

Lincoln - Past, Present & Future

by Cindy Entriken

Two weeks ago I attended a conference organized by the Kansas Sampler Foundation. The focus of the conference was preserving and enhancing the culture of small rural communities.

Two issues discussed repeatedly were the importance of preserving the history of communities and also the value of storytelling, two of my passions!

Those discussions have spurred me to undertake a project I've been thinking about for some time -- recording stories of the history of Lincoln County.

I confess I don't have this all thought out yet. My spouse, who is the techno-expert, suggested I put the interviews on the internet. He's also suggested I use my iPhone to do the recordings. I already have software that allows me to make transcripts of recordings. I could provide written transcripts - complete with the title of the recording and the date it was posted on the internet - to all the museums in Lincoln County - if that would be useful.

One of the stories I wanted to include in the book, Ila's War, was about my great grandfather and the other four Lincoln men who were all poisoned and crippled at a party in Lincoln in 1930.

I wanted to tell the whole story which meant I needed to know where my great grandfather, Ira Armsbury, got the Jamaica Ginger that poisoned him and crippled him from the chest down?

I also wanted to know the names of the other four men who were poisoned at the same time. But by the summer of 2009 everyone in my family who might have known the answers was dead.

I asked a few Lincoln folks and they suggested that Ernie Liggett from Lincoln might be able to answer my questions. I met with Mr. Liggett at his home on E. Lincoln Ave. where he told me that Mr. Freverly, owner of Freverly's Rexall Drug Store, sold Jamaica Ginger out of the back door of the store. However, Mr. Liggett didn't know the names of the other four

men. In a last ditch effort, I decided to query the men who frequented the "community" table at the Hungry Hunter restaurant in Lincoln.

Many readers will recall that the Hungry Hunter had a large round table and chairs -- a "community" table -- located back towards the kitchen. Throughout the day, especially mid-morning until just after lunch, it was common to see middle-aged and older men sitting around the table, drinking coffee and visiting.

I went in just before lunch time one July day in 2009 and saw six men sitting at the community table, engaged in spirited conversation. I didn't know anyone at the table, but I was pretty sure they were all older than I - I was 58 at that time. (I'm much older now!) I tried to appear inconspicuous as I eavesdropped on the conversations at the table. I didn't want to interrupt something important, but after a minute of listening to talk about the weather, I decided to introduce myself.

"Excuse me" -- long pause as everyone stopped talking and looked at me.

"My name is Cindy Entriken. I live in Wichita but I grew up here, and I'm back doing some research about family history. I wonder if any of you might have known my great grandfather, Ira Armsbury?"

An elderly gentleman holding a cane and sitting to my right looked up at me and said, "Ooh, sure. Ira Armsbury, I knew 'im." A couple of other men also nodded their heads in agreement.

I said, "You know Grandpa was crippled, and I'm doing research to find out more about

what happened. The story in my family was that Grandpa and a group of guys drank poisoned Jamaica Ginger at a party at Porky Zink's house. Do you know about that?"

"Ooh, sure! Group 'o guys. . . a group 'o guys. Yeeeahh, I remember hearing about that," again from the elderly gentleman on my right. Other heads nodded in agreement. Now we were getting somewhere and I was

excited.

"Do you know who else, besides my great grandfather was at that party?"

Conversation exploded as the men began throwing out names to each other and saying things like "was it old \_\_\_\_\_?"

"Nah, it was \_\_\_\_\_."

Finally they came to a consensus and began naming names: my great grandfather, Ira, S. C. Page, Fred Noon, Mr. Olson, Fred White, Herman Zier, and Earl (Porky) Zink, owner of a bakery and grocery store in Lincoln.

"WOW! This is grrreat! What happened to all these guys?"

The conversation resumed and grew louder as they jogged each other's memories.

"Now let's see. S. C. Page - you know him - he owned Page Motor Company - he walked with canes."

"Yep, yep that's right."

