

# The Cunningham Courier

"The only newspaper in the world that cares about Cunningham, Kansas"

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(620) 298-2659

April 20, 2023  
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photos courtesy  
of Stacy Webster  
and Molly Mogan

**The lobby of the CHS gymnasium was demolished this week. A new lobby will be built. Construction continues on the classrooms to the east of the gym. Projected moving date into the new classrooms is December of this year. The current high school will be razed after the move into the new wing.**

## Approved Minutes from March BOE Meeting

The West Kingman County Board of Education meeting was called to order at

7:00 p.m. on Wednesday March 1, 2023, by President Brent Miller.

President, Brent Miller; Vice-President, Bjorn Halderson; Members, Scott DeWeese Brent Hansen, Travis Thimesch, Megan Green, Superintendent, Robert Reed; Principal, Cody Dunlap; Clerk, Stacy Webster and Guests; Ashley Anderson, Priscilla Hoyt, Ryan Anderson, Eric Ruckle, Rebecca Huelskamp, Sebastian Huelskamp, Roberta Kobbe, and Andy Kostner.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Travis Thimesch, to approve the agenda as presented. Yeas: Miller, Halderson, DeWeese, Hansen, Thimesch, Green. Nays: none. Motion carried 6-0.

President Miller welcomed the guests

Motion made by Brent Hansen, seconded by Bjorn Halderson, to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2023 meeting. Yeas: Miller, Halderson, DeWeese, Hansen, Thimesch, Green. Nays: none. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Megan Green, to approve the payment of bills and the financial reports as presented. Yeas: Miller, Halderson, DeWeese, Hansen, Thimesch, Green. Nays: none. Motion carried 6-0.

President Miller opened up the discussion of a Baseball/Softball Co-op with Pretty Prairie. Superintendent Reed and board members that were present at the parent discussion meeting

at Cunningham shared their take away from the parents and students. Guests from Pretty Prairie, Ashley, Ryan, and Pricilla shared information and questions their community had talked about. Board consensus was to continue moving forward with discussions. Board members from Cunningham will attend the Board meeting in Pretty Prairie on March 20th. Consensus from both schools was that if the Pretty Prairie board meeting goes well, a contract will be drawn up for both schools to vote on at the April board meeting.

Guests Ashley Anderson, Ryan Anderson, Pricilla Hoyt and Eric Ruckle left the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

President Miller opened up discussion of Junior High cross country.

Motion made by Travis Thimesch, seconded by Brent Hansen, to approve starting a Junior High cross country program. Yeas: Miller, Halderson, DeWeese, Hansen, Thimesch, Green. Nays: none. Motion carried 6-0.

Guest Andy Kostner left the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Superintendent Reed gave an update on the progress of the construction project, sharing mock ups voted on by the finishing's committee.

Superintendent Reed briefly reported on upcoming events including the German Exchange trip and honors students to Mosley Street Melodrama.

Principal Dunlap had a flyer of updates included in the board packet. He shared a slide show of upcoming changes to graduation requirements coming from the state and how that will look like for our students. One change involved English credits. Guest Becky Huelskamp answered questions from the board about the effects on student

schedules. Lastly Principal Dunlap shared that he was asked to bring the idea of a wrestling program to the board for consideration. No action taken.

Member Scott DeWeese was not able to attend the last meeting. He stated that a perusal of the notes from the meeting show that the co-op continues to make progress towards audit completion.

Motion made by Bjorn Halderson, seconded by Scott DeWeese to go into executive session with Superintendent Reed and Principal Dunlap at 8:35 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations under the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA and return to the board room at 8:45 p.m. Yeas: Miller, Halderson, DeWeese, Hansen, Thimesch, Green. Nays: none. Motion carried 6-0.

President Miller declared the meeting in open session at 8:45 p.m.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Megan Green to go into executive session with Superintendent Reed and Principal Dunlap at 8:45 p.m. to discuss personnel performance matters under the KOMA non-elected personnel exception and return to the board room at 9:05 p.m. Yeas: Miller, Halderson, DeWeese, Hansen, Thimesch, Green. Nays: none. Motion carried 6-0.

President Miller declared the meeting in open session at 9:05 p.m.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Travis Thimesch to go into executive session with Superintendent Reed and Principal Dunlap at 9:05 p.m. to discuss personnel performance matters under the KOMA non-elected personnel exception and return to the board room at 9:15 p.m. Yeas: Miller, Halderson, DeWeese, Hansen,

Thimesch, Green. Nays: none. Motion carried 6-0.

President DeWeese declared the meeting in open session at 9:15 p.m.

Motion made by Travis Thimesch, seconded by Megan Green to go into executive session with Superintendent Reed and Principal Dunlap at 9:15 p.m. to discuss personnel performance matters under the KOMA non-elected personnel exception and return to the board room at 9:30 p.m. Yeas: Miller, Halderson, DeWeese, Hansen, Thimesch, Green. Nays: none. Motion carried 6-0.

President DeWeese declared the meeting in open session at 9:30 p.m.

Motion made by Travis Thimesch, seconded by Bjorn Halderson to accept the resignation of Ariel Haskin at the end of the 2022-2023 School Year. Yeas: Miller, Halderson, DeWeese, Hansen, Thimesch, Green. Nays: none. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Travis Thimesch, seconded by Megan Green to accept the resignation of Ingrid Ricke as NHS sponsor at the end of the 2022-2023 School Year. Yeas: Miller, Halderson, DeWeese, Hansen, Thimesch, Green. Nays: none. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Travis Thimesch to approve Tanner Balsters as JH/HS Business teacher for the 2023-2024 School Year. Yeas: Miller, Halderson, DeWeese, Hansen, Thimesch, Green. Nays: none. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Travis Thimesch, seconded by Bjorn Halderson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 p.m. Yeas: Miller, Halderson, DeWeese, Hansen, Thimesch, Green. Nays: none. Motion carried 6-0.



Due to a funeral at the UMC on Tuesday April 25th, The Bread Ministry will be held on Wednesday, April 26th, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



## Wheat Scoop: Extended Drought Leads to Waning Optimism on Potential of Kansas Wheat Crop

**75% of Kansas in moderate to exceptional drought**

Wheat farmers are, by nature, optimistic, but that optimism is starting to wane in southwest Kansas, where much of the wheat that was drilled last fall has yet to emerge.

Only 19% of the Kansas wheat crop is currently rated in good to excellent condition, with another 52% rated poor to very poor, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

According to the March 27 report, 77% of subsoil moisture supplies are rated short to very short.

"We're eating through subsoil moisture," said Tyler Ediger who farms near Meade, Kansas. "We need a slow inch to inch and a half of moisture."

Average annual precipitation for the area is 23 inches, but over the past year, they've received roughly half that.

Still, Ediger says they're better off than most in the area, having received a half inch a couple weeks ago. Their fields have a stand, so they're not blowing yet, but winds have been strong and sustained for much of the area.

North of Lakin in Kearny County, Gary Millershaski's fields aren't faring as well. An area that typically gets

18.8" of annual precipitation, they've only received 8.6" over the past 365 days. While last year's crop was also raised in drought conditions, it had the benefit of some subsoil moisture, which has all but been depleted by now. Even the residue left from last year's crop has been reduced by wind and drought.

"We're totally out of residue," Millershaski said. "There's nothing out there."

He said insurance adjusters will be in the area over the next couple weeks. Many of the fields that haven't even emerged will be adjusted out, giving farmers like Millershaski few options for ways to protect the blowing soil.

