

## Stapleton One-Act Statebound



MELODY HANSEN

### Silenced on Barbour Street wins D1-5 Districts

Stapleton High School's one-act team brought home first place from the D1-5 district competition at Callaway. Cast and crew members are back row, l-r: Cooper Layher, Zackary Lee, Will Sisson, Megan Amos, Trinity Hansen, Trisha Bernt, Jaxton Starr, Kimbal Sanchez, Marianne Zuniga, Jon Gaites, Sadie Dimmitt and Brooklynn Rooney. Middle row, l-r: Ethan Nicholson, Caleb Burnside, Ethan Weems, Jared Trimble and Tad Dimmitt. Front row, l-r: Keali Florea, Hannah Burnside, Kaci Wheeler, Abigale Nicholson, Jaylen Fowler, Arena Fetty, Tessa Hansen, Hope Gustafson, Kylee Lee, Isabelle Zuniga and Elizabeth Fetty. Deanna Klosen and Polly Burnside, coaches with special help from Melody Hansen and Amy Wheeler.

MARCIA HORA

On July 6, 1944, a fire roared across the top of the 48-foot high tent during the matinee performance of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus. The fire claimed the lives of 144 spectators.

The one-act play, "Silenced on Barbour Street" by William Prenetta, is an ensemble driven drama featuring 15 victims of this tragedy who must face their guilt and deepest fears in order to escape from a sadistic ringmaster who has trapped them in a mysterious circus purgatory. Part historical drama, part mystery, and part psychological thriller, those trapped must work together to find the key to their escape.

Although COVID-19 prevented Stapleton High School from competition

at conference, the team aced the play and brought home first place from the District D1-5 play production contest held Wednesday, December 2, at Callaway.

The one-act received 175 points and was ranked first by two of the judges. Second place went to Callaway High School performing "The Last Illusion."

Brady placed third, Wallace, fourth, Hitchcock County, fifth, Southwest, seventh, Wauneta-Palisade, sixth, and Garden County, eighth.

Stapleton will now present their one-act in state competition, Wednesday, December 9 at 4:30 p.m. at the 2020 NSAA state play production championships at the Johnny Carson Theatre in Norfolk.

Other Class D1 schools competing will be Paxton performing "Belmont Papers," Bertrand, "That's

Not How I Remember It," Pawnee City, "Gathering Blue," Osceola, "Silenced on Barbour Street," and Wynot, "Oz."

Stapleton High School cast members include:

Ringmaster - Trinity Hansen  
Mae - Hope Gustason  
Mildred - Hannah Burnside  
Nathan - Kimbal Sanchez

Margaret - Kylee Lee  
Stuart - Caleb Burnside  
Betty - Jaylen Fowler  
Eleanor - Keali Florea  
Donald - Jared Trimble  
Bally Girl 1 - Megan Amos

Bally Girl 2 - Trisha Bernt  
Sally - Kaci Wheeler  
Robert - Tad Dimmitt  
Whitey - Cooper Layher  
Estelle - Isabelle Zuniga  
Mary - Arena Fetty  
Hickey - William Sisson  
Strong Man - Ethan Nicholson

Clown - Ethan Weems  
Bearded Lady - Jon

Gaites  
Snake Charmer - Tessa Hansen

Hula Hoop Performer - Brooklynn Rooney

Hula Hoop Performer - Marianne Zuniga  
Abigale Nicholson - Tight Rope Walker

Crew: Sadie Dimmitt, Elizabeth Fetty, Jon Gaites, Zackary Lee and Jaxton Starr.

Coaches are Deanna Klosen and Polly Burnside with special help from Melody Hansen and Amy Wheeler.

Receiving outstanding performance awards at districts were Trinity Hansen, Hannah Burnside, Hope Gustason, Trisha Bernt, Megan Amos, Tad Dimmitt, and Kylee Lee.

The last time Stapleton High School has competed in the state one-acts was in 1996. That year they were runners-up with "Softy," directed by

Jeff Grinvalds. Stapleton, Coleridge and South Platte tied for first and the judges awarded Stapleton second place. Suzanne Osnes was named the state's best actress for her role. Richard Hasenauer and Joel Rockford were mentioned for best actors.

Ray Howard coached several teams to state in the late 1980's and early 1990's. The first year he came to Stapleton he took the team to state in 1986 with "The Potman Spoke Sooth." They were runners-up in 1988 with "On Hearing the Moon Rise" and Steve Sorensen was named best actor.

SHS claimed state champion honors in 1991 and 1992. "There Are No Sacher Tortes In Our Society," topped the 12-team 1991 Class D competition and Lana Kramer, the only female performer in the cast of three, was named best actress in the

state. The other actors were J.C. Calhoun and D.L. Bay.

The 1992 one-act, "Hope Is A Thing With Feathers," brought home the Class D trophy and J.C. Calhoun won best state actor honors.

Before coming to Stapleton, Howard directed Thedford High School to runners-up at state for five years in a row.

Congratulations to the 2020 Stapleton High School one-act team for qualifying for state in unprecedented times.

This year's awards ceremonies will be presented online due to the pandemic. Medals will be awarded to the outstanding male and female performer in each class and trophies for the champion and runner-up play in each class will be given. The awards ceremony will be streamed live online.

#### -- News Briefs --

##### Photo Scavenger Hunt Winners

Noah Anderson and Davian Hoyt were the first team in and won \$100.00 in the Stapleton Area Chamber of Commerce's "Kids Holiday Hoopla Photo Scavenger Hunt," held Saturday, November 21.

Teams of two to five kids were able to participate and take pictures on the scavenger hunt list.

##### Boys Basketball Raffle Winner

The Sandhills Valley Mavericks conducted a boys basketball raffle with the drawing held at the first basketball game held Friday, December 4, at Stapleton.

Winning the Henry Golden Boy .22 lever-action rifle was Wayne Claar.

The next game is set for Friday, December 11, at Stapleton. Sutherland will be coming to play.

#### Weather

DATE	HI	LOW	MT
28	49	20	0
29	61	18	0
30	39	6	0
1	51	10	0
2	47	24	0
3	31	13	T
4	46	14	0
Total moisture for November was 0.23". Total November snow was 0.5".			
Total moisture to date: 20.76"			
Total yearly average moisture: 22.97"			

#### Obituaries

- Donald D. Dailey
- Joy Steel

#### McPherson Co. News



- Over The Hills
- Graphic Files
- "It's CHRISTmas"

#### Notices

- Gary Lee Johnson Estate Notice
- School District R-1 Board Retreat Proceedings
- Logan County Commissioners Public Notice

#### Risk Dial

The risk dial moved from a 3.77 up to a 3.88 which remains in the severe risk level. See story on page 10 of this issue.

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*It's your right to know*

**Legal Notice**

BROUILLETTE, DUGAN, TROSHYNSKI & BELLEW, P.C., LLO  
NOTICE  
IN THE COUNTY COURT OF MCPHERSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
Estate of GARY LEE JOHNSON, Deceased.  
Estate No. PR20-7

Notice is hereby given that on the 25th day of November, 2020, in the County Court of McPherson County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written Statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Decedent, and Sarah Johnson, 1325 West Highway 30, Brule, NE 69001, was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of the estate.

Creditors of this estate must file their claims with this Court on or before the 3rd day of February, 2021, or be forever barred.

Brenda Cochran (SEAL)  
Registrar of the County Court of McPherson County, Nebraska  
Timothy P. Brouillette, #19505  
For: Brouillette, Dugan, Troshynski & Bellew, P.C., LLO  
Attorneys at Law  
P.O. Box 1605  
North Platte, NE  
69103-1605  
(308)532-1600  
Publish: December 3, 10 & 17, 2020

**Notices are your right to know.... be an informed citizen and read the notices and proceedings!**



ZNEZ

**School District R-1 Retreat Proceedings**

Board of Education Meeting  
Stapleton Public Schools  
District 57-0501  
December 2, 2020

President Kristy Opela called a special meeting of the Stapleton Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 2, 2020, at the Stapleton School Library in Stapleton.

Burnside: Present, F. Kramer: Present, K. Kramer: Present, Opela: Present, Schaeffer: Present, Walz: Present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

President Opela observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

Moved by Walz, seconded by Schaeffer, to approve the board meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Burnside: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Opela: Aye, Schaeffer: Aye, Walz: Aye

Notice of the meeting was published in the Stapleton Enterprise on Thursday, November 19, 2020, and posted at five local business along with notice to the president of the board and all members prior to the meeting

date.  
The board discussed finalization of building plans

The Superintendent Evaluation will be held on Monday, December 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., with the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the library at Stapleton Public Schools.

President Opela adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Kim Kramer, Secretary  
Publish: December 10, 2020

**Logan County Commissioners Public Notice**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING OF LOGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the regular meeting of the Logan County Board of Commissioners will be held at 9:00 A.M. on Wednesday, December 16, 2020 in the Commissioner's meeting Room in the Courthouse in Stapleton, Logan County, Nebraska, which meeting will be open to the public. The agenda for such meeting is kept continuously current and is available at the office of the County Clerk at the courthouse, but the agenda may be modified at such meeting. PLEASE HAVE ALL CLAIMS SUBMITTED TO THE LOGAN COUNTY CLERK BY THE FRIDAY PRIOR TO THE COMMISSIONER'S MEETING.

Debbie Myers  
Logan County Clerk  
Publish: December 10, 2020

**CDC updates quarantine guidelines; new DHM**

Governor Pete Ricketts held a press conference at the State Capitol on Friday, December 4, to provide an update on the State's coronavirus pandemic response. The Governor announced that the State of Nebraska has issued new Directed Health Measures (DHMs) to align with CDC recommendations to shorten the length of quarantine required for persons who've had close contact exposure to the coronavirus. The updated DHMs took effect December 3, 2020 at 5:00 PM.

