



UPCOMING DATES

Courthouse Closed:

- October 12, 2015
- November 11, 2015
- November 26, 2015
- November 27, 2015
- December 24, 2015
- December 25, 2015

INSIDE THIS

- Riding the "Doodlebug:" The Missouri Pacific Railroad 2
- The New NA-Co Discount Card for Harvey County 3
- Calendar 4

Wreath sales support Kurt Ford Explorers

By Melissa Flavin

With only 12 weeks until Christmas, you might have already started thinking about the upcoming holiday season. In fact, some people like to say there are 90 days until Christmas because it seems further away. No matter how you prefer to say it: three months, 12 weeks, or less than 90 days until Christmas, the fact remains the same, it's coming and coming soon! Are you prepared? The Harvey County Kurt Ford Explorers (The Junior Deputy Sheriff program) would like to help you with your holiday preparations.

For the past five years, the Explorers have sold holiday wreaths, sprays, centerpieces and garlands. The Explorers have decided to take orders for these evergreen items again this year as their only fundraiser.

The Explorers are hoping to raise enough money to take a few field trips to further their education about potential careers in various areas of law enforcement.

One field trip they hope to take is to Kansas City to tour the Johnson County Investigations Lab. Another trip would be to Topeka and Hutchinson to tour the men's and women's prisons here in Kansas. The Explorers would like to also view the KBI Lab in Great Bend.

The fresh evergreen products

ship from Minnesota and are delivered the week of Thanksgiving. Since we live in Kansas (and are predicted to have a frigid winter), these products tend to stay fresh into Febru-



ary and even March with little to no care. Each wreath is hand-decorated with a bow, pine cones, and other décor. Should you want sprays for pillars to match the wreath on the door, or to place on the grave of a loved one, we have those too. We even have centerpieces with LED candles for those apartment/dorm dwellers in our lives. There are four styles of wreaths, three styles of sprays, and three styles of centerpieces available. The evergreen products range in price from \$15 to \$40 depending on the style you choose and whether you want it shipped directly to you or hand-delivered by an Ex-

plorer.

We are taking pre-orders until Wednesday, October 29. Depending on how many products we have left after deliveries are made, we might be able to fulfill extra orders in November but it is always recommended to place a pre-order if you know you want a wreath. There is no way to guarantee our extra quantity or the availability of some styles as we sell out fast every year! We even have the option to have evergreen products delivered directly to loved ones in the continental 48 states so you can order one for family or friends in other states and mark them off the Christmas list early this year!

If you have ordered from us in the past, we want to thank you for your support and hope that you will continue to support us with another order this year.

Should you have any questions, or want to place an order, please contact Melissa at the Sheriff's Office by calling 316-284-6960 or emailing her at mflavin@harveycounty.com.

Thanks again and from all of us in the Explorer program, we hope you have a wonderful holiday season.

Riding the “Doodlebug:” The Missouri Pacific Railroad in Harvey County

Kristine Schmucker, Harvey County Historical Museum

“The railroad is a huge part of daily life in Harvey County, from waiting at a crossing to hearing the long whistle.”

The railroad is a huge part of daily life in Harvey County, from waiting at a crossing to hearing the long whistle. The AT&SF Railroad has a strong history in Newton and Harvey County, but it was not the only railroad

to provide much needed connections to the rest of the nation. The Missouri Pacific Railroad also has a long history in Harvey County. The railroad has served as a way to transport goods and people between communities in south central Kansas since before highways and interstates.

In the spring of 1886, the St. Louis, Fort Scott & Wichita Railroad began building a line northwest from El Dorado. By summer, the tracks had reached Newton. The line was completed on November 19, 1886 in McPherson. This 62-mile railroad became a part of the Missouri Pacific Line with stations east of and in El Dorado. Additional stations were located in Butler County at Oil Hill, Hopkins, Potwin, Brainerd, and White-

water. In Harvey County, Annelly, McLain, Newton, Trousdale (later Zimmerdale), and Hesston each had a Missouri Pacific Depot. The McPherson County towns of Moundridge and Elyria were stops, with the line ending in McPherson. In Newton, the depot was located along North Kansas Avenue at East Sixth,



Harvey County Historical Museum & Archives
Newton, KS

haust often “put nasty spots on nearby clothes lines” frustrating those that lived nearby.

In 1924, the updated passenger Train No. 741 went from Newton to McPherson. At McPherson, travelers could board “the Doodlebug,” a Union

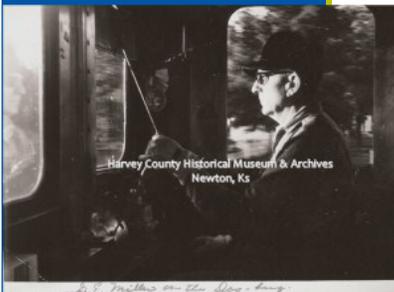
The Missouri Pacific passenger train.

which was about a half a mile east of the Santa Fe Depot on Main Street. A circular wooden water tower was located just north of the depot until the late 1920s. The tower was relocated south of East First due to increased automobile traffic.