"I'm not going to chase another

*continued on page 3)*

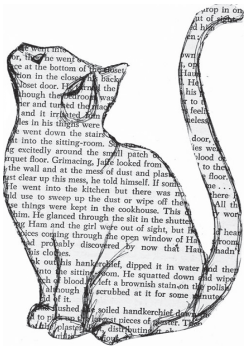
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Lacy Stephanie Samantha Amber Sharon Jane

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Meanderings

It is Monday evening, and I just mowed the lawn for the first time this season. Sigh. When I was younger, I rather enjoyed mowing. Now my knees and joints hurt, and I am lazy, and I'm thinking of laying down some rocks

and painting them green. If I thought dirt would hold the paint, I'd do that. This week's paper... wow! There is a lot in my April 20th news folder. Many NEED to-get-ins, and many WANT to-get-ins. I'll squeeze what I can in and hope that someday I can get this paper big enough I can get in the NEEDS and the WANTS. There isn't even much space left on this page with which I can meander about absolutely worthless bits of nothing. \*\*\* It is good to hear from Beth Blasi, down

there at the bottom of the page. She is so chatty in her writing, I feel like I know her, but honestly, I've never actually MET Beth. We've corresponded countless times over emails, she reads my column, I read hers. That's how we know each other. Thank goodness for e-mails! \*\*\* I will be taking my handmade cards to the "Craft & 'Que" down in Norwich next weekend. Check out their ad on the back page of the newspaper. And on The Courier's website. Sounds like a fun and

interesting time... especially if there is wind like today. I hope you can join me and the many others who will be there. \*\*\* I went out and rescued the trash can that belongs to my neighbor to the south. It was blowing down the street, and I was afraid if I didn't go out and rescue it, it would be half way to Nebraska by the end of the day. This wind. It wouldn't be quite so bad if it would just blow in some rain with it. \*\*\* I read the USPS is giving newspapers another price hike on July

9th. I would have put the article in the paper, but I didn't have the space this week. Maybe next week. I'm not sure what Louis DeJoy is trying to prove by hiking up the rates like he's been doing. Did you know he is the second highest paid federal government employee? The only position that makes more than he does is that of the President. Hard to believe, isn't it? I had some more information on the Post Office and the office of the Post Master General, but, alas, I didn't have room for it this week. Maybe next week.

Always reading and currently reading, "We Begin at the End" By Chris Whitaker, Roberta

**CHS SENIORS need to get their information to me -- along with a photo --for our spotlight pagell May 1st Deadline**

Tallgrass and Tumbleweeds by Gaille Pike

Dear Readers, I made a mistake in last week's column. I mistyped the name of the family whose Coming to America celebration inspired my words. Before it was brought to my attention, this error appeared in many of the 20 Kansas newspapers where "Tallgrass and Tumbleweeds" is available and I was only able to correct it in a few be-

fore they were printed. So I want to set the record straight out of respect and affection for all of YOU and for my dear friends, the Yee YANG and Sin YANG family. Plus it gives us a chance to talk about mistakes. Some of us may make them more often. Some of us might like to think we don't. But when it comes to blunders big or small, and

everything in between, "To err is human..." So let's agree right here: we ALL make 'em. In fact, we make so many mistakes, sometimes repeatedly, we can't remember them all. But hopefully we remember the ones that MATTER. Take for example the mistake of calling someone by the wrong name. Maybe you've never done this but I sure have. It is invariably unfortunate, though in most cases a good laugh all around results and any ruffled feathers are smoothed and forgotten with genuine amends. But when I call a friend's

new spouse or partner the name of said friends ex, it's not funny at all. THAT mistake can be downright awkward for everyone involved. The name just hangs in the air for a moment while all of us decide what's the best way to get past it. If you are the name bungler it seems it should be up to you to remedy the situation. But should you say "Sorry!" or just plunge past your gaff with idle conversation, making sure to use the individuals correct name??? There's no fixing it either way and no matter how much you regret doing it you can't

go back and change it. One can only try not to do it again. Name-mistake memories linger because names matter, though it is not healthy to dwell or wallow in them. The good news is that mistakes are not all that we are, nor need they determine the course of our lives or our relationships. Not even name-mistakes. A woman who loves me more than I deserve and is closer to me than any sister I ever dreamed of having, will read this column and laugh because she will remember our meeting about 15 years ago where I called her by her husband's ex's name.

I have a vivid memory of wishing I could disappear, that the floor would just swallow me up, when I realized what I'd done. I've never made that mistake again but that's not the reason we moved past it and became best friends. Which leads me to paraphrase and add to Alexander Pope's famous quote: To err is human but our mistakes do not define us. It is the choices that we all make AFTER mistakes that matter. *Until next week—keep your eyes on the stars and your back to the wind.*

My Breast Cancer Experience: Part 29

By Beth Blasi 2023 I hope everyone had a Happy Easter! This April 2023 marks the 2nd anniversary of my breast cancer diagnosis. So far, my scans and bloodwork are showing no change. I'm now on a 6 month checkup schedule. It's not that I don't like the folks at the cancer center, but I really don't want to have to see them too often. I feel like I'm pretty much back to "normal".

I continue with my daily treadmill and hope to get more outdoor walks in. Remember, I'm a fair-weather walker so between the wind and hot weather, my outdoor walks may be limited. My "holiday" pounds have not disappeared - sigh. But, of course, we've had more holidays - Valentine's Day, Easter, and soon Memorial Day (I know, excuses, excuses, excuses) so the pounds think they need to hang around! My hubby and I also just had birthdays - again. As much as we want to avoid them, they show up anyway. Of course, Medicare and our doctor let us know we needed our annual checkups. It was time for me to get the pneumonia shot. My arm was a little

sore, but coincidentally, a week later I developed a chest cough and stuffy nose. Remember that I got shingles a week after my shingles vaccine? So, coincidence? Or windy, dusty weather? Maybe I should think twice before I get any more vaccinations! My hubby continues his immunotherapy to keep the bad bladder cancer cells from coming back. Along with that is weekly bloodwork. There was some concern about some of his kidney numbers so we now have another doctor - a nephrologist. Seems the tumor had been blocking one of his kidneys long enough to cause significant damage - and it had probably been doing it for quite a while before the cancer was detected and removed. Fortunately, our bodies are amazing and we can function with one kidney but we need to watch to make sure it isn't getting overworked. Ah, just another reason we need to avoid birthdays - lol! I just got my hair cut again recently. It does grow slower than it did and it is thinner, but there

was still that moment before my appointment where my hair really let me know it was time for a trim. You know how it is - everything is fine and then, "POOF", it's doing something crazy! Not so sure my hair is cooperating even after the cut - but the changes in the weather don't help much (or the wind!). Daylight Savings time happened as well since I last wrote. I always hate to miss that hour when it changes in the Spring. I'm confused on whether we are keeping this permanently or still changing in the fall. Maybe we'll have it figured out by the end of the year. Speaking of Easter, I'm sure we all have our traditions. Our family started a tradition years ago to go fishing on Easter. It is usually the first fishing adventure of the year for us. That means digging out the poles and tackleboxes and lures and chairs and coolers and sun-screen and snacks and stink bait and finding worms and finding a pond that has some water and fish in it! The weather even decided to cooperate this

year! This year's adventure yielded several catfish and a turtle. No poles were drug into the water, but there were a few close calls. The little bit of mud around the pond did snag one child's shoe and foot - the mud was winning until a dad came to the rescue! We don't cook the fish for our supper, but there was plenty of other yummy food to finish the day. I think there is a Murphy's law even for vacations. My daughter and her hubby planned a 2-week vacation for the last part of April and planned for each set of grandparents to take a week to take care of our granddaughter - which we both were very happy to do. However, that must be a popular vacation time since my brother-in-law and his wife also planned a cruise vacation at the VERY SAME TIME. So, guess what? I got to baby-sit a 4-year-old for a week by myself since the hubby needs to take care of the business in Zenda. I am very sure I will learn a lot of new things by the time I return or I'll be crying "uncle" to their friends that are in town. Maybe I'll have some really good stories to share. Maybe I'll be reinvigorated. Or, maybe I'll just

be plain worn out by the time I return..... A couple of my hubby's Air Force buddies visited us for a couple days. They certainly had a great time remembering those hunting trips to Kansas they used to make. That was back in the days when we had pheasant and quail in abundance. If there was a shortage of birds, they found rabbits. One of the funny stories was when they stopped to talk to my dad while they were resting between fields. They had several quail which were stashed in the back of their hunting vests. Seems one wasn't quite as dead as they thought. With a lot of noise and commotion, it scrambled out of that vest and flew away. I think the hunters all scattered like a bunch of quail themselves and then had a good laugh. It certainly gave my dad a good story! Here's hoping RAIN remembers to visit us soon! Maybe winter is done for now, but we all know a late freeze or snow usually sneaks in during April. If you read the "Years Ago" section of the paper - you've seen the stories! We live in Kansas! So, until next time, be prepared for any type of weather!

