10 years ago: April 30, 2008

The Tonganoxie governing body met with the Leavenworth County Commission to discuss an old topic: who’s going to pay for County Road 1. Commissioners are willing to pay up to $11.8 million for the project, but they would like to receive funding help from county entities that would benefit from the interchange. Specifically, they want money from Tonganoxie. How much money? Nobody would say.

If the city were to contribute money, one commissioner said, the county would be willing to share revenue with the city in an equal proportion to their contribution. One landowner noted that “It’s really hard as a property owner to sit around meeting after meeting, year after year and listen to everyone talk about what’s going to happen to the property in southern Leavenworth County when really nobody that talks about it owns it.” No decision was made, but the city committed to looking into what kind of funding would be available.

Leavenworth County 4-H board president Donna Wiley received quite the serenade Saturday at the 4-H Foundation’s annual meeting at the Leavenworth County Fairgrounds. The K-State Singers, consisting of roughly 20 Kansas State University male and female students, performed at the meeting.

At one point during the performance, Jason Miles, a Lawrence Free State high School graduate who is a K-State Singers member, escorted Wiley, his grandmother, to the performance area. Miles and fellow K-State Singers’ male members serenaded Wiley with “For the Longest Time,” arranged by Roger Emerson.

After the song was complete, Wiley approached a podium set up for the event. “Where else can you be serenaded by eight young men in front of 100 people,” Wiley said, setting off a round of laughs from the crowd gathered at the meeting.

25 years ago: May 5, 1993

Photo caption: The morning of the King Royal Brothers Circus, held at the Leavenworth County Fairgrounds, workers construct the bigtop, with the help of Eddie the elephant. Two performances of the circus were held Friday, before the entourage moved on to another show.

Willie Chenowith and Jennifer Bosley, both Tonganoxie High School students, were top winners at the Regional Art Contest, April 24 at Baldwin High School.
50 years ago: April 25, 1968

The Mirror reported snow flakes were falling this week in 1967- believe it or not.

Mushroom hunters were out in force with one Leavenworth man reporting a 13 lb. beefsteak variety found.

Walt Neibarger’s narrative to the Kiwanis Club final installment ended with this poem:

Sunflowers and Kansas and late
Summer
Sprouted in the moist warmth of
Spring
By courtship of the Prairie and
the Sun
Sunflowers that survive the hot
blast of August
In the Indian Summer their
yellow petals fall
For a season they turn their
bright faces skyward
And then they are gone-but live
again
In the hidden fertility of Kansas
earth
So with men and women of
Yesterday—fallen petals
in a nearby field—indefinite but
real
Like Sunflowers and—Another
Summer.
W.N.

75 years ago: April 22, 1943

As the war continues, more and more women are taking up the slack. Housewives are filling in at factories, stores and offices due to the shortage of able bodied men. The new found employment has created quite the problem at homemakers are neglecting their housework and therefore causing some trouble in the marriage!

The Red Cross sponsored a dance in Jarbalo and raised $176. Many local people donated hard earned cash to this effort, bringing great thanks from the American Red Cross.

Musil’s Bakery has some pointers for those of us who are traveling. Taking a smaller bag on a trip leaves more room on board for our enlisted men and soldiers who are fighting in this conflict. Mark your bag clearly with your name and be sure to check it with the conductor.

Easter is coming soon and IGA has some great specials. Use your ration points and enjoy delicious potatoes, carrots and onions straight out of the fields of Texas. While you’re at it, stop by the Tonganoxie Greenhouse and purchase something nice for a beautiful holiday. Take in a movie at the Royal Theater. Roy Rogers is starring in “Sunset Serenade.”
Charles, five year old son of Mr. And Mrs. Floyd Mills six miles east of here, is seriously sick with an attack of pneumonia and appendicitis.

The State Highway Commission has been urged by the National Council of Defense to hurry along the construction of such roads as will permit the use of trucks in relieving the freight congestion. This is the statement made to refute the false stories that the National Government is discouraging the construction of roads at this time.

Leavenworth County’s quota of 44 left for Camp Funston Saturday afternoon. Leavenworth had a big parade in the rain, and the young men were presented with flowers on their departure. The ones in this quota from this neighborhood were Paul Younger and Ray Bachman. Ivan Angell also went along. He had registered in Cleveland, Ohio, and was ordered to report there on the 27th. He got a transfer from the Cleveland board just in time to go with the rest to Camp Funston. Cliff Gallagher had registered in Fairfield, Montana, and asked for a transfer to Leavenworth. The transfer did not come in time and he attempted to go with the others Saturday, but the board would not permit him to make the trip. He therefore had to defer his departure till the transfer is received at Leavenworth.

A Terrible Accident. Last Friday, evening an accident occurred that removed a member from one of our households, and brought deep sorrow to a home. Will Southard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Southard, was a firemen on the Northwestern and had a regular run between K.C. and Seneca. He went out on the regular freight last Friday evening, which leaves Kansas City at six o’clock and passes through here about 9:30. As the train slowed up to take water at the water tank near Piper, Southard started to the back end of the tender to open the man hole. The wind was blowing a gale at the time, and a sudden jerk of the train threw him between the tender and first car, and a portion of the train passed over him. He was frightfully ground up and, although at once taken on a special, he died before reaching Wyandotte.

Will Southard was born Nov. 15 1867 in High Prairie township in this county and, excepting one year, has spent all his life in the neighborhood. A short time ago, he went to work in the Wyandotte shops of the Northwestern, and was quickly promoted to the position of fireman.

The remains were brought to his late home Sunday, and Monday afternoon funeral services were held at his late home conducted by Rev. Boicourt. Then all that was earthly of him was laid to rest in Maple Grove cemetery, where now a mound stands, an emblem of sorrow to father, mother, brothers and sisters. The community’s sympathy is with the sorrowing relatives in their affliction.

The Roller Mill has been running day and night, to fill several car load orders of flour for Dennison, Texas.

The paint brush is making much difference in the appearance of the old Continental Hotel.