Gov. Ricketts also announced new guidance for long-term care (LTC) facilities to designate "essential caregivers" for their residents. These caregivers may be family members, friends, or volunteers who provided regular support to the resident before the pandemic. By recognizing them as essential caregivers, LTC facilities can allow these folks to have more regular interactions assisting residents during this time of enhanced restrictions.

Jim Engelbart, President of the Nebraska Craft Brewers Guild, took part in the press conference to talk about the challenges facing Nebraska's breweries during the pandemic. He shared ways Nebraskans can continue to support the restaurants, bars, and breweries in their community.

The CDC has updated its quarantine guidelines, and Nebraska has revised DHMs to reflect these changes. The new DHMs took effect statewide at 5:00 PM on December 3, 2020. Quarantine may discontinue without testing under the following conditions:

At least ten (10) days have passed since close contact exposure AND

No coronavirus symptoms have developed and the person self-monitors for symptoms and wears a facial covering through day 14 since the last close contact

Quarantine may discontinue with testing under the following conditions:

At least seven (7) days have passed since close contact exposure, no coronavirus symptoms have developed AND

Results of a diagnostic specimen test (molecular or antigen) is negative that was collected no earlier than five (5) days since last close contact exposure AND

The person self-monitors for symptoms and wears a facial covering through day 14 since the last close contact

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Marcia R. Hora .....Publisher  
Kendra Cutler .....Editor  
Kendra Cutler .....Adv. & Circulation Manager

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All letters to the editor must be signed to be considered for publication. Opinions expressed are those of the writer and not The Stapleton Enterprise/McPherson County News. We reserve the right to edit letters and reserve the right to refuse any advertising or news deemed not suitable for publication.

**Card of Thanks**

I wanted to thank the Live Fit Gym for the free 6-month membership that I won from their November 21 drawing. Also thank you Johnston family for providing a place for this community to work out and exercise. It has been a blessing in so many ways!!

Teresa Schroder

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**Land Auction**

**Tuesday, December 15, 2020 - 11:00 AM CST**  
**STAPLETON COMMUNITY CENTER, Stapleton, NE**

Property Location:

Southern Logan County about 6 miles south of Stapleton or  
20 miles north of North Platte, NE



**PARCEL 1:**  
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From The Past.....

Enterprise files dating back to July, 1912

TEN YEARS AGO  
DECEMBER 9, 2010  
Presenting the Voices of Democracy contest winners with their checks were Mary Weems and Lucy Johnson. Winners were: Alex Frey, first place; Trystan Schaeffer, second and Zach Kramer, third.

Santa made his annual stop in Stapleton at Sara's Place during Christmas Around Town activities.

Winners of the November Box Top winners at Stapleton Public Schools were: Halie Recoy, kindergarten; Sadie Dimmitt, first grade; Hope Brosius, second grade; Grant Jones, third grade; Makenzie Dahlgren, fourth grade; Kaylee Burnside, fifth grade; and Shyanne Honeywell, sixth grade.

Engagement: Danielle Melvin and Joshua Bode, December 31, 2010.

Death: Barbara J. Garrett, 82, Arvada, Colorado, December 2, 2010.

TWENTY YEARS AGO  
DECEMBER 7, 2000

Traci Witthuhn won first place and Chancey Sazama won second in the Voice of Democracy Contest.

Theo and Mary Weems will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

Playing at Kat's Piano Studio's annual Christmas recital will be Abbie and Charlie Opela, Amy Salisbury, Dessie Uphoff, Willow Kovanda and Missy Croghan.

In opening season action, the Lady Broncos beat Maxwell, 49-24 and lost to Thedford, 44-55. Sondy Frey and Nicole Barnum led scoring.

The boys' basketball team lost their opening games, 57-49 against Maxwell and 40-46 against Thedford. Amos Lanka, Brian Blevins and Tyler Schacher were leading scorers.

Marking the 50th anniversary of the Korean conflict, Derb Frey received a Korean Service Medal.

The "Senior Spotlight" featured Sondy Frey.

Deaths: Mabel Lee Reed, 89, November 28.

THIRTY YEARS AGO  
DECEMBER 6, 1990

Snowfall measured 18.5 inches during the month of November.

Cinch Munson received

the "Best Actor" Award at the District one-act play contest in Hyannis.

Dick and Maxine Bandy will be honored for their 50th wedding anniversary on December 8.

The Lady Broncos are 2-0 after beating Maxwell, 49-26, and Thedford, 37-27. Angie Warren and Roxanna Siegel led scoring.

The boys' basketball team beat Thedford, 58-44. Ryan Caldwell led in points with 17.

Deaths: John L. Beckius, 92, December 1.

FORTY YEARS AGO  
DECEMBER 11, 1980

Jack Smith was elected to the annual Logan County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

The Stapleton girls beat Thedford, 45-37. Pam Henderson led scoring with 20.

Federal Minimum Wage will rise to \$3.35 on January 1.

Artist Roberta Rickert painted a horse mural on the Stapleton gymnasium wall.

Births: Chad Matthew Hanthorn, November 28.

Deaths: Nickolas C. Walz, 87, December 7.

FIFTY YEARS AGO  
DECEMBER 3, 1970

Bernice Magnuson was elected Worthy Matron and David L. Jones was elected Worthy Patron of the Eastern Star.

Donnie Blevins will be among the Hastings College Tenors to sing in "The Messiah".

The Stapleton Fire Department was called to a prairie fire on the McPherrin ranch west of Stapleton.

Donnie Blevins led scoring as Stapleton beat Thedford and Halsey-Dunning in opening season basketball action.

Mr. and Mrs. George Winters celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary.

Births: Kendra Sue Downing, December 4; a son born to Robert and Sandy Beckius, December 4.

Deaths: Belle Jividen, 98, December 1.  
SEVENTY YEARS AGO  
DECEMBER 7, 1950

Larry Wiley received honorable mention as one of the outstanding six-man football players

in Nebraska high school competition.

The Stapleton basketball team lost to Arnold, 16-48, and Tryon, 35-45. Coach Leonard Peters has but three veterans, Larry Wiley, Darold and Darwin Nielsen, as the nucleus for his cage squad.

EIGHTY YEARS AGO  
DECEMBER 5, 1940

Fire completely destroyed the house occupied by the Alva Main family.

Rev. and Mrs. Brewer attended the 50th anniversary of the organization of the United Brethren Church.

In order to determine the value of Crested Wheatgrass and to give farmers an opportunity to observe its worth, the Union Pacific railroad has distributed seed for test plantings.

R.R. Brown was elected Noble Grand at the I.O.O.F. lodge.

Twenty-five Christmas cards are on sale for \$1.00 at The Stapleton Enterprise.

Weddings: Miss Margaret Anne Truscott and Everett Kellogg, December 4.

Deaths: Mrs. Hannah Menzie, 91, December 4.  
NINETY YEARS AGO

See From the Past  
Page 10

Pioneer Memorial Rest Home News

-- Happenings on the Hill at Mullen --

Greetings. We hope all is going well for you. This past week we have enjoyed watching Darrell Leibhart and Willard Boyer put up the outside Christmas decorations. It looks nice, thank you guys. We have enjoyed our daily activities and visitors as well.

Monday morning Minnie Mary Hamilton, Bob Osterman, Nadene Andersen, Marty Boyer, Wanda Mackley, Richard Broyles, Kathleen Miles, Mary Kemp, Doris Griffith, Jerry Carson, Sharon Carson, Deb Minor, Florence Cooper, Marlene Dykes and I all played kickball. It's a good way to get the blood pumping on a Monday morning. After playing kickball we all took turns and said what we were thankful for. That afternoon Nadene, Deb, Sharon C., Marty and I played random trivia.

Tuesday we read from the reminisce book. Nadene, Kathleen, Wanda, Deb, Minnie Mary, Marty and Marlene were all out to enjoy.

Wednesday I got to pamper Kathleen, Wanda and Deb for hands alive. That afternoon Stan Boyer, Ann, Deb, Bob and Nadene were all out to play Bingo. Stan was the blackout winner this week.

Thursday we ate a wonderful Thanksgiving.



COURTESY

L-r: Marlene Dykes, Minnie Mary Hamilton, Bob Osterman and Nadene Andersen playing kickball with Gini Corbin.

Tammy Dancer and her kitchen crew made a fantastic meal with all the fixings and it was enjoyed by all.

Friday we spent the morning exercising. That afternoon the residents had 1:1 visiting and coffee.

Here are some things the residents are thankful for:

Richard is thankful for good friends.

Nadene is thankful for a good place to stay.

Deb is thankful for everything and good friends.

Bob and Jerry are thankful for being alive.

Kathleen is thankful for family.

Florence is thankful for family and friends.

Last week's visitors:

Sami and Duane McNutt and Patty Kemp were here to visit Mary Kemp.

Sherry Forbes enjoyed her visits with her daughters Missy Holt and Libby Forbes.

Richard Broyles enjoyed his visit with his daughter Marilyn Wright.

Gary Cooper was here to visit his mom Florence Cooper.

Nadene Andersen received a visit from her son Dean Andersen.

Ann Connell enjoyed her visit with her daughter Pat Schwaderer.

Steve Springer was here to visit his wife Twila Springer.

Doris Griffith enjoyed her visit with her daughter Linda Penny.

We hope you all have a great week.

Logan County Tales

Larry Hardesty

7240 West 37th Street - Kearney, Nebraska 68845  
308-233-3573 - Ebony51@frontiernet.net



The Founding of Logan County, Nebraska: The Soldiers' Nebraska Colony Town Site Association

Women Settlers

The writer next named a series of women who planned to settle in the area. This may surprise the reader but the Homestead Act of 1862 was surprisingly gender neutral. It allowed settlement by any single person over the age of 21. Previously, the Preemption Act of 1841 had required the applicant to be "a single man over 21 or a widow." Various scholars have found women represented between 10 to 12 percent of homesteaders in the areas these scholars studied, with increases in the percentage after 1900. Many, particularly widows, stayed on the land long after they had patented it. Earlier I described several young women who had their "claims jumped." The women the writer of the article listed appear to fall into the category of widows.

