Gascapades

By Shila Moore

• The first year's time has expired or is about to expire, on the leases in Hugoton's gas field and we are told that every lease is being paid out as the time expires.

• While there has been a lot of grief encountered in the drilling, the owners of the leases show no signs of wavering and now that the election is over, it is expected that the work of drilling will start again on each block and rapidly pushed to completion.

• Drilling an oil or gas well is a much bigger job that the average person really thinks about and it requires an ordinary fortune to complete one.

• New men are looking over our field and some are looking for desirable acreage for drilling and while nothing definite has been done, it is expected that other wells will start at no far distant date. *(The Hugoton Hermes, Nov. 9, 1928)*

• The derrick at Grandy No. 1, (the south well) will be skidded and a new hole started.

• Mr. Sidwell, who has the drilling contract on this well, has had a lot of bad luck. The quick sand gave a lot of trouble and then when they had gone through that and had the casing set and had started to go deeper, the quicksand broke through, caught the drill in the hole where it will probably always remain. For more than two months they fished for the bit and succeeded only in getting another bit fast in the same hole. The hole has been abandoned and the rig skidded to a new location and the work started anew. It has been an expensive proposition but nevertheless the work is going ahead and the well will be drilled. Work will begin just as soon as the roads get so the men can get on the ground to move the rig.

• Work has resumed on Ham No.1 Wednesday, after a several weeks shut-down. The casing in this well is set below the 1300 foot mark and there is about 150 feet of open hole below the casing. The hole will be cleaned, some underreaming done and the 10 inch casing lowered before the work of actual drilling begins. It seems good to see the drillers back on the job again and before long this well will be drilling down where there is likely to be gas.

• Mr. McKnab, owner of this well, expected to be here this week but on account of the high water at his home town, Winfield, he has been detained there but he informed the men he would be here as soon as possible.

• Prospects look favorable to the starting of another test on the Sealey land 22 miles east of Hugoton, in the near future. A proposition has been made by C. M. Coleman and Sol M. Edgerton of Wichita, and the Seward Oil and Gas company has signed its part of the contract which will be effective as soon as Coleman and Edgerton sign.

• According to the contract the Seward Oil and Gas company will deliver its leases on the Sealey quarter, located in the northeast of section 20-33-33, on which is located a 2,000,000 foot gas well drilling the the Seward County Oil and Gas company several years ago. *(The Hugoton Hermes, Nov. 23, 1928)*

• C. T. Parker of this city has the distinction of using the first gasoline from the Hugoton field in his automobile. There has been considerable gasoline wasted at Crawford No.1, as it is 'blown off' every day to keep the gasoline from going into the city mains. Monday Mr. Parker and Mr. Cuningham went to the well and caught several quarts of gasoline and put it in the Parker car. It was mixed with other gasoline as it is too high a test to be used alone.

• Mr. Cunningham, who is manager of the local gas company, says that the gasoline from the gas now used in Hugoton will amount to from 30-50 gallons a day if it could be saved. Casing-head gas is very high test, is very explosive and evaporates very rapidly and can only be handled in sealed containers. It tests 76, while ordinary gasoline tests 52.

• The Crawford well is the largest gas well in this part of the state and the only one which is showing pure casing-head gas at this time. It is attracting attention of oil men throughout the oil field and many believe that if the well was allowed to 'blow' that it would 'blow in' an 'oiler. *(The Hugoton Hermes, Dec. 7, 1928)*

• Below is the first of hopefully many stories of those people who worked in the gas and oil industry. This story is submitted by Gina Spikes, daughter of Ed Cole. Ed represents one of thousands of people who worked in the gas and oil industry the last 100 years. The pioneers started it all, but those who came after had to keep things running. Thank you to all! Please email me your stories and photos of the people of the gas and oil field. *shilamoore007@gmail.com*



Ed Cole worked in the gas industry for 53 years

• Edward S. "Ed" Cole, born in Helena, Ok. in 1935, moved to Syracuse where he began his career in the gas industry in 1952. He painted meters after school and on weekends for Plateau Natural Gas Company. After graduating from Syracuse High School, he worked full time, his work taking him to live in Holly and Limon, Co, then back to Kansas to Goodland then Dodge City. Plateau changed to Peoples Natural Gas. Ed worked the operational side by moving field gas through gathering lines, processing, and distribution so it reached customers reliably. In 1976 he was transferred to Hugoton. Peoples changed to Utiliticorp, and Ed became general manager. UltiliCorp (later Aquila) purchased and resold Hugoton-area gas as part of its Kansas and Missouri service territory. His last two years in Hugoton, he drove back and forth to Kansas City every weekend to work. When he retired in 1999, he was regional manager, then he became a consultant, having worked in the gas industry for 53 years. Ed passed away in 2015 in Lubbock, Tx. He and his wife Janice had six children.

HOMES FOR SALE
601 West City Limits-acreage, 306 S Lincoln
1102 S Jefferson, 1107 S Jefferson, 1109 S Jefferson
2353 Road Q-acreage, 2655 Blvd L, Rolla-acreage
1155 Road 25, Rolla-acreage, 804 Adams, Rolla
PENDING
601 Madison, Rolla
902 S Harrison, 954 Trim, Elkhart
Your Residential, Commercial & Ag Specialist

Karen Yoder
Faulkner REAL ESTATE, INC
620-544-3730 FaulknerRealEstate.com

History from the Hermes

compiled by Brian Gooch

Thursday, November 21, 1996

The excitement at Rolla High School is infecting every facet of life as the football team looks to this weekend when they meet Beloit-St. Johns in Salina for the State title in eight-man football.

