cost approximately \$3,000, making the whole structure worth \$8,600. The foundation is solid concrete, 20 feet in diameter and about 12 feet thick. Outside of the foundation is a layer of concrete 15 inches thick by five feet wide, intended as an apron, both to shed off the "spill" and as a foot brace for the foundation.

The out-flow and the in-flow pipes are 10 inches in diameter. The pipes from the pumps and to the main are each six inches in diameter. All these pipes are housed in a concrete cellar near the base of the standpipe and each controlled by a gate corresponding to caliber and of the latest pattern.

The city voted \$10,000 bonds for the new water works, but the entire cost of the improvements will exceed this amount by about \$3,000. There need be no alarm about this, as the city warrants are good for their face, and takers are eager. The

large amount of building recently going on adds to the revenue of the city, both in increased taxation and water rent income.

Strangers coming here are much interested and speak in admiring terms of the enterprise shown in the construction of the standpipe and water supply system of our growing town.

Palmer & Gilbert, of the Kaw Boiler works of Kansas City, Kan., put up the standpipe on contract, being the lowest and best bidders. They declare that they made no money but lost from \$700 to \$1,000 on the job, the specifications being so exacting, and the material and riveting so heavy and thorough that their bid was at least \$1,000 too low. They also state that it is the best standpipe of its size in Kansas.

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.

Learn to use your chain saw safely to protect lives, limbs this winter

The snow storm at the end of November reminded me of several big storms out of our past. All had in common power outages.

This time, the duration wasn't nearly as long as it has been in some past storms. We just did the storm thing and got out the lanterns and the single-burner camping stove, and we lit the fireplace.

I had been thinking I needed to replenish the woodpile this year, but had not gotten to it. You can be sure that job will be more important to me now that I have had a taste of winter. Many of us will be getting things in better order, as we anticipate a rougher winter that we have had in recent years.

I will not be the only one out there exercising a chain saw this year. The



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• Wear all recommended protective clothing. Make sure other clothing is trim-fitting, not baggy.

• Use the correct size chain saw for the job.

• Keep the immediate environment as clean as possible. Remove any brush. When you stop to clear the work area, shut off the saw and put it in a place with no fire hazards.

• Never fell a tree without first identifying at least two directions in which you could make an unimpeded running escape, at a 45-degree angle to the direction you expect

the tree to fall. Be ready to switch off the chain saw and throw it away from yourself and others.

• Keep bystanders two tree lengths (about 150 feet) away if you're felling a tree and at least 30 feet away if you're removing limbs or otherwise cutting a fallen tree.

• Before cutting, be certain a tree has sufficient clearance to fall completely to the ground. A cut tree stuck in another tree becomes much more dangerous and unpredictable.

• Never assume a rope or vehicle has the strength to change a tree's direction of fall.

• Balance and saw control are vital. Try to limit cuts to waist level or below. Never cut above shoulder level. Don't work from a ladder or tree unless you're trained and have

the correct equipment.

• Hold the saw to the side of your body — never the front, which directs kickbacks straight to you.

• Everyone else may break this rule — to their own peril — but never operate the saw with one hand. Hold the saw firmly with both hands, keeping a thumb around the top handle. Otherwise, a kickback could wrench the saw from your grasp.

• Cut with the lower part of the saw where the chain is backward-running, close to the bumper. That position is not only safer but also less tiring.

• Always keep the guide bar tip in sight.

• Stay alert. Wind may come up. A tree may twist as it falls. The trunk

may hop off its stump and suddenly occupy the space where you've been standing. Wind speed and direction, the tree's natural lean and balance, the location of big limbs and the soundness of the trunk all affect the direction a tree falls.

• Whether an operator or helper, never reach across the moving chain or hold any wood near it.

• Never force the saw through a trunk or limb.

• Never stand on a log or limb while cutting it.

• Let the saw cool before refueling. Move away from the fuel supply before starting the engine.