Mrs. (Betsy or Betsey Ann) Spafford (1856-1952) was born in Vermont and in 1857, she married Henry Bushnell, who died in 1859. On September 15, 1891, she patented a 160-acre Homestead at SE1/4 31-17N-26W. Then on February 4, 1895, she patented a 160-acre tree claim at SW1/4 32-17N-26W. These parcels are in adjoining sections on the Garfield Table. As the reader may recall, in 1885 her 11-year-old son, Charles Edward Spafford (1873-1944), worked for Peter Nelson as a "laborer." Sometime around 1900 Charles Spafford became sheriff of Logan County for a short time. In the 1885 census, she had 15 acres of tilled land and valued her improvements at \$500 and her farm at \$1,600. She had paid \$50 in the previous year for four weeks of labor. She did not report owning any horses or mules, and often single women paid others for the heavier work, such as plowing.

On August 8, 1895, Betsy married George Robert Golvin (or Galvin) (1843-1900). She may have married again between Henry and George, because her son, Charles, was born in 1873, in Omaha. Charles

married Rosa Mae Campbell, daughter of Wesley Fee Campbell on August 27, 1902. In 1910, the census reported him in Minden, but in 1914 his daughter was born in Arnold. Eventually, by 1920 Charles had moved to Omaha, where in 1930 he worked as "truck driver." In the 1940 census, 66-year-old Charles gave his occupation as "laborer" for the "WPA." He had made \$672 the previous year. His 22-year old daughter, Majorie, who was living with Charles and Rosa May, earned \$720 the previous year as a "public school teacher." Charles died in Omaha in 1944.

George Golvin had Homesteaded land in between Hershey and Sutherland before he died in 1900. In the 1900 census 65-year-old Betsy still lived in Logan County with her 26-year-old son, Charles. She listed her occupation as "dress making when able to work," and he listed his occupation as "Sheriff of Logan Co." She listed her status as "widowed," since George had died in April of that year. Charles listed his status as "single." On December 7, 1911, Betsy patented an additional 480 acres under the Kinkaid Act further south into Lincoln County under her married name of Betsy Ann Golvin. Betsy lived until 1932 when she died in Santa Paula, California. She probably moved to California to live with her oldest daughter, Anna Miriam Spafford (1857-1949). Betsy left behind in the area her daughter, Mary Almina Spafford Ryerson (1860-1890), buried in the Garfield Cemetery. Betsy not only stayed in the area for more than twenty-five years, she expanded her holdings.

Mrs. (Mary) Kyle (1826-?) on April 4, 1891, patented a 160-acre Homestead at E1/2SE1/4 34-18N-26W and W1/2SW1/4, 35-18N-26W. Then, on February 1, 1893, she patented a 160-acre tree claim at NE1/4 34-18N-26W. Both parcels are down river a few miles from the original Logan townsite. Born

in 1856 in Ohio, in the 1885 census, at age 56, she listed no one else in her household and listed her occupation as "conducts farming." The census specified she had 5 acres of tilled land. She indicated she had spent \$55 on improvements and valued her land at \$600. She had not paid for any labor in the preceding year, but also indicated she did not own any horses or mules, which would have been needed to work an extensive amount of land. She may have had, essentially, had a very large garden. She also, did not specify if she was married or widowed, but I assume she was a widow.

By 1900 Mary had left Logan County and lived in in Hastings, Nebraska. She listed herself as a "widow" and "landlord," at age 74, being born in 1826 in Ohio. She had living with her a 14-year-old granddaughter, Linden, and a 9-year-old grandson, George M., both born in Illinois. There is no indication as to what happened to their parents or to Mary Kyle's husband.

Mrs. (Emily S.) Cook patented a 160-acre tree claim on May 11, 1894, at SE1/4 5-17N-26W, which is south of the original Logan townsite. A Frank E. Cook patented land two miles to the east. Neither are in the 1885 census, however, and I could not make any further connections.

Mrs. (Rose E. Kendall (1858-1930) patented several parcels of land in Logan County. She began on April 6, 1889, when she patented a 40-acre purchase at SW1/4SE1/4 7-17N-26W. This would be about four to five miles southeast of the original townsite of Logan. She then on May 21, 1889, patented a 160-acre purchase at SE1/4 9-17N-26W in the same area. Then with James Owings, she patented on June 18, 1889, another 120 acres through a soldier's scrip at N1/2SE1/4 and SE1/4SE1/4 17-17N-26W. She may well have purchased the scrip from a war veteran or from a broker, and it allowed her to

purchase the land for a lower price than purchasing it directly from the government at the usual \$1.25 per acre. On August 8, 1893, she patented her final parcel with a 160-acre tree claim at NW1/4 15-17N-26W. In total she patented 480 acres of land. In 1885, she tilled about 13 acres and valued her farm at \$2,000. In the past year she had paid \$75 for 12 weeks of labor. She reported owning only one horse.

Perhaps Rose did well—or maybe not. By 1900 she had left Logan County and lived in Lincoln, alone, as a 41-year-old "widow" "sewing in a shirt factory." In the census, Rose indicated that she had one child and that child was still living. In 1920, she remained in Lincoln as a 60-year-old widowed "seamstress" working in an "overall factory." She died in 1930 at age 72 in Lincoln.

There are several mysteries regarding Rose. Who was her husband and when did he die? In the 1885 census, she had living with her a 6-year-old son "Earl," who was born in Ayrshire, Scotland. Not only this begs the question of what happened to Earl, but how did it happen for him to be born in Scotland? How did Rose, who was born in Illinois, meet up with her husband born in Scotland and have a child there? And, of course, how did 27-year-old Rose end up in Logan County "conducting farming" with a 6-year old child, and how did she manage? The answers are probably lost to the ages.

Miss (Ernestine) Lyons (1855-1948) patented a 160-acre on April 6, 1889, at SW1/4 17-17N-26W. This is south of the original Logan township near present-day highway 92. In the 1885 census, she had 10 acres tilled. She valued her improvements at \$150 and the entire farm at \$500. She did not pay for any additional labor during the past year, and she did not report owning a horse or mule. One wonders how she tilled even that amount of land. She had come from Tioga County, New York with her parents to Lincoln, Nebraska. In 1870 her father, Francis Lyons, while in Tioga, had listed his occupation as "landlord" and valued his property at \$10,000. So, it appears the family had some means.

Continued next week

Senior Lunch Menu At  
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For Pickup, Delivery & Dine In.  
Call 308-636-2526 by 11:00 A.M. for delivery.

Thursday, December 17 - Ham, cheesy scalloped potatoes, corn casserole, pineapple, biscuit, salad bar

Friday, December 18 - Choice of chicken fried pork or fish, mashed potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables, fruit mixture, dinner roll, salad bar

Monday, December 21 - Brats and sauerkraut, baked beans, cole slaw, baked apples, salad bar

Tuesday, December 22 -

Oyster soup, chili soup, grilled cheese, hash brown casserole, pea salad, peaches, salad bar

Wednesday, December 23 - Boneless chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, Mandarin oranges, salad bar

Thursday, December 24 - Lasagna, green beans, pears, garlic bread, salad bar

Friday, December 25 - Merry Christmas, Closed

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December 10  
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Sunday: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Odds & Ends

Marcia R. Hora, Publisher

Memories are sweet

We have said good-bye to several longtime friends and residents these past few weeks. The list is long, but the memories sweet.

Here at the newspaper office we will miss John Santo. A longtime subscriber and supporter of the newspaper, John was always quick to give us a call if there was something he found wrong or a compliment on what we did right.

"I went to look for the continuation of From the Past on page nine and it wasn't there," John would say. "I had to look through the whole paper to find the continued part."

Then he would laugh and we would too.

"We'll work on a perfect paper next week," would be our response. To this day we have never put out a perfect paper, but we're working on it.

He was always the first to bring in a picture for the Veterans salute pages



and made sure his wedding picture was submitted for the Red Hot Romance edition.

History was very important to John and getting it right was a top priority. We could always count on John to give us information when we needed it. He will be missed too for his work on Girls and Boys State and the Veterans Day programs.

I had the privilege of working with Janice Lovitt Berglund during our tenure on the Sandhills Assn. for Regional Progress (S.H.A.R. P.). Janice was instrumental in

See Odds & Ends Page 9

The Cutting Edge

Kendra L. Cutler, Editor

Just Keep Believing

This story was taken from FB and is a great one to share this time of year. The year 2020 has been a tough one on many people, but here is a reminder of what makes this season so wonderful and to remember keep sharing the magic of Santa Claus!

I remember tearing across town on my bike to visit Grandma on the day my brother dropped the bomb: "There is no Santa Claus," he jeered. "Even dummies know that!"

My Grandma was not the gushy kind, never had been. I fled to her that day because I knew she would be straight with me. I knew Grandma always told the truth, and I knew that the truth always went down a whole lot easier when swallowed with one of her "world-famous" cinnamon buns. I knew they were world-famous, because Grandma said so. It had to be true.

Grandma was home, and the buns were still warm. Between bites, I told her everything. She was ready for me. "No Santa Claus?" she snorted, "Ridiculous! Don't believe it. That rumor has been going around for years, and it makes me mad, plain mad!! Now, put on your coat, and let's go."

"Go? Go where, Grandma?" I asked. I hadn't even finished my second world-famous cinnamon bun. "Where" turned out to be Kirby's General Store, the one store in town that had a little bit of just about everything. As we walked through its doors, Grandma handed me ten dollars. That was a bundle in those days. "Take this money," she said, "and buy something for someone who needs it. I'll wait for you in the car." Then she turned and walked out of Kirby's.

