

Compiled from newspaper files

## 15 YEARS AGO

APRIL 7, 2010

Marion voters on Tuesday re-elected Mary Olson to another term as mayor.

Mary Beth Bowers of Marion uses home-grown wheat to mill flour and produce whole-wheat loaves of bread. As a field representative for Kansas Wheat Commission, she gives presentations on wheat to students and other groups in Marion County.

An article by Susan Berg tells how Rodney Williams of Florence loves vintage automobiles and spends many hours turning abandoned rust buckets into beautiful vintage automobiles.

Marion County Record columnist Norma Hannaford will celebrate her 106th birthday Saturday. She is pictured in a five-generation photo with great-great-grandson Luke Kerns, taken in August 2008.

Marion Elementary School students of the month for March are Megan Bailey, Elijah Catlin, Jade Corona, Heidi Grimmitt, Emily Hague, James Jantz, Samantha Kelsey, Cameron Kimbrough, Taylor May, Grace Overton, Jared Rahe, Jonathan Spachek, Samantha Richmond, Zane Westmorland, and Courtney Williams.

## 30 YEARS AGO

APRIL 12, 1995

When Marion City Commission met Monday with Jack Regnier presiding, it marked the first time in six years that

Gerry Harris hadn't been at the helm of Marion city government. In fact, it marked the first time in 18 years that he hadn't held an elective office in Marion.

Eickleberry Excavating crews are pictured as they pour curb and gutter Friday on Welch St. alongside Our Savior Lutheran Church. The block of Welch by the church is not paved but will be as part of the city's long-range plan for street improvements.

A proposal to offer boys' baseball and girls' softball each spring topped a long agenda Monday at a meeting of the board of education in Marion.

Administrators said they were waiting to hear from another group of parents and students wanting to add wrestling as a winter sport.

Florence Middle School students Sarah Crofoot and Carrie Darrow gained valuable experience April 7 when they served as pages for State Senator Don Steffes. They are pictured with Steffes and Governor Bill Graves in the governor's office.

Andy Methvin, a freshman at Centre High School, has qualified for a state History Day competition May 6 in Abilene.

## 45 YEARS AGO

APRIL 9, 1980

Mayor Peggy Blackman started her second three-year term Monday afternoon by making routine appointments. She named Joan Bowers city clerk for a two-year term. Bowers replaces Lucille Britain, who

had been city clerk for more than eight two-year terms.

Bob Brookens, Marion attorney, filed this week on the Republican ticket for county attorney. Brookens has been practicing law in Marion since July, 1978.

Chosen as participants in this week's Personality Profile are Robert and Hattie Laughridge of Cedar Point. Both lead busy lives with a lot of service to the community.

Pictured is Governor John Carlin as he welcomes State Senator John Crofoot and his pages, Mickey Costello, Loreen and Loraine Wiens, and Ramona Zeller, on Thursday at the Capitol in Topeka.

Honored in the Florence Women's Christian Temperance Union essay contest, "Why I Would Not Use Drugs," are sixth graders Kelley Enos, first place; Michelle Thole, second; and Laura Fisher, third. Winners in seventh and eighth grades are David Hanson, first; Rochelle Mueller, second; and Brenda Silhan, third.

## 60 YEARS AGO

APRIL 8, 1965

Final details of a major Marion business transaction were completed this week. Gound Motor Co., the Ford and Mercury dealership owned by S.W. Gound, has been sold to J.B. Noll of Florence and Gerry Harris of Wichita.

The three top finishers in the annual Marion County spelling bee Thursday in Marion were Sharon Loewen of Hillsboro, first; Nancy Smith of Lincolnville, second; and Bryce Ollenberger of Marion, third.

Construction was started

this week on an addition to the Marion County Record building in Marion. The new 60-by-30-foot building is being built west of the present building and will be joined to it.