• Remember that fatigue is the enemy. If resting doesn't return you to well-balanced and alert status, quit for the day.

Grandson off on mission in Nepal

Ryan Tedford knows he would have missed a grand opportunity if he had done things differently.

Tedford, grandson of Lawrence and Evelyn Tedford of Goodland, knows he could have chosen soccer, but he would have missed the chance to trek through the mountains of Nepal.

Tedford, 19, grew up in Castle Rock, Colo., the son of a dentist. He made honorable mention out of twelve teams in the Denver area as a goalie and had a chance for a scholarship to play in college.

Instead, he is a missionary in Nepal and sends a monthly newsletter to family and friends, detailing his experiences teaching people of the Hindu faith about Jesus.

He had to earn money to go to Nepal, said Lawrence Tedford; many people over there make less than \$30 a month, so he needed money to support himself.

This weekend, Tedford said, he went to Castle Rock to visit his son and daughter-in-law, tour the new Evangelical Free Church and gave

them a Christmas card to take to Ryan when they go to Nepal on Thursday.

"My time in Nepal has been awesome," Ryan Tedford wrote in his November newsletter, "and I have seen God working abundantly in my life."

Tedford said he and a friend were in a village called Karmidada, where they gave out some tracts in a small shop and then had everyone sit down so they could explain the gospels to the nearly 20 people.

"After I was done explaining," Tedford said, "they asked us if we could do something for the crazy guy in their village. They kept telling us he would go into seizures and everyone was a little scared of him."

Tedford said he and his friend thought the man was demon possessed and prayed for him and asked the man and his wife to abandon Hindu worship and to believe in Jesus and pray to him. The couple said they would go to Kathmandu and visit a Christian church.