I was only eight years old. I'd often gone shopping with my mother, but never had I shopped for anything all by myself. The store seemed big and crowded, full of people scrambling to finish their Christmas shopping.

For a few moments I just stood there, confused, clutching that ten-dollar bill, wondering what to buy, and who on earth to buy it for.

I thought of everybody I knew: my family, my friends, my neighbors, the kids at school, the people who went to my church.

I was just about thought out, when I suddenly thought of Bobby Decker. He was a kid with bad breath and messy hair, and he sat right behind



me in Mrs. Pollock's grade-two class. Bobby Decker didn't have a coat. I knew that because he never went out to recess during the winter. His mother always wrote a note, telling the teacher that he had a cough, but all we kids knew that Bobby Decker didn't have a cough; he didn't have a good coat. I fingered the ten-dollar bill with growing excitement. I would buy Bobby Decker a coat! I settled on a red corduroy one that had a hood to it. It looked real warm, and he would like that.

"Is this a Christmas present for someone?" the lady behind the counter asked kindly, as I laid my ten dollars down. "Yes, ma'am," I replied shyly. "It's for Bobby."

The nice lady smiled at me, as I told her about how Bobby really needed a good winter coat. I didn't get any change, but she put the coat in a bag, smiled again, and wished me a Merry Christmas.

That evening, Grandma helped me wrap the coat (a little tag fell out of the coat, and Grandma tucked it in her Bible) in Christmas paper and ribbons and wrote, "To Bobby, From Santa Claus" on it.

Grandma said that Santa always insisted on secrecy. Then she drove me over to Bobby Decker's house, explaining as we went that I was now and forever officially, one of Santa's helpers.

Grandma parked down the street from Bobby's house, and she and I crept noiselessly and hid in the bushes by his front walk. Then Grandma gave me a nudge. "All right, Santa Claus," she whispered, "get going."

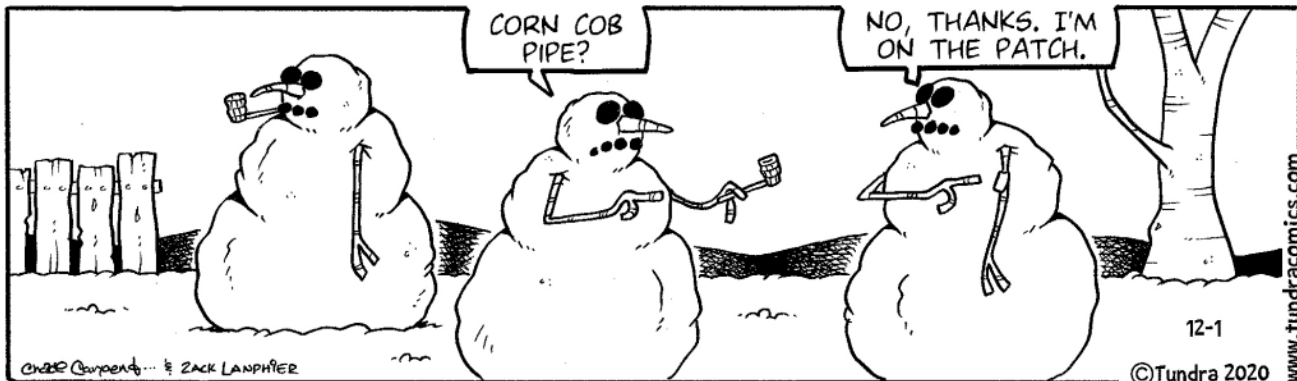
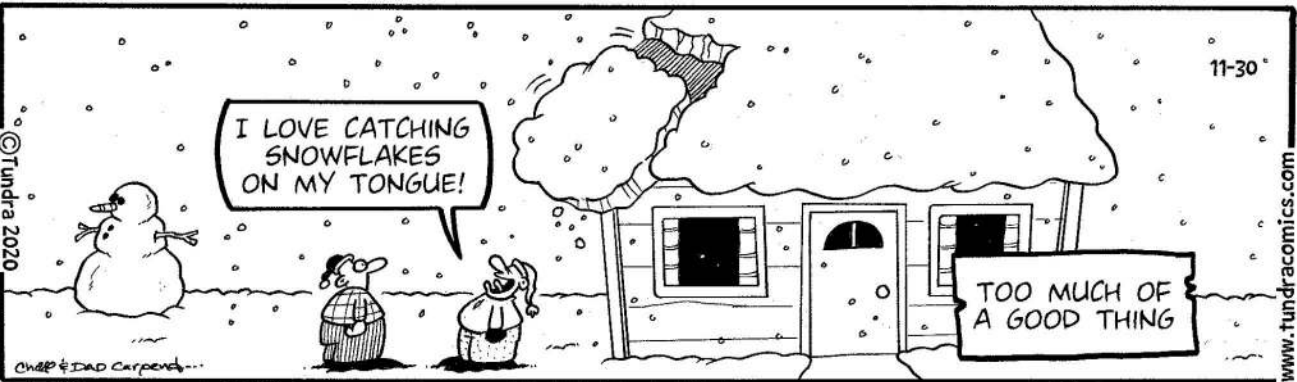
I took a deep breath, dashed for his front door, threw the present down on his step, pounded his door and flew back to the safety of the bushes and Grandma.

Together we waited breathlessly in the darkness for the front door to open. Finally it did, and there stood Bobby.

Fifty years haven't dimmed the thrill of those moments spent

See Odds & Ends Page 10

The Men of Tundra Comics



Life's Outtakes

Daris Howard

Disqualified

It was the early 1980s, and the International Olympic Committee had been doing drug testing for some time. Though the National College Athletic Association hadn't yet implemented similar measures, there was talk of it possibly coming. It was against this backdrop that Martin walked into the college wrestling room and handed me a news article, saying, "Hey, Howard, you've got to read this."

We were warming up but hadn't yet started practice, and since Coach wasn't there, I sat down to read. I had just begun when Coach walked in.

"Howard, are you too good to join us for warm-ups?"

"Sorry, Coach," I replied. "Martin just handed me something to read."

"What's it about?" Coach asked.

Martin laughed. "Oh, you would love it. It's about an athlete that had some problems with drug testing."

"Well, maybe we should all hear it," Coach said. "Howard, read it out loud."

All the wrestlers gathered around and sat cross-legged on the mat, and I started to read.

The article was about athletes on a team that had come under suspicion of drug use, causing the entire team to face suspension. To avoid such a severe penalty, the coach cut a deal allowing an independent doctor to test the athletes for drugs. Only the athletes who tested positive would be suspended from the team, and the rest could finish out the season. The coach agreed to live by whatever decision the doctor made.

However, when the doctor's list was posted, the star athlete's name was flagged for drug use. The athlete was livid. He said he knew for sure that there was no way his urine sample could have had drugs in it. The coach, taking the side of the athlete, insisted on a hearing, demanding the doctor explain his reasoning on the matter.

The doctor agreed, and a formal hearing board was convened to determine whether the doctor's decision would be upheld. After the hearing started, the athlete was given the floor. He insisted he had the highest character and

knew his urine sample could not have had any drugs in it. He went so far as to claim his suspension could be nothing more than prejudice on the part of the doctor.

The coach was then given a chance to speak. He expounded on this great athlete's virtues, claiming he knew the athlete had the highest moral values, both in competition and in life. The coach said that is why he had called for the hearing. He said he knew something had to be wrong with the doctor's judgment in the matter. He even said he felt the doctor was possibly guilty of malpractice.

Finally, it was the doctor's turn. When the board members asked the doctor what drug or drugs he had found in the athlete's urine sample, the doctor said he hadn't found any.

"Then why in heaven's name did you suspend him from competition?" the coach demanded.

"Because," the doctor said, "he has a condition that makes competing somewhat impossible for the rest of the athletic season."

"And just what condition would that be?" a board member asked.

The doctor turned to look directly at the athlete and the coach as he replied. "He is pregnant." Everyone in the room seemed stunned by the revelation as the doctor continued. "I realized, of course, it couldn't have really been his urine used for the sample. I debated disqualifying him from any further competition for cheating on the drug test, but I decided instead to only disqualify him for the rest of the season for pregnancy. If the coach would prefer, we can switch it to a permanent disqualification."

At that point, the coach and the athlete chose to withdraw their disputation of the doctor's decision. And that is how a male athlete was disqualified from competition because of pregnancy.

When I finished reading the article, Martin laughed and turned to Coach. "Hey, Coach, if one of us did that, would it disqualify us from competing?"

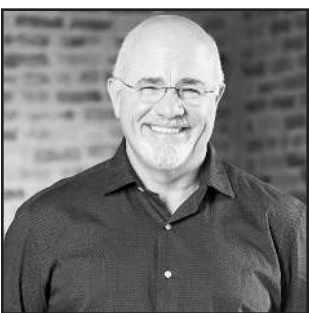
"If you put me in a situation like that," Coach growled, "when I got hold of you, you would be disqualified from living."

Dave Says

Dave Ramsey

Dear Dave, One of my resolutions this year was to start living on a budget, and gain control of my money. I never realized how easy it would be to get discouraged early on. Can you give me some encouragement to help make my financial resolutions stick in 2021?

Collin



Dear Collin, The secret to making a goal into a reality is getting started. It's really that simple. You also have to be realistic and accept the fact that nothing—especially things you've never done before—works out perfectly the first time around. That leads to the next step, which is patience. Most people think about losing 20 pounds, and immediately feel it needs to happen in the next month or so. It doesn't. And mostly likely, it won't. Like almost everything else worth doing, it's something that requires sacrifice and focus each day over an extended period of time. Crash courses are usually painful and rarely work out well. But once you've done something a few times, it becomes an easier and easier part of your daily routine. Pretty soon, it's not a chore or something you're afraid of.

