

Looking Back at Years Gone By...

Taken from the pages of the Horton Headlight.
Compiled by Susan Higley

100 Years Ago March 2, 1926

The school report for District 58, Kennebec School includes: enrollment, boys-9, girls-9. Number of absences this month-13; no tardiness this month. Eleven pupils were neither absent nor tardy. They are: Mabel Griggs, Lena Stahl, Roy Stahl, Harold Goodwin, Harold Bronson, Harlan Peabody, Paul Trojovskiy, Madeline Bechtold, Mary Eleanor Kopp, Jane Trojovskiy and Velma Bechtold.

Heard in Passing: Jim Poston: "I made my entire mail route every day except the first day, Thursday, in spite of the blizzard, but it was hard to get through. I drove a pony and cart, and in many places had to get out and lead the pony through the drifts. Also had to take down fences and go through fields. It takes a farmer to get through country roads when they are blocked with snow like there was last week".

School News: The fifth grade students have been studying about Eli Whitney. It was stated by the teacher, that had Eli Whitney lived today, he would probably be a great mechanic. One little girl misunderstood the meaning of mechanic and wrote, "I suppose if Eli lived today, he would have been a brakeman, but in the olden days there were no trains."

The Chamber of Commerce recently appointed to work out some kind of plan for downtown window lighting, made a very complete and comprehensive report at a special meeting on Wednesday in which an individual meter system was recommended. It is expected that practically every downtown store will use the window lighting system and keep the windows brilliantly lighted at night.

Considerable interest has been manifested both by the public and those considering participating in the old time fiddlers' contest to be held in connection with the big special program at the Liberty Theater on Wednesday.

Heard in passing: I came to this vicinity in 1881 from Ohio, but didn't remain. I returned shortly afterward, however, and in 1885 taught school where the Charles Warrensburg home on North Central Avenue now is located. Morris Cahill

Everest News: The rural mail carriers have been obliged to hitch up old dobbin to their old mail carts his week to serve their customers.

March 9, 1926

The opening of the new Horton Library will be next Wednesday afternoon and evening. No books are to be issued on the opening day but the following day the library will be open during regular hours and books may be withdrawn or used for reference.

An ordinance published in this issue of The Headlight provides for a reduction of 10 cents per thousand gallons of water.

High School notes: The physics classes went to the power plant Monday, to study the new diesel engine.

Thelma Conover, Dorothy Loper and Nellie Bradley have received a certificate in elementary typewriting for writing 30 words a minute.

The Catholic high school of Topeka eliminated St. Leo's High school

in the basketball tournament for Catholic schools, the score was 31 to 6. The St. Leo's line up: Lawrence Kletchka and Kelly Haggard, forwards; Walter Winterscheidt, center; John Purcell and Harold Beck, guards; Paul Schuetz and Paul Meerians, substitute guards. Coaches Cecil Myers and Court Haggard, Sr. accompanied the team.

A committee of the Chamber of Commerce will meet with the city commissioners to discuss the window lighting plans. They are hoping to approve the electrical work and a special rate so every store window will be brilliantly lighted each night.

W.A. Pendlebury has quality meats and groceries. 100 pounds of sugar for \$6.00; 48 pounds of Robin's best flour 48 pounds for \$2.50; Red Sock-eye salmon, can for 35 cents; navy beans 3 pounds for 25 cents.

75 Years Ago March 1, 1951

A new utility for Mission Lake visitors will soon be available it was learned with the announcement by the city commissioners of the purchase of the filling station at the southeast corner of 15th Street and Central Avenue from Herbert Leeth. The roof of the filling station will serve as the top of a shelter house to be erected at Hickory Point, south of the caretaker's house. The city paid \$150 for the filling station, with only the roof to be used for the shelter house.

The Veteran's Administration office in Horton, located at 115 East 10th St. will close Friday, March 30th. The office in Horton was established in 1946 to assist veterans residing in northeastern Kansas, has aided thousands of former servicemen and women including Indian Veterans in this area, during the nearly five years it has been in operation.

The Brown County Breeding Association has just received word of what is believed to be the first birth of a calf through the transfer of a fertilized "egg" from one cow to another, the "incubator cow".

Horton's Battery C, 154th Field Artillery Battalion, will have equipment on display at the Liberty Theater this week that is the same shown in combat use in the feature picture, "Breakthrough". It deals with the Normandy Invasion and the historical breakthrough at St. Lo.

March 8, 1951

Horton earned its way easily into the semi-finals of the Class B district basketball tournament at Everest by drubbing Willis 98 to 18 in a quarterfinal game. The score set a modern record for Horton High School, wiping out the mark established earlier this season when the Hornets defeated Troy 93 to 18 at Troy.

Horton's progressive citizens took another forward step in the development of the community Tuesday after a special election with 381 voting for and 167 against the \$15,000 supplemental bonds for the construction of an Armory that can be used for all community purposes.