The “Mop” (Missouri Pacific) branch passenger train used original equipment through the late 1910s which included a small Brooks steam locomotive with a high smokestack, a single combination U.S. Mail and baggage car and one passenger coach. In the cab of the locomotive, the engineer and the fireman could barely see each other over the boiler head. The switch to a diesel engine was made in the late 1940s. The cars were made of wood and of the “open vestibule variety” and passengers had to “hang on for dear life” when the train was moving. The “Mop” freight locomotive usually had low steam pressure at the stop in Newton. As a result, the wet ex-

Pacific branch McKeen gasoline powered rail car, and continue to Lindsborg, Assaria and Salina. At the time, this was the most efficient way to travel from Newton to Salina. The “Doodlebug” left Newton daily at 10:23 and arrived in McPherson at 11:35 in the morning. In the afternoon, the return trip started at 1:50 and arrived in Newton at 3:09.

The Missouri Pacific passenger train continued to operate into the 1930s. With improved highways and the increased use of cars, passenger service on the Doodlebug became obsolete. By the 1950s, the route was “freight only.” Since then, the “modest railroad segment” has been an important mover of crude oil, grain, flour, lumber and other commodities for the businesses in the communities along the route. The Missouri Pacific officially merged with the Union Pacific Railroad on January 1, 1997.



Harvey County Historical Museum & Archives
Newton, KS

Missouri Pacific Train Engineer



Harvey County Historical Museum & Archives
Newton, KS

Hesston Train Depot 1900

The New NACo Discount Card for Harvey County

The NACo prescription discount card is provided to you in a joint effort of our county government and the National Association of Counties (NACo). Any county resident without prescription coverage can use this program. Even if you have prescription insurance coverage, you may still benefit from the discount card since it may save you money on prescriptions your existing plan does not cover.

On top of this prescription discount card, NACo is incorporating health and dental discounts within this card to all county residents now as well. NACo health and dental discount programs helps people on their path to better health and it starts with helping individuals and families gain access to affordable health care from local providers.

Under the health discounts, NACo provides discounts for vision, diabetic supplies, prepaid lab, LASIK, hearing, and prepaid diagnostic imaging. With vision, members can receive 35% off normal retail prices for frames (with complete pair purchases) and 20% off lenses and lens add-ons at participating retailers like Lens Crafters, Nationwide Vision, Pearle Vision, and many other independent vision provid-

ers.

With the dental savings, NACo members enjoy immediate access to dental providers with no waiting periods or forms to fill out. The member will save on average between 15%-50% on most dental procedures from a national network of general



dentists and specialists.

Other savings include competitive prices on prescription and over the counter diabetic supplies such as syringes, needles, lancets, monitors, glucose test strips, and more. Members also get access to physician approved lab testing services including allergy tests, nutrition tests, autoimmune tests, cancer screening, and detection tests, cardiac and detections tests, diabetes tests, and drug tests. Lastly, members can receive a free hearing evaluation and can save 35% off hearing aid prices. Members also receive 3 years of free batteries with hearing aid purchase and free ear molds.

Now this program is not insurance, it is a discount program. The prescription part of the NACo card is free for anyone to

use. The health and dental part of the card does have a monthly fee which is very reasonable. For the dental only, an individual would have a price of \$6.95 a month, or \$69.00 a year. For a family it would cost \$8.95 a month, or \$79.00 a year. The same prices would apply for just the health part of the program.

For both health and dental discounts, prices change for the individual to \$13.90 a month or \$138.00 a year. For the entire family it would be \$17.90 a month, or \$158.00 a year.

Again this is not insurance, it is a discount program, but the savings it gives its members are enormous. If you would like more information about the program, please see Lynnette Redington at the Harvey County Health Department or Kathy Espana in the Administration Office. They can help you with questions, enrolling, or even provide you with the discount card for immediate prescription savings.

Cards are set up at Newton Medical Center, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Health Department, Health Ministries, and the Harvey County Court House. More locations are soon to come.

One neat fact about the NACo discount card: pet prescriptions are discounted as well through the prescription discount card.

October

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5 Commission Meeting	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Courthouse Closed	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Commission Meeting	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Commission Meeting	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween

November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Commission Meeting	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Commission Meeting	10	11 Courthouse Closed	12	13	14
15	16 Commission Meeting	17 Health Department Blood Drive. Court- house Community Room	18	19	20	21
22	23 Commission Meeting	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Courthouse Closed	27 Courthouse Closed	28
29	30 Commission Meeting					

December

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Commission Meeting	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Commission Meeting	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Commission Meeting	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Courthouse Closed	25 Christmas Courthouse Closed	26
27	28 Commission Meeting	29	30	31		