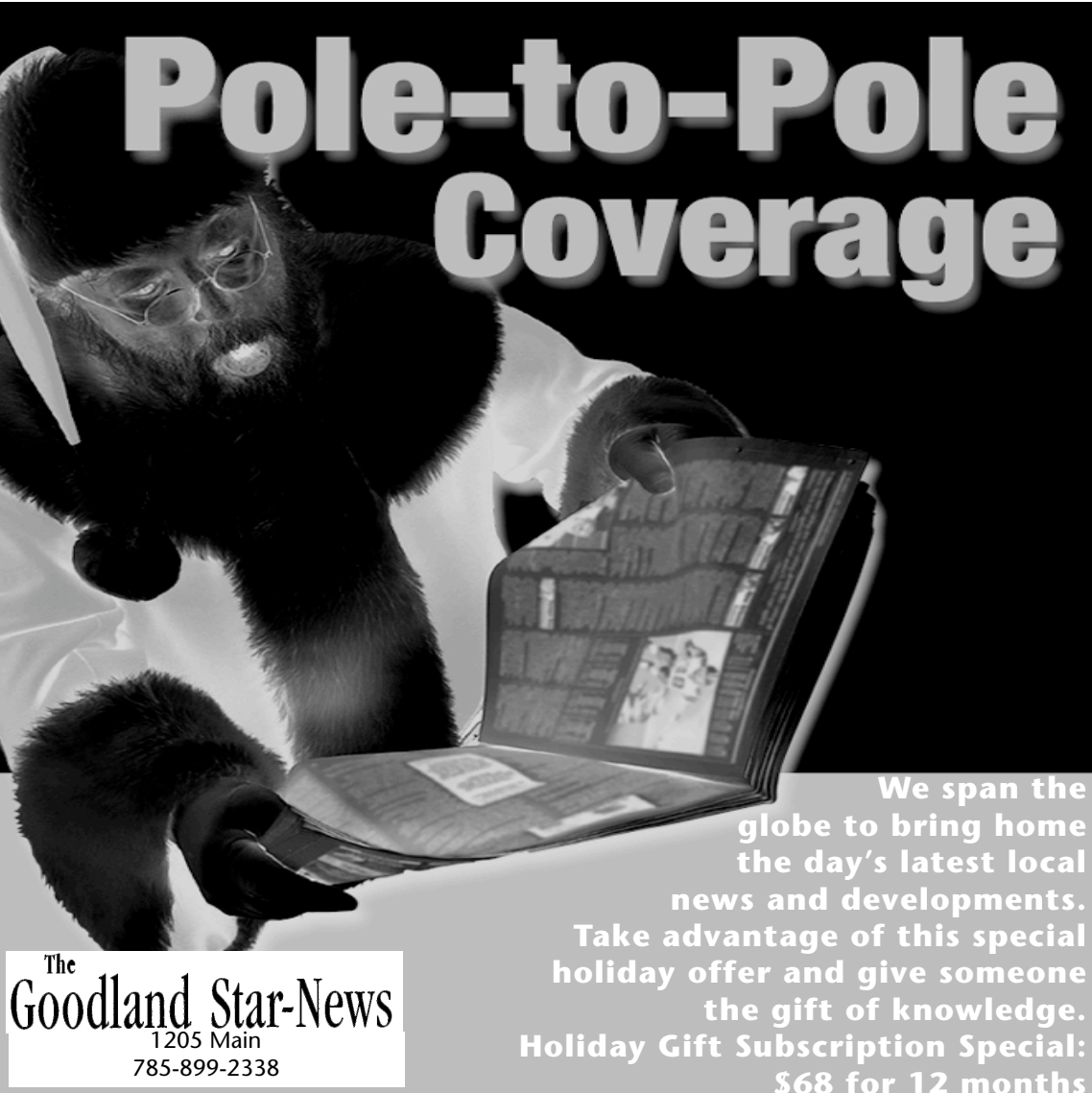
Tedford said he and his friend

also went to the district of Dankuta in eastern Nepal, where they met with the Maoist Army, a communist army trying to overthrow the new Democratic government in Nepal. They stayed a night in one of the leaders' homes, Tedford said, where they were given food and meat, which is rare in a village.

Another day when they came across the Maoist Army, he said, they were stopped and questioned and agreed that the king of Nepal is bad. The members of the army kept saying they just wanted peace, Tedford said, adding that they told them the only true peace is found in Jesus. They gave the leader a Bible, Tedford said, and ate lunch with the army before going on their way.

Tedford said he also works with children in Kathmandu, teaching Sunday school and playing soccer with them.