Making a budget and gaining control of your finances works the same way. When you first create a money plan, it probably won't work out exactly as you hoped. That's okay. It will barely work the second month, but it won't be as scary, because

you've already done it once. By the third month, you'll have a much better feel for it, and your stress levels will go way down because you already know the basics. It just takes determination, patience, and intensity to get through the rough patches that go along with starting anything new.

A new year is just around the corner, Collin. Don't fall into the same old trap. Give yourself a little grace, but keep your eyes on the prize. Start preparing yourself now. You've got plenty of time to begin laying out a plan, and have a solid budget ready when January 1st arrives. It may feel like things are beginning slowly, but you can make this happen if you'll just stick with it!

—Dave  
\* Dave Ramsey is a seven-time #1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of The Dave Ramsey Show, heard by more than 16 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions.

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# McPherson County News

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## Graphic Files

## Over The Hills

*From The Tryon Graphic Archives*

**TEN YEARS AGO**  
**DECEMBER 16, 2010**  
Erin Russ of Ringgold was injured in a one-vehicle accident at approximately 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 30. She was texting and driving and lost control of her vehicle. The Tryon Fire & Rescue was called and the Jaws of Life was used to open the roof and extract her. She sustained a fractured vertebra in her neck, cuts and bruises and a cracked wrist.  
Adam and Megan Nelson of Ringgold were the parents of a son, Timothy Joel, born Monday, December 29, 2010.

**TWENTY YEARS AGO**  
**DECEMBER 21, 2000**  
The Tryon Longhorns lost their basketball game by one point to Wallace here Friday, December 15. The Wildcats defeated the Longhorns 48 to 47. Eric Mumm led the Tryon team with 11 points and seven rebounds followed by Levi Arensdorf with eight points and five steals.

McPherson County Commissioner, Robert L. Long, was honored December 13 with a surprise farewell party at the McPherson County Courthouse. Among the forty people attending was his wife, Jo, and their four daughters, Becky Dailey, Carmen Eimers, Bridget Long, and Kelly Ward.

Todd Gragg was among students who graduated from the National American University November 20th. He earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration/Financial Management. Todd is the son of Art and Barbara Gragg who live at Tryon Route, North Platte.

**THIRTY YEARS AGO**  
**DECEMBER 20, 1990**  
Deb Correll has been offered the position of secretary and bookkeeper at McPherson County High School, and will replace Mrs. Elaine Miller, who announced her retirement at the end of January.

An open house celebration for the 90th birthday of Mrs. Nettie Ripple of North Platte, will be held Friday, January 4, at the Northwestern Public Service Building in North Platte. Mrs. Ripple, well known to the Tryon community, requests no gifts.  
Linda and Jack Tucker went to Stillwater, Oklahoma last week to attend the graduation of their son, John, from Oklahoma State University.

Visitors at the home of Rev. John and Olive Neal the past week were Vince Hora, Susie Bond, Richard and Carolyn Kemp, Milan Kugler, Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Kugler and her father, Mr. Chadwick, Melvin and Sharon Smith and Lois Connell.

Births included a baby daughter born December 12, 1990, to Crystal and John Streit. She was named Chelsea Delight. Her proud grandparents are Dale and Colleen Pettit of Tryon and Melvin and Marilyn Streit of Lexington; A baby boy, Shawn David, Jr. was born December 14 to Shawn and Tish Bellew. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Dale Licking of Tryon, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Enfield of Arthur, and Charles Bellew of Alliance.

**FORTY YEARS AGO**  
**DECEMBER 18, 1980**  
In a hard fought basketball game at Tryon, the Longhorn boys lost to Brule 59 to 50, Saturday night. Leading scorers for Tryon were Mike Miller with 25 points and Lynn Pyzer with 16.

The Tryon girls team lost to both Thedford and Brule. However, every Tryon girl scored in the game against Thedford. Hannah Doyle made five points; Dee Arensdorf and Kerry Kramer each had 4; LaRae Daly, Nadean Daiger and Deb Waits made three each and Kristy Power had two.

The Helping Hand Club

met at Esther Arensdorf's festive-decorated home for their December meeting. A delicious turkey dinner was enjoyed by 14 members, two guests and several men and children.

A birthday dinner in honor of Jack and Clara Daly was held Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Correll. Those attending besides the honored guests, were Joe and Ida Daly, Mike and Alice Hanna, Harold and Vera Oliver, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Correll, Allen and Ryan, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Correll, Ora Winters, Matilda Haney and Eva Haddy.

**FIFTY YEARS AGO**  
**DECEMBER 24, 1970**

Mr. and Mrs. Don Nicholson went to Denver Thursday to pick up Mr. and Mrs. Rocky Nicholson who flew into Denver that afternoon. They were overnight guests in the C.W. McNeal home. Pauline's mother, Opal French, and their son, Monte Nicholson, ran the cafe while they were gone.  
Danny Nicholson, Darwin Munson and Gerald Correll all arrived home last Saturday to spend the Christmas holiday with home folks.

Mrs. Veva Munson, Mrs. Susie Bond, Mrs. Esther Smith, Minnie Bond and Mrs. Noma Munson were North Platte shoppers Wednesday. They took Mrs. Flossie Pfeiffer out for a drive which she enjoyed very much.

**SIXTY YEARS AGO**  
**DECEMBER 22, 1960**

The Christmas school program at District 4 School in Tryon, sponsored by the teachers, Mrs. Audrey McClintock and Mrs. Alida Fisher, was very well attended. The children all knew their parts very well.

Robert B. Cotton of the USS Menhaden, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cotton of Tryon, was honorably discharged from the U.S. Submarines and arrived home Saturday morning. He and his cousin, Gary Gordon, also in the service, flew to Denver and then to Ogallala where Lois Miller met them and brought them home.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Shimm of Hooker County, are the parents of a baby



Quote: "Time is free, but it's priceless. You can't own it, but you can use it. You can't keep it, but you can spend it. Once you've lost it you can never get it back."

*unknown*  
I found the following story online. It fits the REAL meaning of the Christmas so I decided to share it.

**The Humble Servant**  
When God calls on us to do something we shouldn't have any expectations that He explain Himself. Our calling may seem absurd, our work seem pointless or without merit. But God's plan is greater than ours. Serve Him humbly, with no expectations that you will be rewarded in this life for your toils, for your reward will come...

One night at a small church in Atlanta, Georgia, a man shared how he had become a Christian while in Sydney, Australia. "I was at the street corner in Kings Cross," the man began, "when I felt a tug on my sleeve. Turning, I found myself face to face with a street bum. Before I could say anything, the man simply asked me, 'Mister, if you were to die tonight, where would you spend eternity?' That question troubled me over the next three weeks," the man continued. "I had to find an answer, and I ended up giving my life to Christ."

The pastor of the Atlanta church was amazed that a man on a street corner could have such an impact. But imagine his amazement when, three years later, another man came to his church and gave an almost identical testimony. He, too, had been at Kings Cross in Sydney when a derelict had pulled on his sleeve and then asked him, "If you were to die tonight, where would you spend eternity?" This second man, also haunted by the street bum's question, eventually sought and

found an answer in Jesus.

Shortly after hearing the second testimony, the pastor of that small church in Atlanta had to be in Sydney for a missions conference. On one of his nights off, he went to Kings Cross to see if he could find the man who had been mentioned at his church by two different people. Pausing on a street corner to look for someone like the street bum he'd heard about, he felt a tug at his jacket. He turned, and before the poor old man could say anything, the pastor blurted out, "I know what you're going to ask me! You're going to ask me if I were to die tonight, where would I spend eternity?"

The man was stunned. "How did you know that?" he inquired. The pastor told him the whole story. When he finished, the man started to cry. "Mister," he said, "10 years ago I gave my life to Jesus, and I wanted to do something for Him. But a man like me can't do much of anything. So I decided I would just hang out on this corner and ask people that simple question. I've been doing that for years, mister, but tonight is the first time ever that I knew it did anybody any good."

God calls us not to be

successful, but to be faithful. We need to obey God even though we can't see whether it does any good. When you share Christ with someone, for instance, or when you help a person in need, you aren't responsible for the outcome. It's God's job to form us into what we can be in Christ.

On the other side of things, be careful not to judge others for what they are doing in the Kingdom of God, even when it seems foolish or unproductive. God uses all kinds of ministry in many different ways in order to fulfill his purposes. Just because you don't get the point of a particular ministry doesn't mean it's wrong or worthless. - Author Unknown

"Be thankful for... Those who didn't like us, they made us better persons;

Those who love us, they made our hearts glow; Those who cared, they made us feel important; Those who came into our life, they made us who we are today; Those who left, they showed us that nothing lasts forever; And those who stayed, they showed us the meaning of true friendship!"

MarRazalan

### It's CHRISTmas

Take Christ out of Christmas?  
What do you mean?  
Every time I see X-mas,  
I just want to scream!

For Christmas without Christ  
Loses all meaning for me  
As Christmas is far more  
Than presents under a tree.

God gave His Son  
One glorious night  
That by His life and death  
We might see the light.

The light of redemption,  
Of purpose and love  
With Holy Spirit guidance  
Sent from above.

Christmas is far more  
Than mythical Santa and such –  
It celebrates Christ's birth  
Who loves us so much!

Yes, Jesus was born  
One long ago Christmas Eve  
Offering life everlasting  
If we would only believe.

So leave Christ in Christmas  
And center your day  
Around the risen Savior  
And trust and obey.

Just celebrate Christmas  
Remembering His love  
And all He's done for us  
With blessings sent from above.

J.R. Trumbull  
14 December 1997



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# Working hard in math reaps rewards



McPHERSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

Students earning pie in McPherson County math classes pictured above are, l-r: Saige Phelps, Brayden McNutt and Brooklyn Fisher.



McPHERSON COUNTY SCHOOLS



Students who work-  
ed extra hard in math  
class were rewarded  
with pie. Those earn-  
ing the sweet treat  
were top row, l-r:  
Katherine Anderson,  
Kinnley Powers, Ley-  
ton Connell. Bottom  
row, l-r: Brayden Mc-  
Nutt and Isaac  
Goosey.