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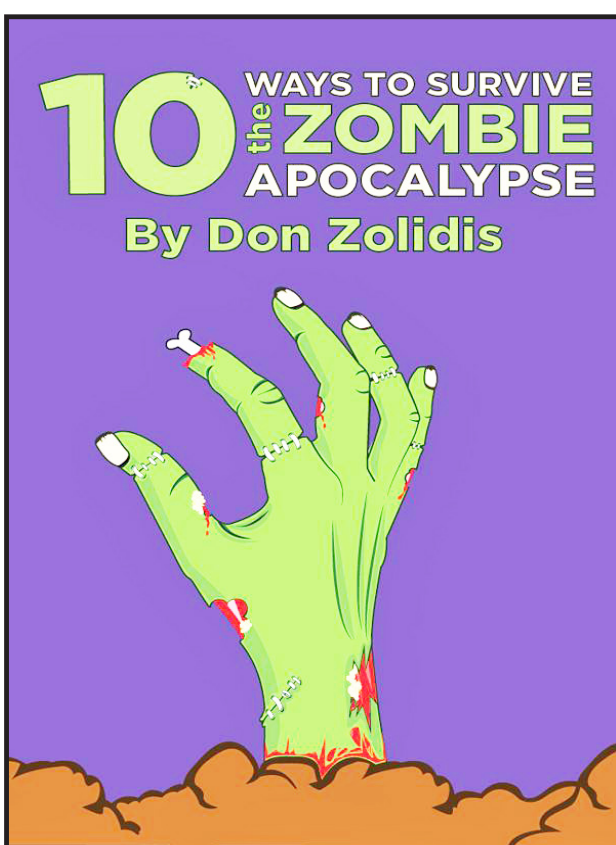
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## Community Bulletin Board

<b>Thursday, April 13</b> JH Track Meet at South Barber *** JH Track at Stafford	<b>Thursday, April 20</b> 5th grade: Kids Day on Farm *** State Music at Pratt: Large Groups
<b>Friday, April 14</b> FFA Banquet	<b>Friday, April 21</b> JH Track at Burrton *** HS Track at Burrton
<b>Saturday, April 15</b> Regional Solo and Ensemble at Tabor College	<b>Saturday, April 22</b> CHS Prom
<b>Monday, April 17</b> Inservice: No School *** Trap Shoot -Recorded	<b>Monday, April 24</b> 6:30 Mother/Daughter Banquet
<b>Tuesday, April 18</b> HS Track at Kingman *** Trap Shoot *** Lions Club	<b>Tuesday, April 25</b> Forensics Day *** 6:30 City Council
	<b>Wednesday, April 26</b> 7:00 Book Club at Glenda's (yes, again).

## Forensics Class Will Perform Play

On Tuesday, April 25, the CHS Forensics class will be presenting the short play, 10 Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse by Don Zolidis. This brief comedy will be presented at 7:00 in the high school gym. Admission is free. Please enter from the door on the west side of the gym between the gym and the high school. The students are looking forward to presenting this play to the public. As always, thank you for your continued support of our student actors!



### St. John Lutheran Church Concert

Nashville, Kansas  
Sunday, April 30, 4:00 P.M.  
Featuring:  
Pratt Musical Expressions  
Cunningham Cantata Group  
Nashville "Note-able's"

Light refreshments following the concert.



### "What Were You Wearing"

The month of April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. One of our campaigns we are doing to get more community awareness is the exhibit called "What Were You Wearing". It has become a social norm to ask survivors what they were wearing at the time of the assault. This exhibit is to show the community that it doesn't matter what you are wearing, sexual assault still happens. The "What Were You Wearing" exhibit will be displayed in the Pratt Community College Art Gallery from April 4th-April 27th.

### Circles of Hope, Pratt County

**BIG VIEW CONVERSATION FOSTER CARE**

Monday, April 24th, 6:15PM  
The First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall  
1st/Main St.



Thanks for recycling  
The Courier on May 1st

Recycle - Reduce - Reuse - Repurpose

## Wheat Scoop

(continued from front page)  
crop in dry soil," he said. "Right now, it's all about getting by and spending the least amount possible."

In Sheridan County, Brett Oelke's fields are surviving on half their average precipitation over the past two years as well.

"We're pretty fortunate right now," he said, because the moisture on this wheat crop has come with a timely three-quarters of an inch of rain in October when it was drilled and another inch and a half of moisture from snow since January.

Oelke's moisture probe proved that even though his area has gotten some timely moisture, the crop is far from trouble. Reaching only two feet down, he said last year's subsoil moisture was four feet.

"We're 22 to 24 inches behind over the past few years," he said.

In the sandy soils of Barber County, farmers are also dealing with less than half their average moisture.

"We need a rain really bad — and soon," Chris Boyd said.

The wheat plants are small and don't have many tillers. Fields in the Isabel area have received only one inch of rain total since the crop

was planted. In addition to fields that have been blown out completely from strong winds, they are also dealing with winter grain mites and army cut worms, which will limit yield potential. These pests can be controlled by applying an insecticide or pesticide, an added expense for a crop without a lot of potential.

"We were blessed with a nice harvest last year, but that crop used all of the subsoil moisture," Boyd said. "With virtually no moisture on this current crop and nothing in the forecast, producers are faced with difficult decisions on how many more inputs — such as insecticide for grain mites — to invest on a potential crop failure."

Rain is critical right now as temperatures begin to warm up and the wheat crop comes out of dormancy.

"We'll take whatever moisture we can get," said Millershaski.

With hit and miss showers mostly avoiding southwest Kansas this past week and few scattered showers forecast in the next 10 days, farmers remain hopeful for additional timely rains.

"We'll stay optimistic," Ediger said.

Written by Marsha Boswell, Kansas Wheat

## The Community Calendar is sponsored by



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To reserve the Cunningham Community Center, contact Taylor Strickland, (620) 770-9516 or 620-298-2511

## Libraries

Cunningham Public Library  
Mon., Wed., Fri.  
2:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
Tues., Thurs., Sat.  
9:00 - 11:30 a.m.  
Closed for Holidays  
298-3163



### Zenda Public Library

Monday  
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Thursday:  
4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday:  
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
620-243-5791



### Kingman Carnegie Library

Mon. & Tues. 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Wed. : 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Thurs. : 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Fri. : 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Sat. : 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
620-532-3061



### Pratt Public Library

Mon. - Thurs.  
10:00 - 7:00  
Friday: 10:00 - 6:00  
Saturday: 10:00 - 2:00  
Closed on Sundays  
(620) 672-3041

The CHS KAY club would like to invite all women and girls of the community to the Mother/Daughter Banquet.

Please bring a covered dish to share and your table service.  
Drinks will be provided.

Due to construction at the gym, this year's banquet will be held at the Sacred Heart Hall in Cunningham.

Monday  
April 24

6:30 P.M.

At the Sacred Heart Hall,  
Cunningham



Kingman's City Wide Garage Sale is coming soon!

It will be on April 28th & 29th!

Participants can pay \$2 to be featured on a map highlighting types of items up for sell.

Deadline to be featured on the map is April 18th.