Mrs. Elizabeth Wilson librarian stated that Tuesday, March 6th will be the 25th anniversary of the official opening of Horton's City Library.

You will find everything you need for gracious living at Battle Home Furnishings, 121 East 8th, Horton.

50 Years Ago March 11, 1976

The historical committee of PRIDE now has a complete microfilm of The entire Headlights published since the first issue 90 years ago. Microfilming of the many volumes was through the courtesy of the State Historical Society, which has bound volumes of all Headlights printed to date.

Victor Fitzpatrick has been secured as manager for the Horton Lakeview Country Club and plans to open the dining room on March 16th.

The Horton girl's basketball team was honored. They are Mona Ramirez, Gail Potter, Judy Uber, Julie Bunck, Lori Lynch, Becky Snyder, Ann Bunck, Linda Becker, Patti Schuetz, Gwen Pederson, Mary Schuetz, Karla Ingwerson, Gennette Soyland, Vicky Clouse, Jana Knudson, and Mary Pope.

March 18, 1976

The Donkey Basketball Game was postponed until April 8th at 6 p.m. The truck hauling the donkeys from Buffalo, Mo. to Horton for the game on March 11th broke down.

Six girls and six boys of the sophomore class were chosen as prom servers by the juniors. They are: Karla Ingwerson, Sara Painter, Susan Richling, Nancy Schmitz, Julie Bunck, Lisa Crouse, Allen Baker, Russell Cowley, Jim Kepple, Brad Monson, John Rebant and David Wenger.

A little bit of humor: "How long have you been driving without a tail-light, buddy?" demanded the policeman. The driver jumped out, ran to the rear of his car, and gave a low moan. His distress was so great that the cop was moved to ease up on him a bit. "Aw, come now," he said, "You don't have to take it so hard. It isn't that serious". "It isn't?" cried the motorist. "What happened to my trailer?"

40 Years Ago March 6, 1986

We're Proud of You Chargers! Horton Girls named DVL Co-Champs and Horton Charger Boys named DVL Champs.

Waldo Pepper's Restaurant is no more...but Tim and Bob Holly are still serving fine food from the same location. The Holly's have renamed their establishment Holly Haus Inn.

On Tuesday, March 4th, friends and co-workers honored Reba Speer, retiring Deputy County Treasurer, with a reception at the Brown County Courthouse.

March 13, 1986

An 11 mile stretch of K-20 in Brown County was closed to through traffic on March 11th, according to the Kansas Department of Transportation. It will be closed about the west city limits of Horton west to U.S. 75 so that three bridges can be replaced. It is planned to have the work completed by the end of the year.

A petition seeking to halt the scheduled April 16th recall election of Horton City Commission Marvin Roberts was filed in Brown County District Court on Friday, March 7th. The petitioners, Roberts himself and Horton Mayor LeRoy Paden name Brown County Clerk and Election officer Darlene Meyers; and recall petition committee members Thelma Ferry-Torres, Nellie Small, and Lila Ross as defendants.

30 Years Ago February 29, 1996

The Jim and Lynn Gormley home in Horton has been buzzing with excitement. Their daughter, Nicole, who is 13, has been taking chemotherapy

for a brain tumor was going to be receiving something she really wanted, a computer. Her wish came true with the help of The Dream Factory.

Highland Community College spirit squad sponsor Vanetta Geiger has announced the names of students who have signed in HCC. Drill Team/Cheerleader letter of intent to participate on spirit squads for the 1996-97 academic year. Signing a letter of intent was Robyn Jeffrey of Effingham. (You may all know her as Robyn Allen, Curriculum Director for USD 430).

March 7, 1996

Six local residents recently visited the Petersen Child Development Center and Religious Education Facility at the Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. The family was dedicated posthumously in August of 1990 for the heroic actions of SP4 Danny J. Petersen, son of Flora and the late Leo Petersen. Mrs. Petersen and Danny's sister and brother attended the dedication.

The Zion Lutheran Church, Everest will have a farewell this Sunday, March 10th for Pastor Stutheit and his family.

Local deaths included: Mildred Hudson, 83, Horton died February 26th; Catherine Myers, 85, Horton, died February 29th; Alice Bourke, 92, Horton, died March 4th and Gena A. Wilson, 96, Everest, died March 4th.

Commissioners meeting—

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made a motion to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Commissioner Pollock. Motion carried. The Public Hearing closed at 1:03 p.m.

RESOLUTION 2026-09
Motion by Commissioner Pollock to adopt Resolution 2026-09 vacating that portion of 240th Street beginning at 670 feet west of the intersection of Hazelnut Road continuing west 1,980.26 feet to the half section line in Brown County, Kansas. Seconded by Commissioner Tesoriero. Motion carried.