## Running Off Energy



McPHERSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

Archie Fisher, Hudson Gragg, Ashlyn McNutt, KayCee Connell and Scarlet Waddell playing soccer tag during physical education class to run off some excess energy.

## Sandhills Valley football team members on D2-9 All-Dist. Team

The 2020 D2-9 All-District football team has been announced. Those included on the list, their school and year are:

**Offense First Team**  
Quarterback - Conner Phillips, Sandhills Valley, senior  
Running Back - Dane Pokorny, Sandhills-Thedford, junior; Quade Young, Twin Loup, senior  
Offensive Line - Brayton Branic, Sandhills-Thedford, senior; Wyatt Reese, Pleasanton, senior; Parker Ballenger, Sandhills-Thedford, junior  
Tight End - Tyce Westland, Pleasanton, senior; Tycen Bailey, Ansley-Litchfield, junior  
ATH - Treven Wendt, Pleasanton, sophomore

Kick Return - Jaxon Fancher, Twin Loup, freshman  
Punter - Kray Kingston, Pleasanton, Junior  
**Offense Second Team**  
Quarterback - Grant Ahlstrom, Sandhills-Thedford, senior  
Running Back - Cooper Slingsby, Ansley-Litchfield, junior; Hunter Arehardt, Ansley-Litchfield, senior; Offensive Line - Carter Klein, Pleasanton, junior; Garrison Fernau, Ansley-Litchfield, senior; Weston Reineke, Twin Loup, senior  
Tight End - Cole Kramer, Sandhills Valley, sophomore; Jackson Henry, Ansley-Litchfield, senior  
**Defense First Team**  
Defensive Line - Drew

McIntosh, Sandhills-Thedford, junior; Lane Watson, Sandhills Valley, senior; Lan Wilde, Sandhills-Thedford, senior  
Line Backer - Reed McFadden, Sandhills-Thedford, senior; Reece Zutavern, Sandhills-Thedford, junior; Coy Johnston, Sandhills Valley, sophomore  
Defensive Back - Seth Scranton, Sandhills-Thedford, junior; Matt Dailey, Sandhills-Thedford, senior  
Kicker - Brayden Guggenmos, Sandhills-Thedford, junior; Punt Return - Trae Hickman, Sandhills-Thedford, junior

See All-District  
Page 10

## McPherson County One-Act Team Ends Season



McPHERSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

Pictured at right is the McPherson County One-Act team cast, l-r: Dayton Gipe, Camron White, Kaden Blake, Braden Sellers, Kinnley Powers, Malaky Johnston, Josiah McBeain, Nastacia Waddell, Alyssa Magana, Holli Gipe, Katherine Anderson. Not pictured: Tabitha Viter, Katie Ascherl, Ethan Schmidt, Leyton Connell, and Isaac Goosey.

The McPherson County One-Act team competed in the District D2-6 competition in Hyannis on Wednesday, December 2. The team placed fifth on the day with their play "Snow White and the Seven Dwarves of the Old Republic." Pictured at left is part of the team, l-r: Camron White, Malaky Johnston, Alyssa Magana, Katherine Anderson, Kinnley Powers, Braden Sellers, Holli Gipe, Josiah McBeain, Isaac Goosey, Nastacia Waddell, Katie Ascherl. Not pictured: Kaden Blake, Ethan Schmidt, Dayton Gipe, Leyton Connell, Tabitha Viter.

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# Olson Makes Donation To Stapleton Public Schools I.A. Program



Mr. Funk, left, Stapleton High School Industrial Arts & Ag Teacher receives a welder and welding equipment from Dave Olson. Olson recently donated the new multi-functional 110 v. welder to Stapleton Public Schools.

Dave Olson of North Platte has donated a new multi-functional 110 v. welder, helmet, shield, coat, and gloves to the Stapleton Public Schools industrial arts program for

the welding department. The presentation was made recently at the school and the welder was given to Bryce Funk, instructor. Olson said he donated

the items in memory of his father and mother, Carl Olson and Clarice (Olson) Arnold, and his oldest sister, LaDonna (Olson) Cook.

# Student Advisory Committee Spotlight Trinity Hansen, Senior at Stapleton High School



DECEMBER 2020 NSAA NEWSLETTER

I've spent my entire 12 years of education with Stapleton Public Schools, a small, Class D school in central Nebraska. During my last two years of high school, we formed a sports activities co-op. This was a huge adjustment for the student athletes and both communities. At that time, I was also nominated and selected to be a member of the NSAA Student Advisory Committee. Being a member of the SAC has not only

taught me many valuable skills and lessons that I will use for life, but really came at a perfect time for my school and community. The main priority of the NSAA SAC during my tenure is sportsmanship, so I felt it was important to make it a mission to enhance school spirit that had been lacking for a few years, and bring these once separate teams together as one.

My first year with the SAC, I started a project that created "dress-up" themes for games and added an attendance raffle for students to enter for a chance to win a prize at each home game. Student attendance at games improved and the creative dress up themes helped them feel more involved. Local businesses and Stapleton's booster club donated money to help finance prizes at home games and grand prizes at the end of the year.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 slowed things down for my student attendance goals, but I didn't let it

stop me. Because of a knee injury, I had to take a new position on our volleyball team my senior year as student manager. However, my favorite "new position" was head cheer coordinator, which also overflowed to football and cross country and will continue with basketball season.

I never missed a time out, initiating cheers or chants for our team, whether we were up or down on the scoreboard. It encouraged others to cheer along. Most of the time it even prompted the opposing team crowd to cheer for their players as well, spreading school spirit to the other team. Because my attendance goals are limited, I am presently working to create a School Spirit Club to help create themes and cheers for future games and to make sure the tradition continues after I graduate.

Being a part of the SAC opened my eyes to how different Class A and D schools are when it comes to issues they encounter. Members shared many examples that helped expand my awareness and some of the scenarios I provided equally amazed those students from larger schools, like the fact some Class D schools don't have a spirit club or cheer team available. I have always felt I am a leader by example, but the NSAA SAC has pushed me to be a more well-rounded leader that isn't afraid to voice, address, and fix problems within my school.

In the beginning, it was a bit nerve wracking to attend meetings or summits with people I didn't know. Being involved helped me realize we are all simply working towards the same goal, even though we may be working on different problems. Through this opportunity, I have learned and accomplished things I might have never initiated on my own. My time as a senior member seems to be flying by and COVID-19 seems to keep rearing its ugly head, but I hope I am able to learn and grow more, continue building the sportsmanship in our schools and communities, and enjoy the remainder of my time as part of the NSAA SAC.

# Lady Mavericks Hit The Court In Season Opener

The 2020-21 girls varsity basketball season got underway Friday, December 4, as the Sandhills Valley Lady Mavericks hosted Franklin. The team will play Sutherland at Stapleton, Friday, December 11.

Coach Meka Melvin said prior to the opener the season may be challenging at times because of outside forces.

"However, these girls and this team work hard and compete each day," Coach Melvin said. "I am looking forward to seeing what this team can and will accomplish. Hopefully we will have a full season for them to shine."

This year's team is made up of four seniors, three juniors, one sophomore, and five freshmen.

A look at the roster:

Seniors - Trisha Bernt, 5' 10"; Trinity Hansen, 5' 8"; Hannah Burnside, 5' 7"; and Kaci Wheeler, 5' 11". Juniors - Keali Florea, 5' 3"; Megan Amos, 5' 4"; and Sadie Dimmitt, 5' 10". Sophomore: Citori Kramer, 5' 3". Freshmen: Tessa Hansen, 5' 10"; Arena Fetty, 5' 9"; Jaylen Dimmitt, 5' 6"; Peyton Moore, 5' 6"; and Abigale Nicholson, 5' 4".



COACH MEKA MELVIN

The 2020-2021 Sandhill Valley Mavericks girl's basketball team members are back row, l-r: Trinity Hansen, senior; Peyton Moore, Tessa Hansen, Kaci Wheeler, senior; Trisha Bernt, senior; Sadie Dimmitt and Arena Fetty. Front row, l-r: Megan Amos, Hannah Burnside, senior; Jaylen Dimmitt, Abigale Nicholson, Keali Florea and Citori Kramer.

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# SVM Basketball Scores

COACH TIM KARN

The opening weekend for high school basketball is now in the books. Your Maverick boys team took the floor against the Franklin Flyers, Friday, December 4. After a slow start the boys settled in and eventually stretched the lead to a comfortable margin and finished with a 54-39 victory. The team displayed very good effort and good teamwork. Everyone was able to get some varsity experience as all ten players saw some game action. While happy with the victory and proud of the boys, there is still a lot of work to be done. The Mavericks will see action again on Friday, December 11 at Stapleton High School. Due to NSAA and State recommendations

attendance will be limited but the game can be seen on Striv TV. The boys also held a drawing for the Henry Golden Boy. We appreciate everyone's support and participation in this endeavor. The winner of the rifle was Wayne Claar. Congratulations to Wayne and we hope you enjoy your new .22 caliber. **Lady Mavs, 22-38** The Lady Mavericks opened their season on Friday, December 4, in Stapleton against the Franklin Lady Flyers. The Lady Mavericks had a tough time getting shots to fall and lost the game, 22 to 38. They will be in action on Friday, December 11 when they host Sutherland in Stapleton. Games are set to begin at 4:00 p.m.