Want featured? Contact KACC today!  
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## Kingman Historic Theatre

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All Seats \$6.00

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Showtimes:

Friday & Saturday at 7:30

Sunday at 5:30

April 21 - 23

Dungeons and Dragons: Honor Among Thieves

Rated: PG-13

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

W. A. Bradley / William Bradley

1928

April 20 – Mr. Charles Lakin was re-elected Director of the Board of Education of District No. 30 at the annual school board meeting held at the grade school building last Friday afternoon.

Cunningham defeated Sharon 9-7 in a baseball game played at Sharon last Sunday afternoon.

Henry's Clothiers of Wichita, were a little too much for St. Leo to handle in the baseball game played at St. Leo last Sunday afternoon. St. Leo came out on the short end of a 19-7 score.

Mr. George Hart and Mr. Chase Fouth escaped injury last Friday morning when they attempted to land Mr. Hart's airplane at the Pratt Airport. They over-shot the field and ran into a barbed wire fence, cracking the plane's propellor and blowing out a tire.

Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Yarberry and family are driving a new 1928 Dodge Standard Six. Mr and Mrs. Roy McNamee and family are driving a new 1928 Chevrolet Coach.

1933

Friday, April 21 – Mr. Frank Mitte has been appointed City Marshall of Cunningham, replacing Mr. Henry Goodaile, who resigned last week.

Ivanhoe Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star held a "Depression Party" following their regular meeting last Thursday evening. The depression was entirely forgotten during the evening in fun and entertainment.

Miss Violet Smith, Miss Vivian Parrish, and Mr. Ted Hart attended the one hundred and fifty-third rendition of the Messiah at Lindsborg last Sunday evening.

1938

April 22, 1938 – Frank Coffman, 83, a former resident and Cunningham's shoe repair man for many years, passed away Tuesday at the Kansas Masonic Home in Wichita.

Cunningham High School received many nice ratings in the Kingman County Music Festival held at Adams last Thursday. Ratings included Girl's Glee Club, Superior plus; Boy's Glee Club, Good; Mixed Chorus, Excellent; Mixed Small Ensemble, Good; Girl's Small Ensemble, Good; Orchestra, Superior; Clarinet, Margie Stanley, Good; Violin, Emily Groves, Excellent; Girl's High Voice, Naomi Gilstrap, Average; Girl's Medium Voice, Frances Groves, Excellent; Girl's Low Voice, Genevieve Corey, Good; Boy's Medium Voice, Donald Huhman, Superior; and Boy's Low Voice, Ross Vermillion, Good.

1943

April 23 – Cunningham High School's music department received fine ratings in the Kingman County Music Festival held at Spivey last Friday. Ratings in solo events included Eugenia Cooley, Superior; Jack Kincheloe, Excellent plus; Mary Elizabeth Cooley, Superior; Charles Cooley, Excellent; and Clark Wise, Excellent plus. Ratings in group events were Girl's Triple Trio, Superior plus; Mixed Double Quartette, Excellent minus; Boys Quartette, Excellent; Girl's Glee Club, Excellent plus; Boy's Glee Club, Superior; and Mixed Chorus, Excellent plus. Mrs Artaruth Zink is the music instructor.

Paul McGeorge, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy McGeorge, who was recently inducted into the United States Navy, is now stationed at Great Lakes, Ill., Naval Training Station.

1948

April 23– Mr. Bob Underwood of Carter Nine, Oklahoma, has been transferred to the local Skelly gasoline plant, as superintendent, taking the place of Bob Robinson, who has been transferred to a new plant in southeastern Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Underwood arrived last week to assume their new duties, and Mr. and Mrs. Robinson and son will leave this week for their new home. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson have been residents of Skellyville since the plant was built, and this community wishes them the best of everything in their new home.

The Cunningham Baseball Club will play their first game of the current season Sunday evening at the Pratt Elks Field when they engage the Pratt VFW team. Starting on the mound for Cunningham will be Joe Theis, with Zrubek behind the plate. Other probable starters are Baker at first, Zumalt at second, Huhman at short and Anderson at third base. Bradley, Buntmeyer, Graves, Becker, and Theis are outfield candidates.

1953

April 24 – Members of the Community Men's Club who anticipate attending the April dinner meeting next Tuesday evening, should make their reservations by this week-end.

The dinner-meeting will honor the Cunningham Wildcats basketball team, and the featured speaker for the evening will be Dr. Forrest "Phog" Allen, head basketball coach at the University of Kansas at Lawrence.

The dinner-meeting will be held in the High School Gym, to accommodate an anticipated large crowd. Dinner will be served at seven o'clock.

Dr. Allen is expected to give his usual entertaining speech, complete with his own personal comments and anecdotes. He has been coaching basketball for forty-three years, thirty-six of those years at the University of Kansas.

1958

April 24 - The High School Senior Class will present the play, "Host to a Ghost," Friday evening, April 25, at 8:00 o'clock in the High School Gym-Auditorium.

The cast of characters includes Linda Singleton, Tom Pennock, Karen Rose, Juanita Crosley, Dale Boswell, Marsha Thompson, Pat Becker, Bob Zrubek, Raymond Lawson, and Janie Theis. The play will be directed by Mrs. Dorothy Spencer.

Admission prices are 50¢ for adults and 25¢ for students.

Prize winners of the B&H Electric grand opening drawings:

- Vacuum Cleaner – Harold Watkins
- 20-pound box of Dash – Irene Schnittker, Maud Capito, Ada Hayes
- Range Recipe Files – Marvin Shelman, A. E. Meyers, R. E. Roberts, Mrs. James Dunworth, Patsy Hobbs, C. W. Ward.

1963

April 25– The senior class will present the play, "Teen-age Millionaire," in the high school gym next Tuesday evening, April 30. Curtain time is 8:00 o'clock.

The comedy in three acts concerns a teen-age millionaire who suffers a case of mistaken identity in his romantic life.

Members of the cast are Kenneth Spade, Norma Greenlee, Lynn Fitzsimmons, Joel Pelzl, Kathy Meyers, Connie Rose, Gene Patton, Clareen Thome, Virleen Block, David Amick, and LuWayne Patton.

The high school track team racked up 16 points and ninth place in the Kiowa Relays at Kiowa, a week ago Monday.

Eugene Huston was first in the high jump with a leap of 6 feet, 1½ inches, setting a new Kiowa Relays record for that event. The year-old former record was 5 feet, 10¾ inches.

Eugene also won the 440-yard dash in the time of 55.1 seconds, and took the third spot in the 100-yard dash.

Robert Leiter was fourth in the high hurdles, and Joe Young took fifth in the 220-yard dash.

1968

April 25 – A tornado struck Nashville and a near-by farm, Sunday afternoon, with the Wilbert Westerman home, a mile east of Nashville, being hit, destroying all outbuildings, and shaking up the residence, while in town itself, the roof was lifted from the Post Office, a trailer home of Depot Agent Jerry Wilde destroyed, and much minor damage reported at almost every home and business.

The storm was accompanied by heavy rain and large hail, which broke many windows.

Heavy winds, rain, and hail the size of baseballs, abused the Medicine Lodge, 99 Springs, Sawyer, and Isabel area.

Mrs. Virginia Gray of Cunningham, at her cabin at 99 Springs, had her car completely ruined by the large hail, and her cabin also suffered considerable damage.

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

Publisher: Charles G. Barnes  
Editor: Joyce Hartmann/Marsha Ioerger  
Reporter: Florine Kampling

1978

April 20-Reports from spectators at the barn fire near Calista are that the Cunningham Volunteer Fire Department knows its business and how to practice it in emergencies.

On Thursday a hay-filled barn started blazing about 6 p.m. at the Donald Mertens farm, reported by the small sons of the Mertens to their mother, Mary. Although the barn and contents were a total loss, the fire personnel was able to keep the flames from spreading to the nearby home of the family.

The building, but not the contents, was covered by insurance. The barn was built entirely of metal which buckled in the heat, and there were 600 bales of hay inside.

Fire departments from Kingman and Zenda sent water trucks to assist the Cunningham Department in extinguishing the fire.