"And, 'member, old Herman Zier, he kept walking around and around. Said if he didn't stop walking, he wouldn't get crippled."

"Yep, yep, I 'member that, too . And he wasn't as bad as the rest."

"No, no, he wasn't."

"Musta worked."

After consulting each other, the group agreed that of the seven men at the party, the five who developed Jake Leg were Ira, S. C. Page, Fred Noon, Mr. Olson, and Fred White. They concluded that Ira was the worst of the group - he walked with crutches most of the time. Mr. Olson, Mr. Page, and Mr. White used canes but there was no consensus about what Mr. Noon used to assist him in walking. And they were all certain that none of the men died nor had anyone gone blind.

It's stories like this one that I want to record and preserve -- stories about the people, places, and events in Lincoln County's past. But I need the help of current and former Lincoln County residents who are willing to be recorded as they tell me their stories.

If you'd like to participate, please email me at cindyentriken@yahoo.com or call me at 316-258-6528.

Please. Help me preserve Lincoln's history for future generations.

Call for community action

Dear community member,

To provide additional space for visiting specialty providers, the Lincoln County Hospital board of trustees has entered into a lease agreement for the renovated building located at 127 W Lincoln Avenue.

Lincoln County Hospital is very excited for the opportunity to bring a wide range of specialty providers to Lincoln and expand locally available health services to our community. In order to prepare the building for specialist providers, we will need to furnish the space and install signage.

We will be applying for a grant from the Community Service Tax Credit Program (CSP). This grant provides an opportunity for public health entities to improve their ability to undertake capital campaigns.

We could use your help to become successful in being awarded the grant. This is a very competitive grant that is scored based on a number of items which include having letters of support and/or non-binding pledge

letters from businesses or individuals in the community.

The first step for us to be successful in our application process is to submit our application along with copies of non-binding pledge letters and letters of support. Our application and copies of the letters must be submitted by April 30th of 2025.

If we are successful in being awarded the grant, any contribution that we receive towards the project, up to the amount of credits awarded by the State, can be used by you to receive a 70% state income tax credit. For example: A \$1,000 donation = \$1,000 for the project and \$700 in state income tax credit for the donor. Pledges must be \$250 or greater to be eligible for the tax credit, but any pledge amount will help us meet our budget goal and help improve local access to specialty providers for the entire community. You may also qualify for a federal income tax reduction depending on your personal circumstances. We recommend you

check with your tax preparer.

If you are able to help us with either a letter of support, a letter of pledge or both, we would certainly appreciate your assistance. The more letters and non-binding pledges that we can submit, the better the chance of us being successful in obtaining the grant and bringing specialty services to the community. Please email tseitiz@lchospital.net or mail your letter to my attention at PO Box 406, Lincoln, KS 67455 so that I can include it with the application. Additional information on the Community Service Tax Credit Program can be found on our website lincolncountyhospital.net under "donations". There you will find more information on the program along with a sample non-binding pledge letter that you can download. Letters of support will need to be in your own words.

Thank you for your consideration! Sincerely, Tawnya Tawnya Seitz, CEO/CFO

Commission Meeting Minutes

March 24, 2025

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in the courthouse commission meeting on Monday, March 24, 2025. Chairman Debora Smith called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with Vice-Chairman Leon Hart and Member Kenny Meitler present. County Clerk Dawn Harlow was in attendance as recording secretary.

Others present for portions of the meeting: Dennis Ray, Roberta Turner, Devon Schoen, Darren Ammon, Jared Heinze, Dalton Wirth, Dustin Florence, Jesse Knight, Char Chase, Larry Barr, Marc Lovin, Tami Kerth, Dale Hlad, Felicia Strahm, Scott Wright, Randy Lohmann, and Truette McQueen.

Correspondence: mid-month accounts payable; tax abatement; a letter of interest from Damon Vonada to serve on the Lincoln County Repeater Board; a public notice from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment concerning a Kansas Water Pollution Control Permit application; a bid from Roof Master to repair and or

replace the fascia and soffit at Lincoln Park Manor.

