



McPherson County News

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Between the Lines

Kingsley Dam

It may be of little interest to many of you, but several things have prompted me lately to want my memories and some relative facts put in writing. Here goes.

The Kingsley Dam, north of Ogallala, was built between 1936 and 1941 at a cost of \$43.4 million. Do we dare complain about even what that figure would be today? As a comparison my Dad bought a new Ford pickup in 1941 for \$750.99.

The electrical generating part of Big Mac came in later at \$49 million. Another comparison of prices is that I was pumping gas, by hand at .19.9 a gallon.

I want to interrupt myself with a few things. I was in high school at Arthur during this time and for whatever reasons got to witness several of the construction operations.

I saw a few of the interlocking steel piling being driven to bedrock, which was a very noisy procedure, and left a jagged row of steel sticking up from the middle of the dam. This would later be trimmed with an acetylene torch for the full 1 1/3 miles to be just under the final roadway across the dam. It needs to be mentioned that since a lot of this construction was done during WWII, and there was fear of the dam being blown up, the finished roadway was not opened until the war ended.

Only one more little mention of the main construction of Kingsley Dam and it is so obvious even today. As you cross the dam at the south end you will dip down for a ways and there's a boat ramp to the west. Look around at the steep sides of what is called "the spillway." If we "ever" get a "bad" rain, or possibly a snow melt, and the usual hydro plant won't handle the water, pray that you don't get caught in "the spillway." I want to include one more story about the construction of the dam and then to the hydroplant.

I went to Ogallala with my Dad one day, probably the same day I learned most of the previous facts, and a big dragline was digging the spillway out of that rocky hill. Traffic was being routed different ways and we were stopped by a man directing a D8 cat dozer toward the dragline. If you knew my Dad you knew that he could visit with anybody. As I recall

Dad asked the man, obviously the dragline operator, how long we would have to wait. "Not long. I just have to move my machine the length of my cable and that dozer is going to help me." To my Dad's further request about the dragline's power the man replied, "Oh, it's got plenty of power, but if a drive chain breaks I'll be glad to look back and see that dozer." Enough dam, now 'electricity.'

Sounds out of context. In 1942 the churches at Arthur and Center Valley called a new pastor and he moved into the parsonage at Arthur and served both churches. We met three of his children soon and I don't recall ever meeting the other. Phyllis was a missionary, Charles, Jr. was a brain surgeon in Omaha whom I met at Baptist gatherings and then there was Edwin.

Edwin Hamilton was an electrical engineer. He naturally had to deal with some of the prior specs, but the electric compo-

Dean Thompson

nents at Kingsley Dam and the \$49 million budget it entailed were his baby. I may have been guilty of some name dropping this week, but they are names I'll be glad to recognize.

Perhaps I have used some terms and names that are unfamiliar to you. Maybe I should have accepted Edwin's offer to show me all the working parts of the Kingsley hydro plant, but I didn't. You possibly will appreciate a more popular topic for my final words this week.

The 'Lake Mac' area is famous for birdwatching with 365 varieties having been spotted. There is national recognition of birdwatching and especially crane watching at the west end. The area is known for both winter and summer sports and is known all over for different things and I got to be involved in so much of the beginning of it all. I wish I had taken advantage of more but am "thankful for the memories."

Over The Hills

J.R. Trumbull



Quote: "When we recall the past, we usually find that it is the simplest things — not the great occasions — that in retrospect give off the greatest glow of happiness."

Bob Hope, comedian and actor

There are 5 "W's" to life. WHO you are makes you special. Do not change for anyone. WHAT lies ahead will always be a mystery. Don't be afraid to explore. WHEN life pushes you over, push back harder. WHERE there are choices to make, make the ones you won't regret. WHY things happen will never be certain. Take it in stride and move forward.

Eight things to remember when going through tough times:

1. Everything can - and will - change.
 2. You've overcome challenges before.
 3. It's a learning experience.
 4. Not getting what you want can be a blessing.
 5. Allow yourself to have some fun.
 6. Being kind to yourself is the best medicine.
 7. Other people's negativity isn't worth worrying about.
 8. There is always something to be thankful for.
- There are five things in life you cannot recover: A stone...after it's thrown. A word...after it is said. An occasion...after it's missed.

ed. The time...after it's gone. A person...after they die. Life is short. Break the rules. Forgive quickly. Kiss slowly. Love truly. Laugh uncontrollably and never regret anything that made you

smile. Enjoy life!!! "The past is where you learned the lesson. The future is where you apply the lesson. Don't give up in the present. Live your life today, appreciate this moment and be happy."

DUCT TAPE

People use duct tape,
God used nails
To fix all sorts of things
And to heal all that ails.

