

History of Burdett

Burdett became a settlement in 1876
Burdett, located 23 miles west of Larned on the old Santa Fe Trail highway, is a small town of 265 residents. Originally Burdett was named Brown's Grove for Dr. Gallatin Brown who staked out the town site in 1876. It became a thriving

settlement. In 1897 Wright and Johnson built a flour mill on the Pawnee River. Power for the machinery was furnished by the river. The mill was the first to be located west of Hutchinson and was in operation for eight years. In 1885 the railroad was surveyed from Larned to one-half mile south of

Brown's Grove. Businesses moved south to meet the railroad before the first train arrived in 1886. The town was renamed Burdett by the railroad officials for a famous writer and humorist, Robert Jones Burdette.

Burdett was then the end of the line and a hand-operated turntable was used.

These were boom years for the town.

School was first held in a dugout on the banks of the river. In 1877 a frame building was constructed. A grade school was built in 1911 and a high school in 1920. Mr. E. Row of Larned established a three-course study program for the high school. In 1916 four years of high school education was offered. The 64th class graduated from Burdett High School in 1966. In 1967 the first class graduated from the newly formed Pawnee Heights High School.

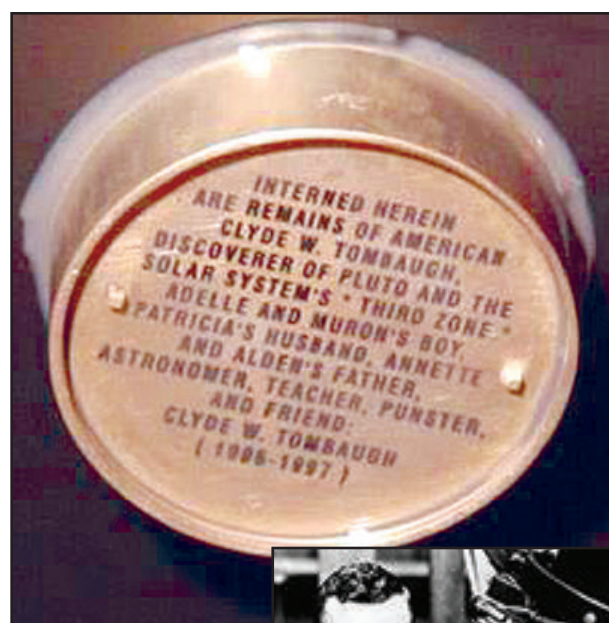
In 1877 the first religious meeting was a basket dinner on the creek bank organized by the Presbyterians. They built a church that was later sold to the Methodists in 1886. This building was struck by lightning and burned in 1897. The present Methodist church began construction in 1940, and the dedication of the newly constructed church was held in June 1941. During those early years the Catholic Church held services in various locations until 1949 when a building was moved from Jetmore. The new church was named Holy Rosary Catholic Church. Mass was held in the little

church until its closing in 1997.

In 1961 Burdett incorporated with a mayor-city council form of government. Leon Jennings is the current mayor. The town has an excellent volunteer Fire Department and Emergency Medical Service. Currently there is one bank, a café, two insurance offices, an auto body shop, a welding shop, a community library, construction companies, an aerial crop spraying service, an electrical contractor, photographer, a guesthouse, commercial hay grinding, American Legion/Auxiliary/SAL, and the Farmer's Cooperative. A new housing subdivision has been built with three homes completed.

There is also a city park, which boasts a volleyball court, first class tennis courts, an outdoor basketball court, a large children's play area, a miniature golf course updated in 2015 with an astrology theme highlighting Pluto, and a horseshoe area. One of the shelter houses was built from limestone first used in the old W and J flourmill.

Burdett became world famous in 1930 when Clyde Tombaugh, who was reared on a nearby farm, discovered the ninth planet, Pluto. A highway marker located on the west edge of town was dedicated to Dr. Tombaugh in 1982. This marker was constructed completely by the community. Burdett celebrated the 75th anniversary of Tombaugh's discovery with a live amateur radio broadcast from the town's Senior Center.



NEW HORIZONS NEARS GOAL

After nine years in space, the New Horizons Space Probe bearing ashes of Pluto discoverer Clyde Tombaugh (top photo) will have reached its goal Tuesday morning, July 14, 2015. (courtesy photos) **(The complete article was published in the July 10, 2015 issue of The Tiller & Toiler.)**

There are numerous civic organizations and clubs that are beneficial to the Burdett community. An active group of Burdett Seniors host a weekly covered dish luncheon on Mondays. A Coffee and Donut Hour the third Friday of each month is sponsored by local businesses.

In May 2014, Phase I of the Fredrick A. Browne American Legion Post 280 Brown's Grove Cemetery was completed, with installation of flag poles and flags honoring all branches of the military service,

MIA's and Wounded Warriors.

Legion Members completed Phase II in 2015, with the placement of a granite marker near the flag poles noting all war veterans buried in Brown's Grove Cemetery, with space for additional names to be added.

Phase III will be granite benches installed by Memorial Day, 2016.

The residents of Burdett are proud of their community, and they all work together to make this town a great place to call home.

Welcome Inn serving meals to seniors as well as anyone who desires a noon meal

The Welcome Inn Leisure Center is located at 113 West Fourth St. in Larned and its mission is to provide a community focal point where older adults come together for services and activities.