Debora Smith moved to appoint Damon Vonada to fill the vacancy on the repeater board, seconded by Kenny Meitler. Motion carried. Debora Smith moved to approve tax abatement 2025-21 in the amount of \$17,08, seconded by Leon Hart. Motion carried. Debora Smith moved to approve midmonth accounts payable in the amount of \$146,815.41, seconded by Kenny Meitler. Motion carried.

Transportation Bus Director Roberta Turner provided an update on department activities. Flyers will be sent home with grade school students aged 10 and over, notifying parents of services offered.

Emergency Manager Jesse Knight presented a proposed Control Burn resolution that provides requirements for landowners wanting to conduct controlled burns. Knight provided the following documents for the board to review: a summary of implementing a burn resolution, a briefing document for

controlled burn resolution alignment and justification, a comparative analysis of the burn resolution with surrounding counties, and a recommendation to implement a permit system. Sylvan Grove Rural Fire District Fire Chief Marc Lovin, on behalf of the fire chiefs present, requested that the board consider approving new fire regulations. Lovin discussed why current regulations need to be changed and discussed key aspects of why they are recommending that the board approve a new resolution for controlled burns. The board will review the recommendations with County Attorney Scott Wright before deciding.

The board reviewed the bid received to repair the soffit and fascia for the nursing home.

Public Works Director Dale Hlad provided the estimated cost to replace OS 65, with the county share expected to be approximately \$673,000, and inquired if the board would like to apply for grant funds. The group discussed whether funds could be saved in time to

pay the county's obligations if the grant application was approved. The board approved applying for the grant funds. Commissioner Smith forwarded positive comments received regarding the looks of the landfill/transfer station to Public Works Director Dale Hlad. HR Officer Felicia Strahm requested an executive session. Debora Smith moved to recess into executive session for fifteen minutes for the purpose of discussing applicants for public works, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(2)(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel, with the board, HR Felicia Strahm, and Public Works Director Dale Hlad, seconded by Leon Hart. Motion carried. Time in: 10:30 a.m. Time out: 10:45 a.m.

The chairman reconvened the meeting to regular session at 10:45 a.m. with no action taken.

Debora Smith moved to recess into executive session for five minutes for the purpose of discussing public works applicants, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-  
**See "COMMISSION" page 6**



**CKMHC**  
CENTRAL KANSAS MENTAL HEALTH CENTER

**Salina**  
809 Elmhurst Blvd  
(Main Office)

**Abilene**  
420 NE 10th St

**Ellsworth**  
1602 Aylward Ave

**Lincoln**  
114 W Court St

**Minneapolis**  
817 A Argyle Ave

**CKMHC Crisis Services Available 24/7**  
**785-823-6322 or 800-794-8281**

**Help whenever you need it.**

**988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline**  
If you or someone you know needs support now  
**Call or text 988**  
**Chat: 988lifeline.org**

**Crisis Text Line**  
Serves anyone, in any type of crisis.  
**Text "HOME" to 741741**  
**Chat: crisistextline.org**  
**or connect on WhatsApp**

**Farm Aid Hotline**  
(English or Español)  
If you or a loved one in the farming/ag community is struggling please reach out  
**Call: 1-800-327-6243**  
**or call/text 988**

**The Trevor Project**  
Crisis Support Services for LGBTQ youth in need.  
**Text "START" to 678678**

**Veterans Crisis Line**  
A free, confidential resource for all service members.  
**Call 988**  
**and press 1**

**National Domestic Violence Hotline**  
**Text "START" to 88788**  
**Chat: thehotline.org**  
**Call: 1-800-799-7233 (SAFE)**

