From the Files

One hundred years ago
Washington State Journal and Ritzville Times
May 11, 1916

Three hundred Inland Empire farmers who met in Spokane last Saturday decided almost unanimously in favor of discarding sacks for the bulk handling of grain. Farmers and warehousemen who have been awaiting the decision of this convention will be making changes in their farm storage facilities and warehouses in the next 60 days.

The essence of the meeting was the reaching of the conclusion that bulk handling effects a net saving of 2 1/4 cents per bushel. The total cost per bushel of handling wheat in sacks was found to be 26 3-4 cents, in bulk 21.5 cents. Subtracting three cents for return of sacks the net saving is found to be 2 1/4 cents.

The Horse Show Committee met last Saturday and after investigation it was found impossible to secure the use of Main Street for June 9 and as the horsemen did not want a later date it was agreed to give up the show for this year.

Seventy-five years ago
The Ritzville Journal-Times
May 15, 1941

Ritzville placed second and Lind third in the annual Lincoln-Adams county track meet won by Davenport Monday afternoon at Davenport. The meet was originally scheduled for Ritzville but Sunday's storm inundated Ritzville's playfield, making it necessary to transfer the meet to the Lincoln county seat.

Davenport made a total of 77-5-6 points to 25-1-6 for Ritzville, 15 for Lind and 7 for Harrington.

When twilight comes tonight it will find bleak and bare, the old Adams County Courthouse, which has served for 50 long years under many masters. All of the county offices, with the exception of possibly one or two, will have been moved into the new courthouse, by tonight. The building, which has served almost since the county was formed, will being "crying a horrible death" the first of next week, as workmen pry apart its sturdy old bricks with cruel wrecking bars. But parts of the old-timer will be given a "new lease on life" as they are incorporated into the new jail building, now being erected back of the new courthouse.

Fifty years ago
The Ritzville Journal-Times
May 19, 1966

Today's RHS student body and many of their parents honored Jack Knox in an appreciation at the annual awards program night. Knox is retiring after 36 years and nine months as a janitor in the Ritzville schools. So well has the venerable friend of all children endeared himself to them that first graders often believe he is the principal. The student body gave Knox a check from their treasury. It was their way of saying "We love you Jack and we'll always remember you." The girls trio sang new words to an old tune, "You May Never Pass This Way Again."

The Bronco mile relay team led its nearest competitor across the finish line more than 60 yards to set a new record and push into a final ranking of third place in Saturday's bi-county track meet here. The local quartet, Mike Schrag, Hal Whiteman, Lynn Schoessler and Brian Miller, clocked the crucial event in 3:39.2, an average of 54.8 seconds time for each quarter-mile circuit.

Twenty-five years ago
Ritzville Adams County Journal
May 16, 1991

A new building will take shape this summer on the grounds of Wheat Land Communities' Fair, thanks to the generosity of Wilma Knuth. The "Knuth Building" will feature approximately 5,000 square feet and will include a kitchen, restrooms, possible stage, and heating in order to make the building available for use throughout the year. Official ground breaking ceremonies are planned for May 26 at 2 p.m. when the Knuth family will be present for the official ceremony.

Happy faces by the hundreds abound in one Ritzville residence due to the diligence of one collector and helpers throughout the area. With the chance of finding and purchasing a mug with a happy face on it some 15 years ago, John Kin Kade, also known as "Mr. Happy Face," has been gathering a collection of happy faces. That first mug, found while casually shopping in a flower shop, has led to a collection of happy faces nearing the 700 mark. Kin Kade said he collects anything that has a happy face on it, from stickers and little trinkets to a comforter and bed sheet set.

POSTER WINNERS in the Forest and Range Wildfire Prevention poster contest display their posters. They are, back row from left, Eric Fleming, Roberta Kearney, Jennifer Kuster, and Jolee Copelin. In the front row are Lisa McGee, Amanda Marshall, Crystal Walli, Heather Morse, Andy Gilbert, and Kristen Wood.

-Photo May 16, 1991