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Ulenhop of Clay Center are proud to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their daughter, Patricia Ann, to Michael L. Deighton, son of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Deighton of Greensburg.

The bride-elect is a 1971 graduate of Riley County High School and received a B.S degree in music education from Kansas State University. She is a member

of Kappa Delta, social sorority and Mu Phi Epsilon, professional music honorary. She is employed by U.S.D. 332, Cunningham as instrumental and vocal instructor.

Her fiancé is a 1968 graduate of Larned High School and attended Pratt Community College where he played football and basketball, and Fort Hays State University. He is employed by Northern Natural Gas Company, Mullinville.

A July 29<sup>th</sup> wedding is being planned at the United Methodist Church, in Leonardville, Kansas.

Hilltop Happenings

We had a real treat when some of our residents got to go to a Lyceum Program at the local High School. They were Bill Holoday, Bill Neal, Doris Noonan, Richard Pratt, Chief Benson, Freda Hunt and Vernon Barber. Thanks to Louise Armstrong and Martha Albers for taking them. They saw Bobo Nickerson, comedian.

Hoot and Toots Kitchen Band from Turon will present a program at 2:30 Friday afternoon., April 21. The public is invited to attend.

Thursday we had a movie "People Soup." We had a real good turn out and nobody was eaten.

A miscellaneous bridal shower was held at the St. Leo Hall for Debbie Theis on March 12. Debbie is the bride-elect of Dean Simon. The tables were decorated in the bride's color of lavender. A lovely bow catcher was made by Lucille Vierthaler.

1983

April 21- The week of April 25 through April 30 is clean up week in Cunningham. Burning will be permitted. You are asked to please not burn it if it is windy.

Garage Sale Day in Cunningham will be Saturday, April 23, starting at 9 a.m. To reserve a space in the Community Building call Dee Mills at 298-3791 (evenings). A \$3 fee will be charged. Maps will also be available at the community building indicating locations of other sales in town.

Country Corners Pre-School will hold their Spring Program Thursday, April 28 at the United Methodist Church in Cunningham at 7:30 p.m. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Ninety-eight University of Kansas students were honored for their achievements in introductory accounting courses at a dinner and program recently in the Kansas Union.

Invitations were issued by members of the KU Accounting Club Mayer, Hoffman and McCann, a regional public accounting firm, hosted the event. The firm recognized students who made top grades in introductory financial account and managerial accounting courses in the KU School of Business during the spring and fall 1982 semesters.

Honored students included Scott Long, junior in business, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Long, Cunningham.

Feature Teacher Dave Larson came to Cunningham Grade School six years ago, after having taught since 1971 at St. Leo. And teaching in the grades seems appropriate for someone who truly enjoys kids.

Dave grew up in Red Hook, N. Y, a town about the size of Cunningham. So coming to rural Kansas wasn't totally strange. He attended St. Mary of the Plains and finished his degree in elementary education in 1971 at Sacred Heart which is now Kansas Newman.

At St. Leo, Dave instructed fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students. And his first few years at Cunningham presented him with a classroom of fourth graders. But for the past several years he has instructed sixth graders only.

"I like this age of kids I think because their open minded and for the most part will listen to people," Dave said. He explained this was a time in their life when they formulated good ideas.

Math and reading are his favorite subjects to teach basically because they are the most fundamental form of education. His class is also working with computer, as do the rest of the grade students. And to Dave, the experience is a form of 'future shock,' he jokes.

Dave and his wife Ellen have a daughter, Sarah, age four and two sons, Benjamin, Age two and Jacob, who is almost one.

Outside of school Dave enjoys photography and this is his first full year of being the photographer for the Cunningham Clipper. He has his own darkroom and likes to do his own work. His other interests include experimenting with audio and music. He says he plays a little guitar and banjo.

When asked if he felt he had a good relationship with his students, Dave replied. "Yes, I think I do. You have to be positive."

And why did he get into education and the elementary level in the first place? The answer came quick and simple. "I love kids. They're my life." Dave said.

**-WANTED -**  
**Old Photos for Our Community Album**  
Call (620) 298-2659 or email [couriernews@yahoo.com](mailto:couriernews@yahoo.com) or send to 320 North Stadium Street, Cunningham, KS 67035

## Jeff Hatfield

Jeffrey Lee Hatfield, 64, of Chanute passed away unexpectedly on Monday, March 27, 2023. Jeff was born on November 12, 1958, in Wichita, Kansas, the son of Floyd and Lyola (Fischer) Hatfield.



Jeff grew up on Air Force bases across the United States and in 1977 graduated from Pratt High School in Pratt, Kansas. After high school Jeff worked in the oil fields then went on to attend Kansas City Kansas Community College and graduated with an Associate's of Applied Science. Receiving his Associate's of Applied Science was very important to Jeff, as it allowed him the opportunity to work as a draftsman at Optimized Process Furnaces in Chanute for the past 25 years.

Jeff was an outdoorsman who loved to fish, hunt, camp, go on float trips, spend time at the lake, and grill. Jeff also was an avid sports fan, especially NASCAR, and his dream was to travel to all the race tracks across the country after he retired. Spending time with his dog was also very important to Jeff; he would take him on car rides around town and the country.

Jeff will always be remembered as a man that loved his family and he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Jeff is survived by his mother, Lyola Hatfield of Wichita, KS, daughter, Elissa Welden and her significant other Lawrence Nossier of Pratt, KS, son, Trevor Hatfield of Overland Park, KS, two sisters, Cathy Pauscher and her husband Steve of Wichita, KS and Lori Davis and her husband Mark of Cleveland, OH; his brother, Dennis Hatfield and his wife Melissa of Kansas City, MO, four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Jeff was preceded in death by his father, Floyd.

Cremation has taken place.

A celebration of life will be held at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, April 22, 2023 at Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt. Memorials may be made to The Dog Spot in care of Larrison Mortuary..

## Doug Hensiek

Nashville, Kansas - Douglas W. Hensiek, 63, passed away Friday, April 14, 2023. He was born on July 12, 1959 in Nashville to Vernon and Kathleen (Dick) Hensiek.

Doug graduated from Nashville-Zenda High School. He worked as a mechanic and was a farmer. Most recently he owned Hensiek Renovations and did carpentry construction. He was a 28 year member of Alcoholics Anonymous. He enjoyed riding his Harley's, woodworking, working with his hands and serving people.

He is survived by his partner, Tracy Collier; brother, Steven; and sisters, Carol, Beverly, Audrey and Deanna.

Douglas is preceded in death by his parents.

Inurnment will follow at a later date at White Deer Cemetery, White Deer, Texas.

Memorials may be made to Alateen in care of Larrison Mortuary. Online condolences may be made at [www.larrisonmortuary.com](http://www.larrisonmortuary.com).

## Joel Brubaker

Pratt - Joel Andrew Brubaker, 91, passed away Monday, April 17, 2023 at South Wind Home. He was born on September 27, 1931 near Sawyer to Everett James and Hazel Frances (Montgomery) Brubaker. Joel married Lorraine (Eller) Brubaker on August 15, 1953 in Rossville, Indiana. She preceded him in death on December 6, 2018.

Joel accepted Christ as a young man and became a member of Old German Baptist Brethren Church, Sawyer. He enjoyed farming, traveling, spending time with his family and South Wind family and socializing with people.

He is survived by his sons, Kent and Ann Brubaker of Sawyer and Michael and Renee Brubaker of Fort Worth, Texas; grandchildren, Kara Brubaker, Kami and Trevor Metzger, Kai and Kelsie Brubaker and Lexi and Cameron Epperson; great-grandchildren, Clay, Alli and Kit Metzger and Olivia Brubaker; brother in-law, Sylvan Eller of Clayton, Ohio; and sister in-law, Phyllis Brubaker of Roanoke, Virginia.

Joel is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Lorraine Brubaker; and brother, Donald Oscar Brubaker.