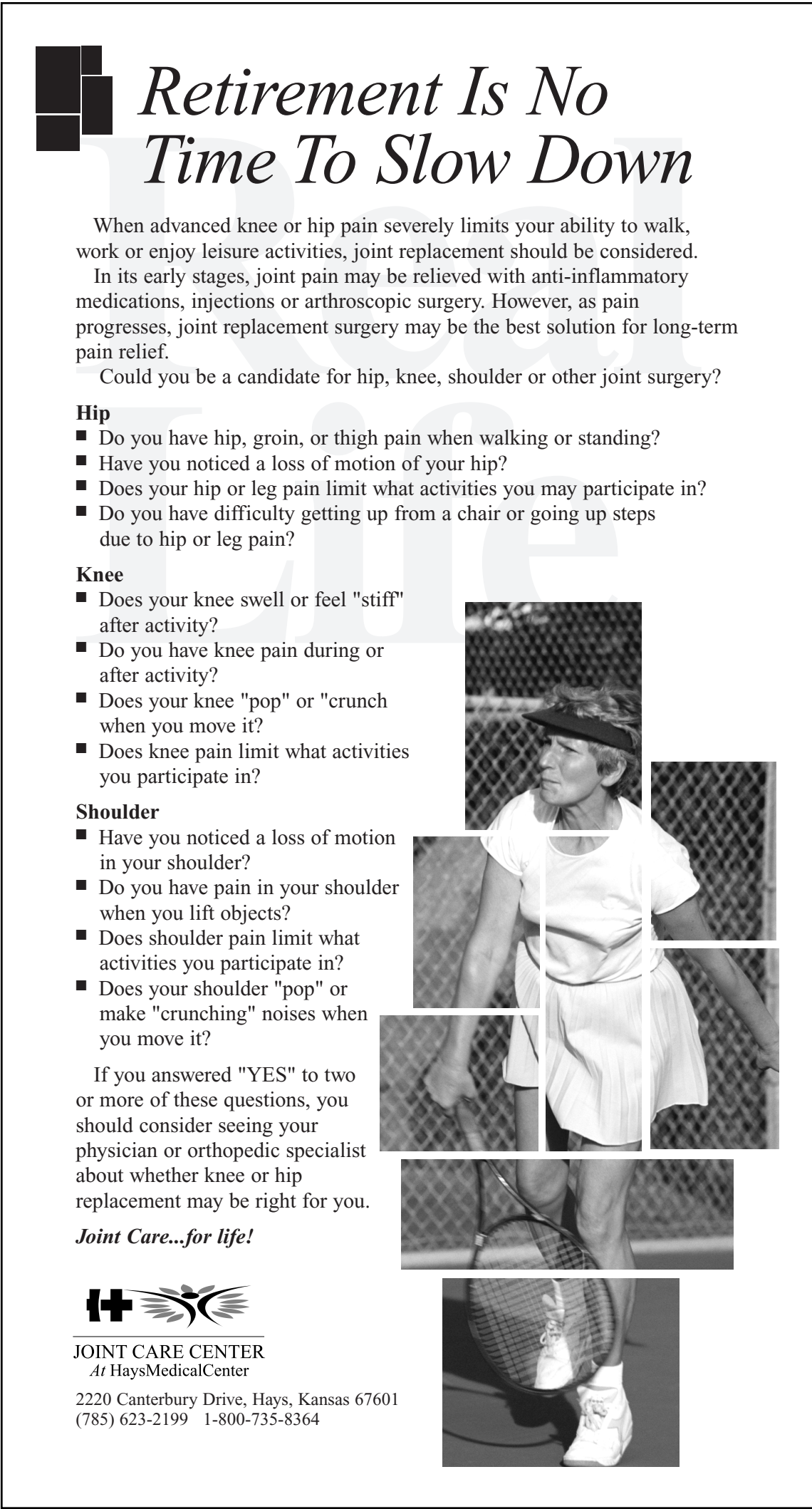
Letters can be sent to Ryan Tedford at GPO 8975, EPC 1808, Kathmandu, Nepal, or he can receive e-mail at ryan@benji.w-link.com.np.



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Retirement Is No Time To Slow Down

When advanced knee or hip pain severely limits your ability to walk, work or enjoy leisure activities, joint replacement should be considered. In its early stages, joint pain may be relieved with anti-inflammatory medications, injections or arthroscopic surgery. However, as pain progresses, joint replacement surgery may be the best solution for long-term pain relief.

Could you be a candidate for hip, knee, shoulder or other joint surgery?

Hip

- Do you have hip, groin, or thigh pain when walking or standing?
- Have you noticed a loss of motion of your hip?
- Does your hip or leg pain limit what activities you may participate in?
- Do you have difficulty getting up from a chair or going up steps due to hip or leg pain?

Knee


- Does your knee swell or feel "stiff" after activity?
- Do you have knee pain during or after activity?
- Does your knee "pop" or "crunch" when you move it?
- Does knee pain limit what activities you participate in?

Shoulder

- Have you noticed a loss of motion in your shoulder?
- Do you have pain in your shoulder when you lift objects?
- Does shoulder pain limit what activities you participate in?
- Does your shoulder "pop" or make "crunching" noises when you move it?

If you answered "YES" to two or more of these questions, you should consider seeing your physician or orthopedic specialist about whether knee or hip replacement may be right for you.

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