Tabor College faculty and students celebrated on April 1 full accreditation of the college by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

"Jack and the Beanstalk" is this year's elementary school operetta. Sixth graders playing leading roles are Shelley Batt, Mike Bredemeier, Brad Case, George Coe, Roanne Keller, Doug Kelsey, Dennis Kraus, Janet Lawrence, and Denise Wiens.

## 75 YEARS AGO

APRIL 6, 1950

Ben Meier, Marion restaurant operator for the past 20 years, was elected mayor Tuesday defeating present mayor Albert A. Williams, 357-259.

The Marion school board approved plans for a new gymnasium as presented Monday by the Iola architectural firm of Brink, Dunwoody and Cooper. The schools will advertise for bids May 15.

Mr. and Mrs. George King this week announce the opening of their new restaurant at Marion County Park and Lake. Under the name Kingfisher's Inn, this attractive eating place will have its formal opening April 7.

Donna Powell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L.A. Powell, and Coleen Vogel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Karl Vogel, were among 18 women who graduated April 1 from Research Hos-

pital School of Nursing, Kansas City.

Elsie Neufeld and her two kindergarten classes visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ruben Winter and family Wednesday to see their white rabbits. The Winters have about 70 rabbits, including about 40 young ones. Mrs. Winter gave each child a rabbit and a chicken cookie as favors.

## 110 YEARS AGO

APRIL 8, 1915

Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Yeagley of Route 1 are the parents of a daughter, born April 2.

On next Tuesday evening, April 13, at the Presbyterian Church, there will be given by the girls' class of the federated Sunday school a "clothespin doll" social. Every girl must bring two clothespin dolls dressed exactly alike, and every boy must bring a well-filled pocketbook. Everyone is cordially invited.

A tennis club has been formed, and grounds will be fitted up just north of the baseball grounds.

Wallace Magathan has been appointed to a position in the government teaching force in the Philippines and expects to sail from San Francisco in a short time. Marion has not sent out a finer young man than Wallace Magathan.

J.S. Brooks went to Texas on one of the home-seeker excursions Tuesday to look at the country. He is a first-rate preacher who can overcome the self-consciousness of his audience on Easter morning and lift their thoughts high above their neighbor's Easter bonnet.

Mrs. Flueler, who has been

with her daughter, Minnie Flueler, one of the mumps victims, since last Friday, returned yesterday to Chase County. She expected to stop at Cedar Point for a visit with her daughter, Mrs. John McLinden. The McLindens are the parents of a boy born last week.

## 145 YEARS AGO

APRIL 9, 1880

W.G. Bates is modest, and he calls his establishment the Peanut Stand, from which he handled about \$9,000 worth of goods during the year ending April 1. Not bad, we think. May you double your business this year, friend Will.

Work is progressing on a sugar and sorghum factory. A large, two-story building is to be erected and supplied with a 25-horsepower engine and necessary machinery for manufacture of sugar and molasses.

We neglected to call attention to J.H. Costello's changed advertisement last week. "Jack," as his friends call him, is one of the old pioneers and "holds the fort" with characteristic tenacity. He carries a large stock and drives a good trade.

H. von Langen is accumulating material for his new German paper. He cannot say definitely when he will issue it, but it will be soon.

Woodpeckers are attacking and damaging the new cupola on the Presbyterian Church to such an extent that Mr. Case is offering 10 cents apiece for red-headed predators killed there. Gunsmen must be careful, however, not to do the building more harm than the birds.

# Hearing will consider changes in wind farm rules

By PHYLLIS ZORN  
Staff writer

Proposed amendments to the county's wind farm overlay regulations will be discussed at a public hearing May 22.

Commissioner Clarke Dirks gave the amendments to commissioners and planning director Sharon Omstead March 24.

He contends they would safeguard residents and natural resources.

Under his proposals, a project's boundary would be all properties leased by the wind farm for any purpose associated with the project.

After submitted, the boundary could not be modified.

Dirks wants no turbines within:

- 1,320 feet of each other or a public right of way;
- 1,760 feet of a participating residential structures including garages;
- 2,750 feet of a non-participating residential structure;
- 1,760 feet of a non-participating property line;
- 1,320 feet of a designated wetland;
- 15,840 feet of city limits, public parks, public hunting areas, churches, schools, airports, or cemeteries.