Visitation will be Friday, April 21, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. with family receiving friends from 5-7 at Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt. Funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, April 22, 2023 at Old German Baptist Brethren Church, Sawyer. Burial will follow at Pleasantview Cemetery, Sawyer.

Memorials may be made to South Wind Home in care of Larrison Mortuary.

## Consider this...

by Mike Johnson

### Thought Tunnels

Four million visitors cruise, hike, backpack or snowmobile their way through Yellowstone National Park each year. Living just 52 miles from the park's east entrance makes it seem as if a healthy percentage of them are our vacationing friends and relatives.

We love taking visitors through the park - especially first-timers. Nothing beats looking at such grandeur through the eyes of your guest's appreciative face twisting with spectacular ohhhs and ahhs. Isn't sharing what you love with a grateful friend the best kind of fun?

But then there are the city dwellers.

These are the type of guests who can't slow down. Their world consists of full-time immersion in the things of man - the career, the television, the sporting event. If it can't arrive by remote control, cellular phone, or computer keystroke, they aren't interested in going after it. Constantly bombarded by external stimulus, these high-strung folks have such a short attention span that they find it impossible to stop and just BE.

Yellowstone, of course - like all nature - is better enjoyed the more slowly you travel through it. Part of the adventure is the drive from Cody to the east gate entrance. This scenic drive is one of the most spectacular in America and does a great job of slowing your senses to better appreciate America's first National Park. You follow the roaring Shoshone River through mountains, valleys, lakes and forests. Every trip includes sightings of elk and deer, most include Bighorn sheep and if you're fortunate, moose and bear.

The trek begins just outside of Cody by driving through a series of three tunnels bored right through Rattlesnake

Mountain for a combined distance of almost a mile. While in the tunnel, of course, all you can see are the rocky walls that surround you. Even though there are gorgeous views all around, you can't see them until you exit the tunnels.

And so it is for those city dwellers who arrive at Yellowstone expecting it to be a non-stop video game. Their expectations of constant external stimulation build personal "thought tunnels" that prevent them from being able to absorb the grandeur of Yellowstone.

Because they look at life through a filter that unconsciously compares what they want with what they see, they are forever driven to search for more stimulus, yet never satisfied with the results. They stand before a 308 foot waterfall for 30 seconds, turn to their partner and say "Cool. What's next?"

Sadly, we're all a bit like this in one way or another. We only see what is in our own heads. We create the thought tunnels of our own minds with our unconscious values, desires, and cravings, weaving the walls that limit of our vision of the world.

In effect, we don't see things as THEY are, we see things as WE are.

The only way to remove these walls is to question our values. Is this something I really value or is it merely something I was told to value? Question our desires. Do I really want to remain a slave to this desire to be a millionaire? Question our cravings. Are the kind words of others really worth all the action it takes to earn them?

Through questions, our thought tunnels collapse because the only strength they ever had was our failure to question them. Once they're removed, we're once again able to absorb the universe's grandeur.

Free from our thought tunnels, we stop talking to ourselves and let God start talking to us.

## Cunningham Hands of Hope, Inc.

**Who:** A Not-for-Profit (501c3) organization providing assistance through donations and volunteers.  
**Who we serve:** Residents within the USD #332 school district  
**What:** Food  
**When:** First and Third Tuesday 2:00-5:00 p.m.  
**Where:** 117 N Main (Old School Board Office)  
**Why:** To provide food assistance to those in need.  
**How:** Attend weekly distribution. Adult of household must be present.  
Do you need assistance outside distribution hours?  
 Please call 620-491-0292 and leave a message. Your call will be returned as soon as possible. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



### Catholic Churches

**Sacred Heart, Cunningham**  
Saturdays 4:00 p.m.

**St. John, Zenda**  
Sundays 10:00 a.m.

**St. Leo**  
Sundays 8:30 a.m.

**St. Peter Willowdale**  
Saturdays 5:30 p.m.

Father Roger Lumbré  
620-243-5451  
620-246-5370



### Lutheran Churches

**St. John, Nashville**  
620-246-5220  
Sunday School & Bible Class  
9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service  
8:30 a.m.

**Trinity, Medicine Lodge**  
620- 886-3397  
Sunday School & Bible Class  
9:15 a.m.  
Worship Service  
10:30 a.m.

Our worship service is found on the YouTube channel at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCrenCH12I9nmpcojCFyYLA>

Pastor Dennis Fangmeyer  
Cell: 620-886-0911



### Church of Christ

**Penalosa**  
Sunday 11:00 a.m.



### First Christian Church

**Cunningham**  
Sunday School 9:30 am  
Morning Worship 10:45  
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00  
Jr High Youth Group 4:00 pm Sunday  
Sr High Youth Group 7:30 pm Sunday  
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:00  
Pastor Mike McGovney 620-298-3201



### United Methodist Church

**Penalosa**  
Worship 9:15 a.m.

**Cunningham**  
Worship 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Mathew Ndambuki Musyoki  
620-298-2090

**Zenda**  
Worship 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School: Children 8:30 a.m. Adults 10:00 a.m.  
Pastor J L Nichols  
620-491-0680

*More Life Celebrations can be found on page 14*

May 6, 2023

# 1st Annual Children's Miracle Network Golf Tournament

Hosted by the Park Hills Men's Golf Association

All proceeds will benefit CMN programs

## 4- person scramble

Tee Time: 10am Shotgun Start  
Park Hills Country Club- Pratt, KS

\$400 per team — Limited to the first 26 teams

Call or text Matt Hecker at 620-770-2024 to register

Cart Rental Fee: \$30 — Limited Carts Available  
Raffle Tickets: \$5 for 1 or \$20 for 5

Please mail payments to :  
Matt Hecker  
211 Stout St.  
Pratt, KS 67124 Make checks pay able to Park Hills Men's Golf

The outdoor classroom project is complete. KAY club received a Be the Spark grant sponsored by KAYAN, the KAY alumni group, and Blue Cross Blue Shield for the project. We would like to thank KAYAN, Blue Cross Blue Shield, and USD 332 for funding the project. The students will have a wonderful facility to promote active, healthy lifestyles and learning for years to come.

story and photos submitted by Rebecca Huelsamp

Outdoor Classroom Completed



This building sits behind the grade school. Pictured on the right are members of the KAY club.

Community Service Day Highlights



Molly Morgan photos



Second Grade Hosts Visitors



Daniel Hellman introduces Officer Ken Wright to his 2nd grade classmates

Thank you Officer Ken Wright, Pratt Police Department, for teaching us about your job today. Officer Wright has been an officer for 19 years and is also a taser instructor. We enjoyed learning how you use reading, math, spelling, and other subjects in your everyday work. We learned you have to be 21 years old to be an officer and attend a 14 week officer training school. We learned a lot and appreciate you for the time you devoted to our class. Thanks again to Officer Ken Wright!

Photos and articles submitted by Ingrid Ricke



Chase Simon introduces Mike Simon to his classmates

Mike Simon from Peoples State Bank in Manhattan, Kansas presented to our class about his position as a loan officer and land loan officer. He works with the Eastern Kansas region. Mike has been with the bank for 12 years and has a variety of duties. He talked with the students about how much math, reading, and interacting with others is required for his job. We learned that he travels to different branches and states for work. His favorite thing is interacting with people and helping them out. Thank you Mike for teaching us about banking and the importance of starting a savings account. We appreciate the time that you devoted to our class (and for driving all the way to Cunningham to present in person).

Some CJH Track Photos



Cole Hageman, 7th grader, placed high jumped at South Barber. He placed 1st out of 14 jumpers with a height of 4'11".



Weston Rogers, 7th grader, clears the hurdle in the finals of the 100M hurdles. There were 13 runners in this event. Weston placed 5th and Liam McGuire, 6th grader, placed 1st.



