10 years ago: May 21, 2008

It appears as though Tonganoxie will be buying a seat at the table for the future of Leavenworth County Road 1. In his first tie-breaking decision, Tonganoxie Mayor Mike Vestal voted in favor of offering $1.5 million for improvements along the road. The 3-2 vote came a week after a special meeting of the Tonganoxie City Council where it held off a vote on the subject until the sealed bids for the project were revealed and an actual price tag could be determined.

At Tonganoxie High School, there’s quality AND quantity. On Saturday, 149 THS graduates were celebrated during commencement exercises at Beatty Field. The Class of 2008 marked one of the largest, if not the largest, in school history. This year’s class included 19 students who finished their high school careers with 4.0 grade point averages. There were co- valedictorians – Kristen Titterington and Jake Bontrager tied in grade-point average and ACT scores. Each achieved a 35 – a 36 is a perfect score on the national test. No one in THS history had ever scored a 35, THS principal Jamie Carlisle said at Saturday’s graduation, and this year’s class had two of them.

25 years ago: May 26, 1993

Workers with Goens Brothers Painting use Tnemec to seal and smooth the floor of the Tonganoxie city pool Monday afternoon. The pool will be open for business June 2.

Thirty-five years after it was built, Jarbalo United Methodist Church has received an added touch. A steeple, erected on May 3, was given as a memorial to John D. Whitaker from his wife Elizabeth, their family and friends. Local men shown helping attach the steeple are J.R. Turpin and David Smelser.

50 years ago: May 23, 1968

The high school in Eudora will graduate 43 seniors Friday, May 24. Linwood high school has 17 graduates. Twenty-one seniors will graduate at McLouth.

From “Weekly Comment” – Here’s one for the book. George A. Shockley, 618 Laughlin St., Tonganoxie, called on the phone the other evening (May 18, to be exact) to say that he had just picked a ripe tomato, weight 5 ½ ounces. If this isn’t a record, it is near it, and we wouldn’t even believe it if George weren’t a man of his veracity and a Christian gentleman – as well as a high officer in the Ford Motor plant in North Kansas City.

Congratulations to the graduating seniors of the high schools in the Tonganoxie area. Special congratulations are in order for Mike Murry, who received a grant and scholarship and other awards. Mike is Valedictorian and Jane Barnett is Salutatorian at the Tonganoxie High School.

75 years ago: May 20, 1943

Sad news to report this week that Mr. C. H. Cain, local druggist suffered a cerebral hemorrhage at his home north of town. Mr. Cain had owned and operated the drugstore in Tonganoxie for forty-two years, assisted by his son in law, Mr. Ed Diekman. The death was sudden and unexpected.

Mrs. John Sparks has received word from her son, Private Francis (Pat) Sparks that he is in Camp Haan California recovering from pneumonia. Art Young is at Camp Cookie, California and Albert Doege is in Wisconsin. Jack Angell is in Illinois and Harold Krull is in Texas. William Freienmuth is at Harvard! We have young men stationed all over the country.

Scarlet Fever is at epidemic proportions causing the Bible School committee to cancel Bible school this Spring. Parents are reluctant to send their children into groups of youngsters for fear that there will be a case of the disease coming home.
The Board of Education has applied to purchase a pressure cooker for use by community members. Individuals are not permitted to purchase new ones, so the teachers and home economists will help young women learn proper methods of canning and preserving foods. The food conservation program will enable families to save their Victory Garden harvests.

Lakewood Park in Bonner Springs will be opening on Saturday, May 9, 1943. Dances, rides and concessions will be available for your enjoyment.

The Junior class of 1944 presented the graduating Seniors of 1943 a prom to remember. The theme this year was patriotic and the decorations included an actual Jeep, a portrait of Uncle Sam and table decorations of airplanes, tanks and submarines. Non-rationed food was served for the meal and John Cass Lenahan was the toastmaster. All returned home before midnight.

100 years ago: May 23, 1918

The Cooking Club will have the final meeting of the year on Wednesday, May 29th, at the home of Mrs. J. C. Laming. The club has worked exclusively for the Red Cross the past year and the following garments have been completed: 24 surgeon’s robes, 18 bed shirts, 8 pillows, 100 bandages, 20 pairs sox, 6 sweaters, 4 pairs wristlets.

Elimination of all errors, a speeding up of bookkeeping work, and a reduction of routine labor to a minimum have been accomplished by the Farmers and Merchants State Bank through installation of a mechanical bookkeeper – A Burroughs Adding-Subtracting Machine.

The painting on the city water tank was improperly done last winter and the engineer would not accept it. Some painters cam in this week to finish up the work properly.

125 years ago: May 25, 1893

Saturday, when the time came for the trial of the three jointists, they faithfully carried out their part of the pre-arranged scheme, by making themselves as conspicuous as possible - somewhere else. The bond was declared forfeited and the money turned over to the treasury. Thus closed the first scene of the miserable farce of prosecuting law breakers merely to license them. The officials who have sworn to support the ordinances of the city of Tonganoxie, have shown in these proceedings a disregard for their oaths, that is not commendable, to say the least.

Those who are a party to the transaction, may not view the matter in this light. They are probably under the impression that they are doing the city a good turn by collecting money from a vice that has flourished heretofore without contributing anything. Their contention is that is the joints can’t be stamped out, and so it is better that the damage they are to society may be rectified partially, at least, by paying the city.

But the city officials of this have never made any effort to crush out the joints. A vigorous effort to enforce the law would result in closing the saloons, and they could be effectually crushed out in thirty days. If the circumstances are as the officials claim, that the joints can’t be closed, it does not even then furnish sufficient excuse for them to place themselves in the position in which they have. They should carefully consider what they are doing and not break a law because some people clamor for it. Their actions should be guided by law and not by opinion.

The Mirror dislikes to have it go out to the world that we have no regard for law, and willingly go into partnership with law breakers to reap a revenue. Such an advertisement will not encourage the class of people to locate here that are to be desired. For the good name of our town the Mirror strongly urges the officials to get on the right side, and let the world know that we do not expect to thrive by vice.