# MNAC Announces All-Conference Volleyball Team

The Mid-Nebraska Activities Conference announced the 2020 All-Conference Volleyball team. Those included on the list are:

**First team**  
Jadeyn Bubak, South Loup, senior  
Samantha Moore, Mullen, senior  
Emma Hart, Twin Loup, senior  
Elle Ravenscroft, Cody-Kilgore, senior  
Alli Loughran, Mullen, junior  
Mya Weverka, South Loup, junior  
Hadlee Safranek, Anselmo-Merna, junior  
Tera Horky, Twin Loup, sophomore

**Second Team**  
Shaylee Oxford, Twin

Loup, senior  
Calyn Laible, South Loup, senior  
Andrea Maldonado, Twin Loup, senior  
Gracie Wenzel, Arthur County, senior  
Elsie Ottun, Twin Loup, sophomore  
Trinity Christopherson, Brady, senior  
Jaide Chandler, Anselmo-Merna, junior  
Kirsten Myers, Anselmo-Merna, junior

**Honorable Mention**  
Shaylyn Safranek, Anselmo-Merna, sophomore  
Kylie Licking, Mullen, senior  
Madison Marten, Sandhills/Thedford, senior  
Brea Branich, Sandhills-

Thedford, junior  
Ashlyn Henderson, Hyannis, junior  
Colby Cady, Cody-Kilgore, junior  
Tenley Rasmussen, Sandhills/Thedford, sophomore  
Cassidy Grint, Twin Loup, freshman  
Hanna Marshall, Mullen, senior  
Shayla Tickle, South Loup, junior  
Faith Storer, Arthur County, senior  
Whitley Rut, Arthur County, sophomore  
Lindsey Coble, Mullen, senior  
Abby Jurjens, Brady, senior  
Keali Florea, Sandhills Valley, junior

**Odds & Ends**  
(Continued from page 4) getting awards for Stapleton in the Nebraska Community Improvement Program (N.C.I.P.) and helped put together the scrapbooks. Janice cared about Stapleton and was always working hard to improve the community when she lived here. She was a top-notch cook and she and her mom, Edwina Layher, fed countless school children at Stapleton Public Schools. They made homemade bread every morning and served good home-cooked meals. I first became acquainted with Gary Johnson, McPherson County Schools instructor, at the Ringgold Free Methodist Church. Gary always greeted me with a big smile and it was followed with a compliment or something positive. In later years as he was the driver's education instructor at Stapleton Public Schools, he would stop by as I was working on the corner garden and give me a kind word. We would talk about Bible devotions he was reading or how things were going in his world. Don't we need more people like that? Those who take the time to give you an uplift for the day. His final words were a letter to the editor he wrote about how great the driver's education students were at Stapleton and how much he enjoyed instructing them. Leo and Charlene Walz became our neighbors across the alley and although we knew them before, we came to appreciate them more as they kept up their residence and we would visit back and forth. Leo was always out there with his riding mower, giving me a friendly wave, and now that he is gone, it won't be the same. My last memory of him was when he stopped in about a month ago to pay for his card of thanks and he was his same upbeat self. There have been so many others and each one holds special memories... Lewellyn Frey, Eloise Kramer, Ray Howard, Bob Forrester, Rose Wonch. People we have known for so many years and have been a big part of our community. They have left big holes to fill and we will miss them.

# JH Wrestlers End Season In Perkins County

COACH GARY HALSTEAD

The guys finished our season strong at a very tough class C meet this last Tuesday at Perkins County. We faced a lot of class C schools like Ogallala, Kimball, Bridgeport, and Chase Co. I was very pleased with our success considering the limited amount of practice time we had because of Covid. We won 12 matches, and

only lost nine on the day. We placed five, including 1st - Corbin Miller, Kyle Kramer, B J Goforth, 2nd - Saije Phelps, 3rd - Cayson Johnston. I was really pleased with the effort and attitude the crew maintained throughout the season. This has been an unusual year for sports, and these guys are adapting well, and competing hard in the midst of it all. The five who placed at this meet were our five 8th graders.

We will miss them greatly next year. They were all good leaders, and great kids. Between the five of them, and considering four of them missed three of our meets due to COVID-19, they racked up some nice stats.  
32 wins  
20 pins  
13 medal finishes  
10 of those were for 1st or 2nd  
It was my pleasure to guide them through this season!!!

# Maverick Wrestlers Hit The Mat In Mullen

The Sandhill Valley Maverick wrestlers opened their season on Saturday, December 5, in Mullen. The team scored eight points and placed 19th. Mullen won their meet with 127 points and Gordon-Rushville was second with 124 points. Results for Maverick wrestlers includes:  
120 - Braden Powell (1-4) placed fifth and scored five team points. Round 1 - Corbin Swanson, Ainsworth, won by fall over Powell, (Fall 4:00); Round 2 - Chase McGrath, Bridgeport, won by fall over Powell, (Fall 3:07); Round 3 - Kaleb Christoferson, Hitchcock County, won by major decision over Powell, (MD 11-0);

Round 4 - Powell won by decision over Zach Parker, Ainsworth, (Dec 14-8); Round 5 - Brock Burry, Bayard, won by fall over Powell (Fall 1:57). 132 - Connor Weekly (0-2). Champ. Round 1 - Weekly received a bye; Quarterfinal - Gavin Prewitt, No. Central, won by fall over Weekly (Fall 4:50); Cons. Round 2 - Landon Holloway, Ainsworth, won by fall over Weekly, (Fall 3:50) 145 - Camron White (1-2) scored three team points. Champ. Round 1 - Damien Bell, Bridgeport, won by fall over White, (Fall :58); Cons. Round 1 - White won by fall over Caden Coufal, Anselmo-Merna, (Fall 1:40); Cons.

Round 2 - Tyce Porter, Anselmo, won by fall over White, (Fall 3:37). 285 - Kaden Blake (0-2). Champ. Round 1 - Isaac Welch, Mullen, won by fall over Blake, (Fall :20); Cons. Round 1 - Blake received a bye; Cons. Round 2 - Michael Rotherham, Bayard, won by fall over Blake, (Fall :15) The Sandhill Valley Maverick wrestlers will be back in action on Friday, December 11 at the St. Pat's Invite in North Platte. They are set to hit the mat at 3:00 p.m. They will be in Sutherland on Saturday, December 19 in action with the meet set to begin at 10:00 a.m.

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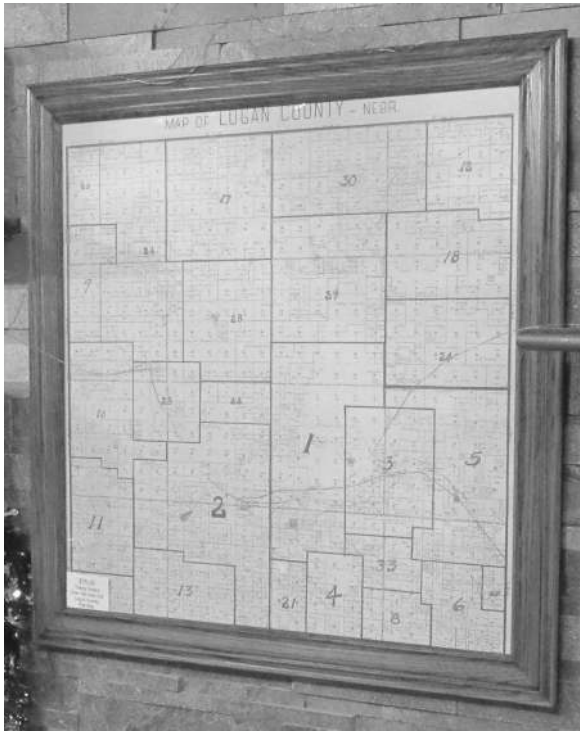
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From the Past

**DECEMBER 11, 1930**  
Ben Fledderman was re-elected president of the Logan County Fair Assoc. Cecile Beam, Maggie Hanna, Rachel Wooters, Tillie Gillett, Ella Gillett, Olive Jenkins and Lorena Wells was elected to offices in the Royal Neighbors of Alma Camp.

Mr. and Mrs. C.A. Hess received a letter from their son, Gus, who is now located at Sioux City, Iowa. The letter contains sad news of the illness of their son and an accident which befell their daughter a few days ago.

Harry E. Callender was

(Continued from page 3)  
elected Noble Grand of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Albert Catterson, mechanic at the Karn garage, attended a one-day service school at the Brotherhood Chevrolet Co.

**ONE-HUNDRED YEARS AGO**  
**DECEMBER 9, 1920**  
You can buy 10 pounds of the best Rice for \$1.00 at Callender's.

Order your Ford Touring for \$510.00 from Hendy Ogier Auto Co. Mrs. J.W. Barbee is reported being very ill at her home.

Graphic Files

girl, Sally Beth, born December 14, 1960; and Mr. and Mrs. Myron Lambert of Cody, Wyoming, became the parents of a baby boy, Jeffery Myron, born December 19, Mrs. Lambert is the former Joan Haney, daughter of Perry and Matilda Haney of Tryon.

**SEVENTY YEARS AGO**  
**DECEMBER 21, 1950**  
The annual community Christmas tree and program will be held in the Tryon Auditorium on Friday evening, December 22. Everyone is welcome. It is hoped every school and community will be represented by one or two numbers on the program. Anyone who wishes may participate.

Mrs. Mary Etta Gross of Tryon, grandmother of Ralph Gross whom she reared to young manhood, departed this life December 13, 1950 at the age of 75 years. Mrs. Gross and her husband came to McPherson County in a covered wagon where Mr. Gross filed on a homestead and where they lived until 1924 when they moved into Tryon. They became the parents of six children, three sons and three daughters.

Miss Berguland and her advanced professional training class, Ramona Neal and Ruth Hunn, visited the 5th and 6th grade social studies classes at the Grammar School in Tryon.

**EIGHTY YEARS AGO**  
**DECEMBER 19, 1940**  
From eight to ten inches of snow fell last week and

(Continued from page 6)  
on Sunday afternoon and night, was drifted badly by a medium high wind. The snow came on the heels of a severe cold wave which sent the mercury down to eight below zero Saturday morning. The snow plow which bucks the snow from the oiled road between here and North Platte, went into the ditch near the Stack farm Saturday afternoon and the men were several hours getting it out. C.E. Daly, trucker, came along and by using his truck aided in getting the road machine back on the highway.