Photos and commentary submitted by Jennette Rogers

**Spotlight ON CHS Future Farmers of America**



Left to right: Shanelle Romine, Dakota Mertens, Brianna Dittmer, Lane Halderson, Emily Ogg, Rick King, Grace Hageman, Kory Morgan, Matilyn Jump, Nate Sterneker, Ada Adams, Caleb Panek, Logan Kinsler (Not pictured: Bethany Daniels, Maranda Lohrke, Wendy Kinsler, Sean Kostner, Blake Swope, Tyler Winter)



Molly Morgan Photos



FFA 2023-2024 Officers: Logan Kinsler, Sentinel, Grace Hageman, Reporter, Emily Ogg, Treasurer, Ada Adams, Vice President, Brianna Dittmer, Secretary, Nate Sterneker, President, also pictured, FFA sponsor, Bailey Osborn



Outstanding FFA members: Logan Kinsler, Nate Sterneker, Kory Morgan, Caleb Panek

Marcy Allbritten  
Janet DeWeese  
Leroy Panek  
Janet Sterneker  
Mary Oller  
Mary Ann Ruckle  
Carol Freund  
Louise Armstrong  
Johnna Freund  
Jane Meyers  
Joan Thimesch  
Liz & Steve Miller  
Jody & Bill Thome  
Nancy & Stan Weglarz  
Terri & Kenny Simon

CC & Joe Sterneker  
Karla & Lee Stillwell  
Diana & Gary Wegerer  
Pam & Doug Liebl  
Kristin & Kevin Wegerer  
Amy & Lance McGuire  
Kathy & Alan Albers  
Mary & Bob Stackhouse  
Kathy & Doug Griffis  
Rogene & Wayne Jarmer  
Judy & Scott DeWeese  
Joyce & Lowell Gridley  
Gwen & Mark Betzen  
Molly Morgan & Family  
Shawna & Tom Sterneker

Jeanette & Bob Kerschen  
Helen & Chuck Holcomb  
Ellene & Jack Crick  
Lois & Don Becker  
Patty & John Huffman  
Donni & Warren Melrele  
Deanna & Bill Parker  
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High School Track Photos -- South Barber

Molly Morgan photos



Dagim Reed



Will Wegerer



Luke McGuire and Lane Halderson



Kyra Morgan



Alice Huelskamp



Bella Thimesch

*"The best way to measure how much you've grown isn't by inches or the number of laps you can now run around the track, or even your grade point average-- though those things are important, to be sure. It's what you've done with your time, how you've chosen to spend your days, and whom you've touched this year. That, to me, is the greatest measure of success."*  
— R.J. Palacio, Wonder



Grace Hageman and Maranda Lohrke

USDA Announces Grassland Conservation Reserve Program Signup for 2023

MANHATTAN, KS, April 17, 2023 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that agricultural producers and private landowners can begin signing up for the Grassland Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) starting today and running through May 26, 2023. Among CRP enrollment opportunities, Grassland CRP is a unique working lands program, allowing producers and landowners to continue grazing and haying practices while conserving grasslands and promoting plant and animal biodiversity as well as healthier soil.

"Grassland CRP clearly demonstrates that agricultural productivity and conservation priorities but also complement and enhance one another," said Dennis McKinney, FSA State Executive Director in Kansas. "The strength of this program lies in its many benefits — the program helps producers and landowners produce and maintain diverse wildlife habitat, sequester carbon in the soil, and support sound, sustainable grazing."

More than 3.1 million acres were accepted through the 2022 Grassland CRP signup from agricultural producers and private landowners. That signup—the highest ever for the program—reflects the

continued success and value of investments in voluntary, producer-led, working lands conservation programs. The current total participation in Grassland CRP is 6.3 million acres, which is part of the 23 million acres enrolled in CRP opportunities overall.

Since 2021, USDA's FSA, which administers all CRP programs, has made several improvements to Grassland CRP to broaden the program's reach, including:

- Creating two National Priority Zones to put focus on environmentally sensitive land such as that prone to wind erosion.

- Enhancing offers with 10 additional ranking points to producers and landowners who are historically underserved, including beginning farmers and military veterans.

- Leveraging the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) to engage historically underserved communities within Tribal Nations in the Great Plains.

**How to Sign Up for Grassland CRP**

Landowners and producers interested in Grassland CRP, or any other CRP enrollment option, should contact their local USDA Service Center to learn more or to apply for the program before the deadlines.

Producers with expiring CRP acres can enroll in the Transition Incentives Program (TIP), which incentivizes producers who sell or enter into a long-term lease with a beginning, veteran, or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher who plans to sustainably farm or ranch the land.

**Other CRP Signups**

Under Continuous CRP, producers and landowners can enroll throughout the year. Offers are automatically accepted provided the producer and land meet the eligibility requirements and the enrollment levels do not exceed the statutory cap. Continuous CRP includes a Climate-Smart Practice Incentive to increase carbon sequestration and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by helping producers and landowners establish trees and permanent grasses, enhance wildlife habitat, and restore wetlands.

FSA offers several additional enrollment opportunities within Continuous CRP, including the State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) Initiative, the Farmable Wetlands Program (FWP), and the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). Also available is the Clean Lakes Estuaries and Rivers (CLEAR30) Initiative, which was originally piloted in twelve states but has since been expanded nationwide, giving producers and landowners across the country the opportunity to enroll in 30-year CRP contracts for water quality practices.

USDA hosts an annual General CRP signup. This year's General CRP signup was open from Feb. 27 through April 7. The program helps producers and landowners establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland. The Climate-Smart Practice Incentive is also available in the General

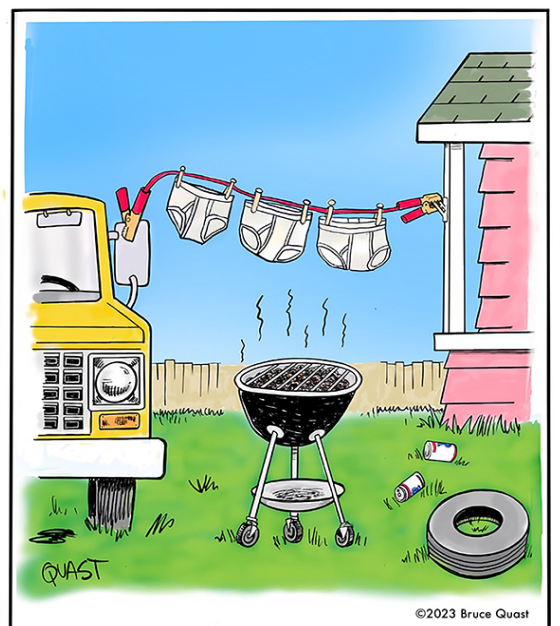
signup.

More Information Signed into law in 1985, CRP is one of the largest voluntary private-lands conservation programs in the United States. It was originally intended to primarily control soil erosion and potentially stabilize commodity prices by taking marginal lands out of production. The program has evolved over the years, providing many conservation and economic benefits.

Privately owned grazing lands cover nearly 30 percent of the national landscape, and USDA recognizes the tremendous opportunity address climate-change through voluntary private lands conservation. In addition to CRP, resources are available at FSA's sister agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Earlier this month, NRCS announced its \$12 million investment in cooperative agreements for 49 projects that expand access to conservation technical assistance for livestock producers and increase the use of conservation practices on grazing lands.