The opportunity came after the Pirates wrenched a 28 to 26 victory from Tri-Plains last Saturday.

Rolla has a record of 11-0 while Tri-Plains record was 11-1. Rolla was up 20-6 in the first half. In the second half Rolla saw their lead shaved as Tri-Plains outscored Rolla 20-8. The Pirates ran the clock out the last four minutes of the game.

The deciding game will be played in Salina at 11:00 a.m. against Beloit with a 10-2 record.

Thursday, November 20, 1986

Fire safety is an important subject for children to learn and this has prompted an extensive unit of awareness for Kindergarten students at Hugoton Elementary School. .

Mrs. Nancy Scott and Mrs. Jeanette Moore, Kindergarten teachers, have stressed the importance of children not playing with matches and how a very small fire on the end of a match could make a very large fire that would destroy homes, forests, animals and people.

Hugoton Fire Chief Mike Schechter and his assistant Tommy Romero, brought the newest fire truck to the school for children to see. He told the students that one year old truck cost the city $78,000 but the purchase enabled Hugoton residents to realize lower insurance premiums for fire protection. This seemed like a lot of money to the children, however, he reminded them that it would only take one time to save a house or a life in Hugoton to make having the truck worth much more.

The children learned that the truck was equipped with 1,000 gallons of water and several sizes of hoses, ladders, as well as "Jaws of Life", several breathing apparatus units filled with fresh air, communication devices that link the truck with home base in case assistance is needed.

Thursday, November 18, 1976

Owners and operators of water wells other than domestic wells in Southwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 3 that do not have a water right should file an application for a permit to appropriate water with the Chief Engineer, Division of Water Resources, Kansas State Board of Agriculture in Topeka.

Thursday, November 17, 1966

Postmaster George D. Massey of Hugoton today announced that henceforth all first class mail, personal sound recordings (voice letters), and parcels weighing 5 pounds or less and measuring not more than 60 inches in length and girth combined, will be airlifted on a space available basis between the United States and all military post offices overseas.

Also, under Public Law 89-725 — The Dulski Military Mail Act — which was signed by President Johnson November 2, 1966, second class publication such as newspapers and magazines published weekly or more often, featuring current news of interest to the military will be airlifted from San Francisco to the armed forces serving in Vietnam.

If any readers have pictures or memories for the history page of the Hermes, please bring them in to the staff at The Hugoton Hermes newspaper.

Senior Lifestyles

624 S. Main, Hugoton • 620-544-2283

Hello everyone. The temperatures are really starting to cool down. If you want updates for the Senior Center on days we have to close for weather, please email me at hugotonseniorcenter@gmail.com and ask to be added to our email list. This Thursday is Bingo Night! The doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the games begin at 6:30. This Saturday is the next Community Concert in Liberal. If you want to ride the bus, we will leave at 2:00 p.m. from the parking lot next to China. We will be closed November 26 and 27 to celebrate Thanksgiving with our families. We hope to see you soon!

Menu

November 18 .....Swiss
.....Steak
November 19 ....Chicken
.....and Noodles
November 20 .....Chili
November 23 ....Goulash
November 24 .....Pork
.....Chop
November 25 .....Stew
November 26 .....Closed
November 27 .....Closed
November 30 .....Bacon
.....Sausage

Activities

Wednesday, November 18
Cards .....12:30 p.m.
Thursday, November 19
Bingo Night.....6:30 p.m.
Friday, November 20
Bingo .....12:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 21
Cards .....6:00 p.m.
Community Concert 7:30p.m.
Monday, November 23
Grace and Gather Table .....5:30-7 p.m.
Tuesday, November 24
Dominoes .....12:30 p.m.
Wednesday, November 25
Cards .....12:30 p.m.
Thursday, November 26
Closed for Thanksgiving
Friday, November 27
Closed for Thanksgiving
Saturday, November 28
Cards .....6:00 p.m.

Just Think!!!

We can live life God's way and be guaranteed a home in Heaven

But how do we know what God's way is if we don't read our Bibles

Matthew 16:26; Acts 2: 38 - 47

Romans 6: 4-5; Colossians 2: 11-12

Lin Goode

PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in The Hugoton Hermes, Thursday, November 12, 2026) 3t

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF STEVENS COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MERVIN CARL JOHNSON, DECEASED
(Petition Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

Case No. 2026-PR-000031

Title to Real Estate Involved

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a petition was filed in said Court by Carlina Duggan, Petitioner, praying that the descent be determined with respect to all property or interests therein owned by the decedent at the time of his death; and that such property and all personal property owned by the decedent at the time of death be assigned pursuant to the laws of intestate succession.

You are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before December 17th, 2026 at 9:30 AM in the City of Hugoton, Stevens County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said Petition.

Carlina Duggan
Petitioner

SUBMITTED BY:
/s/ Paige E. Harding
Paige E. Harding, #30271
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