Duct tape is temporary,
A stopgap measure at best.
While Christ's blood and the cross
Will stand times test.

The world's way is like duct tape,
At the time it seems right
But the fixin' won't last
If challenged by might.

When you turn to Christ,
His blood covers all.
You are made whole
If on Him you call.

Don't accept the quick fix,
Don't fall for the sham.
Jesus paid for all,
Don't buy Satan's scam.

Satan is like duct tape,
What he offers won't last,
When the going gets rough,
Your use to him is past.

God heals everything,
What He offers is real -
Forgiveness and eternity in Heaven,
Wow! What a deal!

So stick with Jesus,
He's the ultimate repair.
Study the owner's manual
And handle with prayer!

J.R. Trumbull
9 April 2006

Senior Lunch At Prairie Hills Cafe, Tryon

Serving Begins @ 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, September 14 - Pizza, three meat and supreme, lettuce salad, mandarin oranges

Friday, September 15 - Chicken fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, dinner roll, watermelon

Monday, September 18 - Hamburger patty, hamburger gravy over mashed potatoes, corn, dinner roll, applesauce

Tuesday, September 19 - Philly cheesesteak, pepper/onion, sweet potato fries, orange slices

Wednesday, September 20 - Chicken drumsticks, mashed potatoes

and gravy, beets, wheat grain dinner roll, pears
Thursday, September 21 - BBQ riblet sandwich, potato or broccoli salad, French fries, mandarin oranges
Friday, September 22 - Fish patty or sandwich, coleslaw, cheesy broccoli, peaches.

Estate Planning Service For Seniors

Erin Arensdorf, Executive Director For The West Central Nebraska Area Agency On Aging

Students from the University of Nebraska College of Law Civil Clinic will set up shop at the North Platte Senior Center, 901 E. 10th Street on November 17, 2023, to provide free estate planning services to seniors (60+) who pre-register.

The program is a collaborative effort between the College of Law and the West Central Nebraska Area Agency on Aging. Over the last nine years, the College of Law has conducted similar clinics around the state, traveling as far west as Scottsbluff.

Through the program, student attorneys have assisted nearly 600 older Nebraskans needing basic estate planning services. The services provided include the drafting and execution of

basic estate planning documents, such as a simple will, a power of attorney instrument, a living will, and a health care power of attorney.

"The program has been an absolute success," says Professor Kevin Ruser, who supervises the students providing the legal services. "It provides access to essential legal services to those who could not otherwise afford them, and it provides our students a chance to practice the skills they have learned in school." Professor Ruser says that although there is no income threshold, clients who have complex estates or significant assets will be referred to members of the private bar who specialize in estate planning.

Seniors age 60 and older interested in the program should call the University of Nebraska Civil Clinic at (402) 472-3271 (press "0") to register and schedule a private, confidential appointment. Appoint-

ment slots are limited and will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served

basis. The program registration deadline is October 09, 2023.



Blood Mobile

Tryon Bloodmobile

Fri., Nov. 10

8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

McPherson County Fairbuilding, Tryon

308-650-2728

For Appointments

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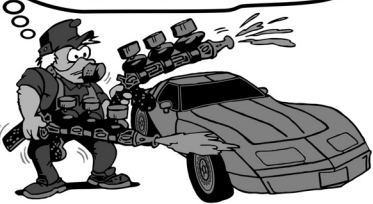
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CHESTER & NORINE STEWART ESTATE RANCH & EQUIPMENT AUCTION

Thursday, September 28, 2023 LIVE Auction

1:30pm CT | Lincoln County Fairgrounds—5015 Rodeo Rd, North Platte, NE

3,034± Total Acres | Lincoln County, NE
Located 12± miles northeast of North Platte

Parcel #1A

- 1,120.0± total ac - 1,035.2± ac pasture, 84.8± ac pivot irrigated
- Perimeter fenced; cross fenced into 4 pastures
- Sub. well @ Improvement site + 3 solar wells w/ tanks

Parcel #1B

- 640.0± total ac pasture
- Perimeter fenced; 1 solar well & windmill w/ tanks

Combo #1 (Parcels #1A & #1B)

- 1,760.0± total ac - 1,675.2± ac pasture, 84.8± ac pivot irrigated

Parcel #2

- 1,274.6± total ac pasture
- Perimeter fenced; cross fenced into 2 pastures
- 4 windmills w/ tanks

Single Unit (#1A, #1B & #2)

- 3,034.6± total ac - 2,949.8± ac pasture, 84.8± ac pivot + Improvement site; 7 Pastures, 5 wells, 5 windmills & Irr. Well

Scan for more

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