The Welcome Inn is the designated place for Friendship Meals served to seniors as well as anyone who desires a noon meal. Seniors 60 and older are asked for a donation of \$3.25 and other participants are asked to pay \$5.25. The meals are served Monday through Friday at 12 p.m. There are also homebound meals for seniors who are unable to shop or go to the senior center. Frozen meals are also available to cover the weekends.

Activities at the Welcome Inn include senior yoga and exercise classes for interested individuals. Yoga classes are held every Monday and Thursday at 11 a.m.. There is also a bicycle, treadmill and several balance balls that are available for seniors' use.

Every Tuesday from 9:30 to 10:30 we have Coffee Time. Treats are always available. A Pot Luck dinner is held on the second Sunday of each month. There is a Hearing Aid representative who checks for hearing problems, also Pawnee County Health Office personnel check blood pressures every month and it is all free. Every three months an attorney is available by request.

The Welcome Inn schedules the general public transportation bus for doctor's appointments and grocery shopping. The time to call is between 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, preferably 48 hours in advance.

There are many free books and magazines available for your enjoyment as well as crafts that are for sale.

Our motto is "Food, Fun, and Fellowship" -- and the coffee pot is always on.

History of Rozel

Rozel incorporated November 29, 1929

Rozel, located 17 miles west of Larned, was incorporated Nov. 29, 1929, and has a mayor-council form of city government, with water and gas systems municipally owned. It is situated on the Jetmore branch of the Santa Fe Railroad, formerly the Chicago, Kansas and Western Railroad.

The original town site, consisting of two city blocks in the SW 1/4, Sec., 27-21-19, was deeded to the Arkansas Valley Town and Land Company by the railroad on July 19, 1886. The name Rozel was selected in honor of a daughter of one of the founders of the Land Company, whose name was Rozella.

Beginning in the late 1890s and continuing for the next decade, the



business section rapidly expanded to include two grocery and general merchandise stores, a cream station, a drug store, a meat market, three grain elevators, a lumber yard, a livery stable, a barber shop, a blacksmith shop, a pool hall and bowling alley, a restaurant, a church, a bank, a hotel, a telephone office, a millinery, and a dry goods store.

Dr. A.E. Reed was the first doctor in Rozel in 1904, followed by Dr. Howe in 1905 and Dr. Cayhill in 1907. Dr. J.H. Tapscott moved to Rozel in July 1909 and continued in practice for more than 50 years.

Religion and education have always been important to the residents of the vicinity. A Methodist Church was built in 1905; it was replaced by a new

building in January 1965 that was dedicated April 23, 1972. The Baptist Church was built in 1916. The Rozel Christian Fellowship started in a garage owned by Ronald Bryant in 1975 and has since been remodeled into a church building.

The first post office was in 1870 and was known as Keysville. In 1880 the name was changed to Ben Wade to honor a Civil War lawyer at the suggestion of Timothy McCarthy, Larned postmaster. The current postmaster is Preston Duncan.

Rozel has survived two disastrous fires, a tornado, and numerous floods. Nearly all the business district in the original town site was destroyed by fire, Sept. 24, 1928. Rebuilding was started immediately with modern

brick structures. On the evening of May 20, 1949, a tornado and hailstorm severely damaged or destroyed nearly every building in town.

Due to an abundance of underground water, considerable acreage of alfalfa, milo, corn, soybeans, forage of crops, and wheat is under irrigation in the surrounding area. In 2001, under the management of Ed Taylor, Golden Plains Co-op merged with Tri-Ag Co-op at Sanford and Farmers Co-op at Burdett to become Golden Valley, Inc. In 2002, Golden Valley, Inc., purchased the Rozel branch of the Pawnee County Co-op, with a combined storage capacity of over 966,000 bushels. They now have the facilities to handle the grain harvest with a minimum of effort on the part of the producers.

In late July 2003, Golden Valley built and moved into a new service shop and office facility. An open house was held in February 2004. Until the first elevator was built in 1905, the grain had to

see ROZEL page 5

Welcome Inn Leisure Center


Meals serving at 12 Noon M-F
Carry Out - call ahead - 285-3504
113 W. 4th - Larned

Public Transportation

Scheduled out of Welcome Inn
285-3504

Call between 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.





VFW

Post 7271

603 Edwards · 285-6036 · Larned

Hours: 4 PM - 2 AM · 7 Days a Week

Members, Auxiliaries & Theirs Guests Welcome

Larned VFW Post No. 7271

The Larned VFW Post No. 7271 was started May 5, 1946 in the commander's home. It then moved to the old courthouse, then to 202 Broadway and is now located at 603 Edwards. In the early 1980s, the building was struck by a tornado that took off the roof. The members then rebuilt the building.

It is a place for members and the women's auxiliary to meet and socialize. The post has a men's auxiliary that helps in any and every way. They have bingo on

Thursday and card parties on the first Monday of the month. The hall is used for weddings and wedding dances, family reunions, school reunions and funeral dinners.

VFW Post No. 7271 has won several awards including: All State Post Quarter Master and All State Post Commander.

Larned's VFW sponsors the following: Tired Iron Show, Relay for Life, after prom, Boy Scouts, and the Fort Dodge Soldier's Home. Every other year the VFW sponsors the

Veteran's Day parade and presents an honor guard, 12 funeral details for 2015, for other events. The Easter egg hunt, held in Schnack Park, is also sponsored by the VFW.

If you have been in harm's way you may be a member of the VFW. Wives and daughter and sons of combat veterans may join the auxiliary.

The VFW is a worldwide organization. Once a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, you are welcome at any VFW worldwide.