## Farmers & Ranchers Livestock Commission Co.

**Total for the Week - Cattle - 3,873**  
**Bulls - \$200.00 - \$208.00 Cows - \$155.00 - \$164.00**

Strs		Hfrs	
300-400	\$475.00-485.00	300-400	\$460.00-470.00
400-500	\$461.00-472.00	400-500	\$390.00-400.00
500-600	\$390.00-400.00	500-600	\$346.00-357.00
600-700	\$350.00-360.50	600-700	\$311.00-320.50
700-800	\$301.00-312.00	700-800	\$273.00-282.00
800-900	\$279.00-289.50	800-900	\$254.00-265.00
900-1000	\$260.00-270.00	900-1000	\$231.00-243.50

**Early Consignments**  
**Thursday, April 17th - 10 a.m start time**  
125 s&h, 350-500, wean 45 days, 2 round vacc; 125 blk/charX s&h, 650-850, long wean, 2 round vacc, running out; 80 mix s&h, 400-500, home raise, 2 round vacc, MushRush sire, fancy; 45 blk/red s&h, 600-800, home raise, long wean, 2 round vacc, open, no implants; 37 mostly blk s&h, 400-600, off cow, vacc; 70 blk/bwf s&h, 500-600, home raise, wean 45 days, vacc; 220 s&h (mostly strs), 625#s, long wean, 2 round vacc, knife cut, Rippe sired; 44 strs, 475-550, wean 30 days, vacc/worked; 90 blk/charX s&h, 400-600, wean 40 days, 2 round vacc; 38 s&h, 600#s, home raise, wean March1, vacc; 45 blk/char hfrs, 550-650, home riase, long wean, hay fed, Green Garden/ Bar S sired; 5 blk s&h, 375-450, 2 round vacc; 36 char/red ang.X s&h, 450-500, home raise, off cow, 1 round vacc; 20 blk hfrs, 400-500, long wean, bunk broke; 62 strs, 850-875, no sort; 140 s&h, 400-600, home raise, Dec. vacc; 65 mostly blk strs, 850-875, home raise or Northern origin, no sort; 65 s&h, 500-700, Dec. vacc; plus more by sale time.  
**Early Consignments Special Cow Sale**  
**Tuesday, May 6th - 11 a.m start time**  
**• Bulls:** 16 - 18month old, red angus bulls, semen & trich checked; 1 - 15month old angus bull, Gardiner genetics, semen checked, virgin, EPD's available; plus more by sale time.  
**• Replacement Heifers:** 50 angus hfrs, 750#s, calfhood vacc, pelvic checked; plus more by sale time.  
**• Bred Heifers:** 20 bred hfrs, bred angus; plus more by sale time.  
**• Heifer Pairs:** 10+10 red angus/simX hfr pairs, vacc, ready for grass; 10+10 blk/red hfr pairs; pus more by sale time.  
**• Cows/Cow Pairs:** 15 mostly blk, 3-5 years, heavy bred, bred Balancer; 10+10 young pairs, red angus/simX, vacc, ready for grass; 40 red angus cows, 4-5 years, fall bred, (just weaned calves); 3+3 young pairs; 10 bred cows, 6-8 years, fall bred, bred sim/angus; 10+10 running age red pairs; plus more by sale time.  
**Special Cow Sales**  
**Tuesday May 6, 2025**  
**In Stock Today** For a complete list of cattle for all sales check out our website at: [www.fandrive.com](http://www.fandrive.com)  
**Sales Manager, Mike Samples**  
**Office: 785-825-0211 Cell: 785-826-7884**  
**Salina, Kansas**  
**Listen to our markets on KSAL, Salina at 6:45 a.m. Mon. thru Fri.**  
**For more information or to consign cattle call sale barn or:**  
**Fieldman Representatives:**  
**Kenny Briscoe • Lincoln, KS • 785-658-7386**  
**Lisa Long • Ellsworth, KS • 620-553-2351**  
**Cody Schafer • 620-381-1050**  
**Auctioneers:**  
**Kyle Elwood, Brandon Hamel, and Garren Walrod**

Got a great local story?  
email: [lincolnksnews@gmail.com](mailto:lincolnksnews@gmail.com)