A residential structure would include a garage and secondary residential structures.

Turbine access roads would be agreed in writing between the wind farm owner and landowner, be low profile, and not interfere with runoff.

Aircraft detection lighting systems would have to be approved before the wind farm plan is submitted for a conditional use permit.

At the end of turbines' useful life, equipment would have to be removed and disposed at a licensed facility.

## Planners send answers to commissioners

County planning commission members provided answers Thursday to questions county commissioners asked them last fall to investigate.

The questions came in response to reports that an expanded wind farm might be located in Menno, Liberty, East Branch, and West Branch townships.

In answer to one question, planners found that population density in three of the townships was similar to that in other townships that already have wind farms, but that the population of

West Branch township is more dense than most other townships.

The planners' study results show that of the four townships where Sunflower Wind hopes to expand, West Branch Township has 968 residents and a population density of 18 to 31 people per square mile, making it one of the county's two highest-density townships.

Liberty Township has 322 residents and a population density of seven to 17.9 people per square mile, Menno Township has 313 residents and a population density of seven to 17.9 peo-

ple per square mile, and East Branch Township has 202 residents and a population density of four to 6.9 people per square mile.

Planners also reported that Harvey County prohibits large wind and solar projects in its unincorporated areas. The county permits limited solar installation under specific conditions.

McPherson County has banned commercial scale solar and wind projects in unincorporated areas.

Saline County allows both wind and solar facilities.

In Dickinson County, planners rec-

ommended a two-year moratorium on solar projects to study benefits and drawbacks and develop appropriate regulation.

Planning consultant Russ Ewy told planners he saw a trend across the state to question renewable energy.

Wind turbines have less impact on groundwater than do solar farms, he said.

"Solar, if there is an event, they have more groundwater contamination," he said. "From a contamination standpoint, solar is more problematic."

Tower foundations would have to be removed to a depth of at least four feet, and the foundation site would have to be restored.

Roads could be left intact if the landowner requests.

Decommissioning would be at the wind farm's expense.

A plan to mitigate visual impacts would have to be submitted with the conditional-use application.

A third-party review of potential impacts on wetlands, stream corridors, native prairie, historical or cultural sites, and historical trail corridors would be needed before construction.

A plan to replace prairie destroyed by installation also would have to be approved before submitting a conditional-use permit.

Overview of existing environmental conditions also would have to be documented for county and state and federal wildlife agencies.

Included would be monitoring of seasonal bats and migratory birds, non-crop vegetation, threatened and endan-

gered species, and sites of conservation significance.

Flood plain development permits would have to be obtained before applying for a construction permit.

Noise from the wind farm would not be allowed to exceed 45 decibels (the sound level of a quiet office or library) at residential structures.

A wind farm would have to submit a development plan including boundaries, a certificate of Federal Aviation Administration approval for an aircraft detecting light system with a plan from its manufacturer, agreements for roads, a payment in lieu of taxes agreement to cover 50% of all waived taxes, and monitoring and decommissioning agreements.

After a conditional use permit was approved, the company would have a year to apply for a construction permit and a year after its approval to begin construction.

Plan requirements would include the total number of turbines, their specifications and approximate locations; locations and descriptions of ancillary equipment; and pre-approved road agreements including roads to be used for any aspect of the project.

Wind farms would be responsible for needed upgrades and damage to roads, rights-of-way, and utilities.

Shedding from turbine blades of Bispenaol A, a chemical used to coat the inside of blades, would have to be made.

The chemical could affect behavior, brain and prostate glands of fetuses, infants, and children.

A decommissioning agreement would have to include standards and complete cost estimates for removal and restoration with secured funding.

Dirks also wants no turbine blades to be cut up onsite without containment and removal of dust and debris.

And he wants fines and / or revocation of the conditional use permit if a company fails to comply.

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