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**BACK TO SCHOOL KICKOFF**



School officially started on August 23, and students are already diving into the fun! From exciting games to the kick-off of fall sports, the new school year is off to a great start! (Courtesy photo of USD 298)

**Women of Lincoln County - Part 4**

By Jyll Phillips, Lincoln-Sentinel

Known in Lincoln as Elizabeth Barr, the niece of Dr. Sarah Cole, Elizabeth Barr Arthur (1884-1971) was an American poet, author, journalist, librarian, and suffragist. We recognize her as the author of Souvenir History of Lincoln County, Kansas in 1908 and is still used today as a source of information for those interested in the county's history and people.

Born in a dugout in Lincoln County in 1884, Elizabeth was the daughter of William Lovejoy Barr and Mary Jane Cole Barr, the sister of Dr. Sarah Cole. The Barrs were instrumental in Dr. Cole's decision to relocate to Lincoln County where she became a cornerstone of our history.

The Barr family moved to Huron County, Michigan when Elizabeth was two years old. Her early education was in Huron County before graduating from high school in Bad Axe, Michigan in 1902. She traveled six miles of rough terrain to achieve this level of education. Having always been involved with movements in reform and welfare for women and children, following her graduation she went to Florida for two years, traveling throughout the state and into Georgia as an organizer of the Temperance Educational Bureau.

In 1904, she went to Kansas City, Missouri, where she was for a time employed on the advertising force of the Kansas City Journal.

With \$11.00 to her name, she went to Topeka in 1905 and entered Washburn College, determined to work her way through that institution. With an energy rarely equaled in women of her age she succeeded, graduating in 1908 with a degree in Liberal Arts. During her college days she earned a reputation as a poet and writer of short stories. She published her first book in 1906, a collection of college poems en-

titled Washburn Ballads.

Following her college graduation, she became the assistant editor and later editor of the Club Member, an instrument of the Women's Clubs of Kansas. In this position, she met the leading women in Kansas, becoming known to thousands throughout the state. Being an ardent suffragist, Barr made her paper an active suffrage publication and thereby took a significant role in the campaign before the legislature in 1911 which resulted in the state's passing of the bill.

It was during this time, being the niece of Dr. Sarah Cole and an ardent supporter of Anna Wait's work in the suffragist movement, she wrote Souvenir History of Lincoln County, the county of her birth.

For the next two years, she did research work and was a co-writer on Blackmar's Encyclopedia History of Kansas published in 1912.[1]

Barr was the first entrant for examination for policeman in Topeka. Early in 1913, Barr became a member of the police force in Topeka with the title of patrol-

man-at-large. She and her colleague, Miss Eva Corning, were the first women in the U.S. to become law enforcement officers. She married Chester B. Arthur during this time of her life.

After leaving police work, she resumed research work and was one of the writers on the Connelly History of Kansas. Her principal contribution to this work was a 45,000-word article on "The Populist Uprising", which was considered by some critics to be the best history on the subject.

See "Women" page 8



Elizabeth Barr Arthur in 1924 at the age of 40 was recognized as a prolific author, newspaper woman, poet, activist and law enforcement officer. (Courtesy photo)

**City approves Master Agreement to begin floodplain management**

By Jyll Phillips, Lincoln-Sentinel

Brett Wilkinson, representing Kirkham Michael, presented the Governing Body with a Master Agreement for engineering services regarding the floodplain management within the City of Lincoln at the August 12 meeting of the Lincoln City Council. The agreement allows for the city to contract on an as-needed basis. The city would obtain a cost estimate from Kirkham Michael for each job task requested. Following discussion, the council voted to approve the agreement.

Mayor Travis Schwerdtfager opened a hearing to hear comments regarding a request and application made by Jeannie Jorgensen for an annual permit to house nine (9) chickens on her property at 420 South 5th Street. All property owners within two hundred feet of the property lies were notified of the hearing as specified by the city code. Two neighbors were in support of the request with no opposition from the public regarding the permit. The permit was approved.

Resident Vincent Martin voiced his concern about the electrical line connected to the house in which he resides located at 418 S. 4th Street. Martin stated the electric line had a limb hanging on it during a storm, and when he con-

**Lincoln City Council approves Superintendent Jeff Ahring's recommendation to promote Michael "Austin" Biggs to City Foreman.**

tacted law enforcement was told city employees were unable to be reached. As a renter, Martin was encouraged to have the property owner contact the city to request any repairs to the property.

The current Neighborhood Revitalization Plan (NRP) is set to expire December 31, 2004. Economic Development Director Kelly Gourley presented the Governing Body with a draft of a new revised NRP that would be effective January 1, 2025, extending for five (5) years. The new plan includes a \$100 application fee, ownership/rebate transfer verbiage, and property use referring to changing from commercial to residential or visa versa would cancel the rebate. The Governing Body had no opposition to the request changes. The council voted to approve the new NRP to begin January 1, 2025, and continue through December 31, 2030.

A public hearing was opened for the purpose of receiving and answering comments regarding the proposed 2025 budget. No objections or comments were received from the public. The hearing was closed, and the council adopted the budget for 2025.

Superintendent Ahring presented the Governing Body with a list of used aerial trucks available for purchase. The listings are fluid and continually changing. Following discussion, the council voted to allow Ahring to purchase an aerial truck that meets the following criteria: Dodge Diesel, 4x4, lowest engine miles available and preferably from a southern state, not to exceed \$120,000.

Ahring also presented two proposals for street work. Both proposals have options for chip seal or asphalt overlay. Mayor Schwerdtfager and Superintendent Ahring were to meet

See "City" page 8

**What came first?**



Did you ever wonder how an orange came to be an orange? Is it named after the color orange, or is the color orange named after the fruit?

The linguistic ancestor of the word orange was first used to describe the tree on which the fruit grows. Its roots go all the way back to Sanskrit when the word "naranga" meant orange tree. Through evolution of the word, it came to mean the fruit, not just the tree. The word didn't come to describe a color until almost 200 years later, making the fruit the clear winner. In 1512, a description of the color using the word "orange" appeared in, of all places, a will!

Orange you glad you know that now?

**Cash Grain**

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- Milo ..... \$3.65
- Soybeans ..... \$9.05
- Wheat ..... \$4.82

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