COUNTY PERSONNEL / PUBLIC COMMENT

Executive Session
At 2:09 p.m. Commissioner Heinen made a motion to recess into a 5-minute executive session for the purpose of discussing pay and performance of non-elected personnel, to protect the privacy of the employee, with the meeting to be called back to order in the Commissioner's Room at 2:14 p.m. Motion seconded by Commissioner Pollock. Motion carried. County Counselor Austin Parker and County Clerk Nicole Lee remained present. The meeting returned to regular session at 2:14 p.m. with

no action taken.

Solid Waste
Motion by Commissioner Heinen to accept the resignation of Solid Waste Director Don Pounds effective March 16, 2026. Seconded by Commissioner Tesoriero. Motion carried.

GOLDFINCH ROAD

Keith Grimm was present to continue discussions regarding widening approximately a quarter mile of the west side of Goldfinch Road south of 270th Street. County Counselor Austin Parker presented a Road Improvement Contract between Brown County and Precision Farms, LLC granting Precision Farms, LLC permission to widen approximately one-quarter mile of Goldfinch Road south of 270th Street. The project will be completed by county residents, with a possible request to use county equipment and gravel.

Motion by Commissioner Pollock to approve signing the Road Improvement Contract as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Tesoriero. Motion carried.

ONEDIGITAL
OneDigital Benefits Principal Greg Watkins was present via Zoom to discuss the process of the potential Direct Care options with Amberwell Hospital regarding Bukaty Company.

MINUTES 02-27-2026
Motion by Commissioner Tesoriero to approve the February 27, 2026 minutes as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Pollock. Motion carried.

MORATORIUM RESOLUTION
The Commission discussed the recommendation of the Brown County Planning Commission to adopt a resolution establishing an 18-month moratorium related to approval of projects involving data centers, battery energy storage systems, solar energy, chip manufacturing, and crypto currency improvements in Brown County, Kansas, and directing that potential land use regulations for these projects be developed.

Motion by Commissioner Heinen to adopt Resolution 2026-10, issuing a development moratorium related to approval of projects involving data

centers, battery energy storage systems, solar energy, chip manufacturing, and crypto currency improvements in Brown County, Kansas and repealing all conflicting resolutions or portions thereof. Seconded by Commissioner Pollock. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION

County Counselor Austin Parker discussed a resolution incorporating the State of Kansas—List of Applicable Codes for Construction Projects on State Property (Department of Administration, October 2021) as the standard for construction projects performed by contractors and/or professionals within Brown County, Kansas, and repealing all conflicting resolutions or portions thereof.

Motion by Commissioner Tesoriero to adopt Resolution 2026-11 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Heinen. Motion carried. Commissioner Pollock voted nay.

TAX FORECLOSURE SALE

The Commission received information from County Attorney Kevin Hill regarding the County Counselor's statutory responsibilities related to a tax foreclosure sale.

Motion by Commissioner Tesoriero to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Pollock. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

WORK SESSION—MARCH 5, 2026

The Brown County Commissioners convened at 1:00 p.m. on March 5, 2026, at the Brown County Courthouse for a work session with Chairman Heinen, Commissioner Tesoriero and Commissioner Pollock present, along with County Clerk Nicole Lee. Also present was Bill Vonderschmidt. Topics discussed included the current list of open county positions, Resolution 2026-10, Planning Commission member appointment, getting gravel for the landfill property and possibly a camera, evaluation notices and property value appeal process, and an update on the tax foreclosure sale.

No action was taken. The work session adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Muscotah News

By Susan Higley

The snow started falling late afternoon on Sunday after the temperatures took a drop on Sunday morning. Big flakes came down and the wind blew. Don't know how much we will get. The cold temperatures will be hard on the fruit trees that were starting to bud out and some of the flowers.

There was a good turnout for the corn beef & cabbage supper Saturday night. It was so good to see so many out. Outreach will use the proceeds to do some upgrading in the park with painting and purchasing some new playground equipment. Thank you to everyone who came out to support Outreach.

Cancer Support Bingo is this Saturday the 21st from 2 to 4 at the Community Building. Everyone is welcome. It is a great chance to help local cancer patients.



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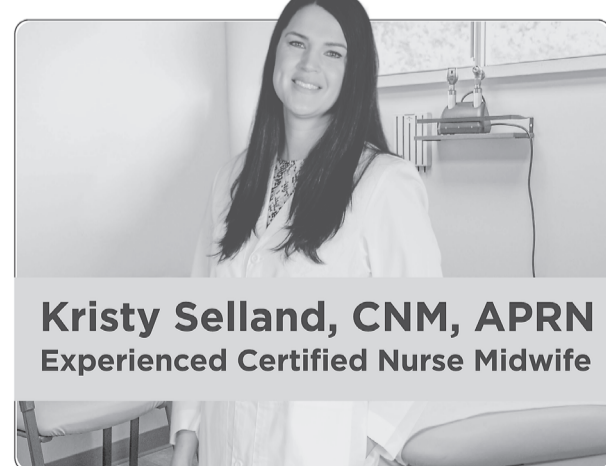


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