The North Platte mail made several trips this week up the highway from North Platte, rather than around the east road, due to impassable roads.

**NINETY YEARS AGO**  
**DECEMBER 18, 1930**  
A quiet wedding took place at the Lutheran parsonage in North Platte Sunday at which time Miss Grace Allen became the wife of Mr. Clinton Burmood, both of Tryon. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Allen and a student in the local high school. The groom is a teacher in the local grade school, having come here this fall from his home near Shelton.

Mrs. A.L. Fuller has been ill. Mrs. Bryan Heldenbrand helped with the work at the local cafe.

The people in the west end of the county certainly enjoyed the Tryon broadcast over the Great Plains Station at North Platte.

Cutting Edge

(Continued from page 4)  
shivering, beside my Grandma, in Bobby Decker's bushes. That night, I realized that those awful rumors about Santa Claus were just what Grandma said they were – ridiculous. Santa was alive and well, and we were on his team.

I still have the Bible, with the coat tag tucked inside: \$19.95.

May you always have LOVE to share, HEALTH to spare and FRIENDS that care...

And may you always believe in the magic of Santa Claus!

All-District Football

(Continued from page 7)

**Defense Second Team**  
Defensive Line - Andrew Furrow, Sandhills-Thedford, sophomore; JySeann Pugh, Pleasanton, junior; Kade Bottorf, Twin Loup, junior

Line Backer - Dalton Kunkee, South Loup, senior; Kolby Larson, Ansley-Litchfield, senior; Brodrick Paitz, Pleasanton, senior; Kooper Barnum, Sandhills Valley, junior

Defensive Back - Caleb Burnside, Sandhills Valley, sophomore; Slate Micheel, Twin Loup, sophomore

Honorable Mention

Ethan Nicholson, Sandhills Valley, junior; Will Sisson, Sandhills Valley, senior; Tad Dimmitt, Sandhills Valley, sophomore; Cinch Hiekel, Pleasanton, senior; Blake Wilson, Pleasanton, sophomore; Kobe Martenson, Pleasanton, junior; Sam Cool, South Loup, senior; Jake Halstead, South Loup, junior; Shawn Quandt, Twin Loup, senior; Nekoda Essman, Twin Loup, sophomore; Tyson Stengel, Sandhills-Thedford, senior; Kaden Haake, Sandhills-Thedford, sophomore; Leyton Rhode, Ansley-Litchfield, sophomore; Karter Moore, Ansley-Litchfield, sophomore; Sam Loy, Ansley-Litchfield, junior; Kaden Holm, Ansley-Litchfield, junior

Back Our Maverick Sports Teams!

– 19, we are planning to wait to conduct meetings until 2021. If you are interested in joining this planning effort or have questions, please contact me at [abaum@upperloup-nrd.org](mailto:abaum@upperloup-nrd.org) or 308-645-2250.

Obituaries

Donald Dale Dailey



1933 - 2020

Don's hobbies were doing jigsaw puzzles, fishing, wood working and helping his sons with their businesses. In later years he was well known for making freezer jam and sharing it with family and friends. Don always enjoyed a game of cribbage and didn't like to lose.

Don is survived by his three sons: Daniel (Jo) of Long Pine, NE, Clifford (Pat) of Hyannis, and Lemoyne (Rhonda) of Thedford and a daughter-in-law Becky Dailey of

Arnold. He is also survived by fourteen grandchildren, thirty-one and a half great grandchildren, a brother Earl Dailey of Arnold, a sister Ester Webster of North Platte, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Don was preceded in death by his wife Beverly, a son Alan, a brother Kenneth, a sister Kathryn, brothers-in-law Clark Armstrong and Earl Webster, and sister-in-law Ila Dailey.

Graveside services, along with military honors were held Saturday, December 5, 2020 at the Loup Valley Cemetery west of Stapleton, with Pastor Irv Jennings officiating.

Memorials are suggested to the Arnold Community Foundation, Arnold Fire Department, or the Arnold Baptist Church.

Govier Brothers Mortuary-Arnold Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Words of encouragement and remembrance can be left at [www.govier-brothers.com](http://www.govier-brothers.com)

Joy Marie Steel



1933 - 2020

Platte, and Sherri Britton of Lewellen; grandchildren, Brian (Terra) McVey of Metamora, Illinois, Clay (Kellyn) McVey of Haigler, A.J. (Krystal) McVey of Lincoln, Travis Correll of Des Moines, Iowa, Ty (Kelly) Correll of Torrington, Wyoming, Brandi Tillman of North Platte, Charles (Lori) Steel of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Patricia Steel of Lincoln, Jennifer VanderWey, Kelly (Justin) Loeffler of Cheyenne, Wyoming; great-grandchildren, Jack and Grant McVey, Paislee and Charlee McVey, Drew and Lyndee McVey, Conner Correll, Jayden and Carlee Tillman, Bradley

Joy was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend. She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends. She loved to dance and play cards. She also enjoyed gardening, canning, and baking. She was a member of the Hall School Mothers' Club, a 4-H Club leader, a timer for the Lake Maloney saddle club, a member of a bowling league and active in the DAR and Christian Women's Club.

She is survived by her children, Karen (Mark) McVey of Haigler, Patricia Correll of Mitchell, Eddie (Susan) Steel of North

and Aubrey Steel, Shyla Stearns, Isabelle and Hayden Loeffler; sisters, Dona Samuelson of Chester, Oklahoma and Lois Burch of Riverton, Wyoming; brothers, Marvin Binegar of Oregon City, Oregon and Bill Binegar of North Platte; sister-in-law, Marie Grasz of North Platte, and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

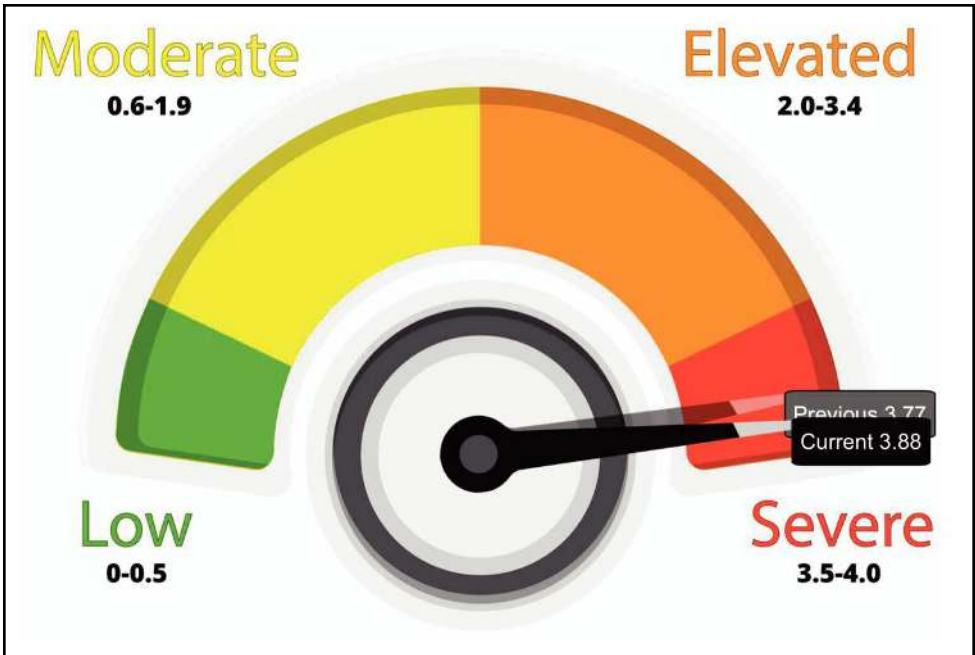
Joy was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Wesley; son, Mike Steel; parents-in-law, Edd & Janie (Powell) Steel; grandson, Clint VanderWey; great-grandsons, James and Jed VanderWey; sister, Lola Wurl; brothers-in-law, Bill Burch, Kenneth Wurl, Harvey Grasz, Richard Samuelson; and sister-in-law, Shirley Binegar.

Graveside services were held Saturday, December 5, 2020 at North Platte Cemetery.

Adams & Swanson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. The service was live streamed on Adams & Swanson Facebook page for those not able to attend.

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Risk Dial Creeps Up



risk categories of the WCDHD Community Risk Dial, please visit the COVID-19 Risk Dial page on our website.

COVID-19 Risk Dial page: <https://wcdhd.org/coronavirus/risk-dial.html>

For COVID-19 case number updates within the West Central District Health Department Jurisdiction, check the WCDHD Dashboard here: <https://public.tableau.com/views/WestCentralDistrictHealthDepartment>

COVID-19Dashboard/CaseInformation?language=en&:display\_count=y&:origin=viz\_share\_link

COVID-19Dashboard/CaseInformation?language=en&:display\_count=y&:origin=viz\_share\_link



Christmas Shopping?

How about a chance to win a \$500 Scheels' gift card? Keali Florea is selling raffle tickets and the winner will be drawn on December 11. \$20 a ticket and only 100 tickets sold.

Stakeholders Need To Help Make Drought Mitigation Plan

The Upper Loup Natural Resources District is undertaking an effort to develop a Drought Mitigation Plan and would like to invite any interested parties to participate as a stakeholder. This plan will: refine a collective understanding of drought risk and vulnerabilities, identify and prioritize mitigation efforts, and define drought response measures that will be utilized during future drought events. The overarching goal is to develop a sound operational drought response frame-

work and improve critical water supplies throughout the District during periods of drought.

As a part of this planning process, the NRD is creating a stakeholder group that will help guide this effort. Stakeholders will be asked to review materials periodically and attend a couple project meetings. Your commitment in fulfilling this important role will be greatly appreciated and will ensure a successful plan.

Given the current uncertainties regarding COVID

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