**Comfortably Dumb**

by Bruce Quast



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Kingman County Sheriff's Report

Sunday, April 9

Traffic Stop	6
Civil Paper Service	1
Traffic Complaint	SE 20 St & SE 140 Ave, Cheney
Traffic Complaint	5000 W Hwy 54, Cunningham
Traffic Complaint	12000 S Hwy14, Rago
Disabled Vehicle	NW120 Ave & W Hwy 54, Cunningham
Disabled Vehicle	10000 W Hwy 54, Cunningham
Disabled Vehicle	E 3rd Ave & S Briarwood St, Norwich
Animal Complaint	1800 block N Sidney St, Kingman
Animal Complaint	N Hwy 11 & W Hwy 54, Kingman
Warrant Service	500 block N Coronado St, Kingman
Trespassing	NW 50 Ave & W Hwy 54, Kingman
Follow Up	120 N Spruce, Kingman
911 Accidental Dial	300 block S Somerset St, Norwich

Monday, April 10

Traffic Stop	2
Civil Paper	1
Disturbance	120 North Spruce, Kingman
Animal Complaint	E Hwy 42 & SE 90 Ave, Rago
Animal Complaint	E Hwy 42 & SE 30 Ave, Rago
Transport Civilian	120 North Spruce, Kingman
Injury Accident	SW 80 Ave & W Hwy 54, Kingman
Agency Assist	130 N Spruce, Kingman
Follow Up	120 N Spruce, Kingman
Animal Complaint	NE 30 Ave & NE 50 St, Kingman
Follow Up	130 N Spruce, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	E Bluff St & SE 160 Ave, Cheney
Transport Prisoner	18000 W Hwy 54, Cunningham
Follow Up	120 N Spruce, Kingman
Disturbance	300 block E A Ave, Kingman
Check Welfare	300 block E A Ave, Kingman
911 Accidental Dial	300 block S Briarwood, Norwich

Tuesday, April 11

Traffic Stop	3
Civil Paper Service	8
Traffic Complaint	12000 E Hwy 54, Cheney
Traffic Complaint	9000 E Hwy 42, Rago
Suspicious Activity	E Hwy 42 & SE 130 Ave, Norwich
Fire / Grass	NE 40 Ave & E Hwy 54, Kingman

Wednesday, April 12

Abandoned Vehicle	NW 90 Ave & NW 50 St, Kingman
Animal Complaint	10000 E Hwy 42, Norwich
Check Welfare	400 block E Leiter Ave, Cunningham
Driving Complaint	1000 W Hwy 54, Kingman
Disabled Vehicle	9000 E Hwy 54, Murdock
Driving Complaint	6600 NE 20 St, Kingman
Alarm	16000 SW 10 St, Cunningham
Suspicious Vehicle	5700 NE 10 St, Kingman

Thursday, April 13

Fatality Accident	3220 E Hwy 54, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	E Hwy 54 & NE 120 Ave, Murdock
Traffic Complaint	1020 W D Avenue, Kingman
Warrant Service	120 North Spruce, Kingman

Friday, April 14

Traffic Stop	1
Traffic Complaint	2000 W Hwy 54, Kingman
Trespassing	300 block E D Ae, Kingman
Disturbance	E C Ave & Fabpro Way, Kingman
Warrant Service	13000 SE Main Ave, Rago
Warrant Service	400 block N Main, Spivey
Warrant Service	120 N Spruce, Kingman
Weather Watch	Murdock
Disturbance	15300 NE 50 St, Cheney

Saturday, April 15

Traffic Stop	1
Non-Injury Accident	SE 160 Ave & E Hwy 2, Norwich
Animal Complaint	10000 W Hwy 54, Cunningham
Fire / Semi	E Hwy 54 & NE 150 Ave, Cheney

We visited the butterfly zoo and...

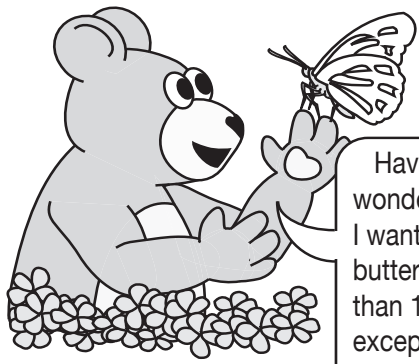
...watched butterflies feed on flowers.

# Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com

Annimills LLC © 2023 V14

Kids: color stuff in!



## Butterflies

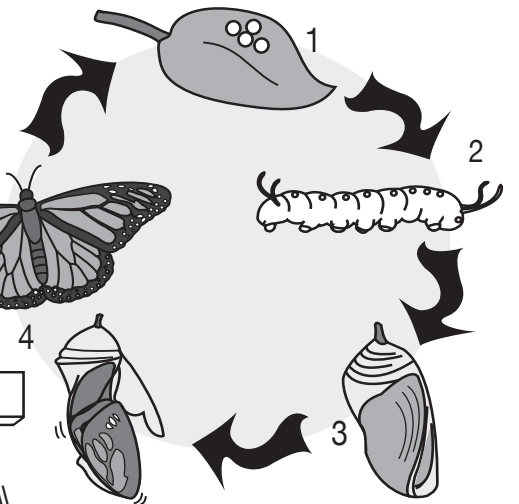
Have you ever watched butterflies flutter by and wondered where they come from and where they go? I wanted to learn more about them, so I visited a butterfly house, where I learned that there are more than 17,500 kinds of butterflies. They live everywhere except Antarctica. I'd tell you more, but I want you to **read my clues to fill in my puzzle!**

**Butterflies:**

- are \_\_\_\_\_, they have 6 legs.
- have 2 pairs of \_\_\_\_\_ and a narrow body
- have a \_\_\_\_\_ from one half inch (the Pygmy Blue found in southern U.S.) to almost a foot (Queen Alexandra's Birdwing in rain forests of New Guinea)
- have a sense of taste through their \_\_\_\_\_
- feed on nectar from \_\_\_\_\_ or juice from rotting fruit through a "strawlike" tongue
- "\_\_\_\_\_ " through their antennae
- can see \_\_\_\_\_: red, green and yellow
- have skeletons on the \_\_\_\_\_ of their bodies (exoskeleton)
- are protected from being \_\_\_\_\_ by their terrible odor or taste
- may have \_\_\_\_\_ on their wings that scare predators away
- colors may help them \_\_\_\_\_ or blend with backgrounds
- fly mostly during the \_\_\_\_\_
- hang from leaves, crawl into cracks in rocks to sleep at \_\_\_\_\_
- live for about one \_\_\_\_\_ (some live longer)

Clues for crossword puzzle:  
 1. wingspan  
 2. month  
 3. day  
 4. night  
 5. outside  
 6. smell  
 7. hide  
 8. patterns  
 9. eaten  
 10. insects  
 11. wings  
 12. flowers

(A Cycle of Life)  
**Metamorphosis**  
(Transforming or changing)



Do you know the four stages of a butterfly's life? **Read the clues to fill in the blanks and find out!**

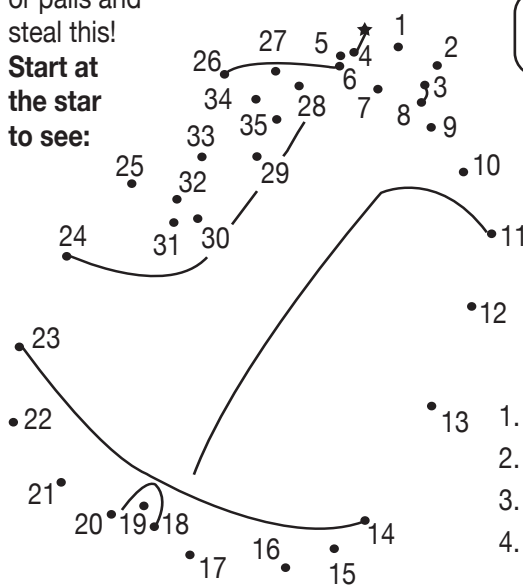
- a butterfly \_\_\_\_\_ is laid on a leaf
- a \_\_\_\_\_ (larva) hatches and eats its own eggshell, then it eats the leaves of the plant on which it hatched
- it hangs by silken threads and forms a \_\_\_\_\_ (or chrysalis)
- later, the \_\_\_\_\_ (winged adult) comes out - and the cycle begins again



### What's In a Name? Butterfly Thieves!

Although butterflies have nothing to do with butter, the English called them "butterflies" because many years ago they were thought to flutter around, land on butterchurns or pails and steal this!

**Start at the star to see:**



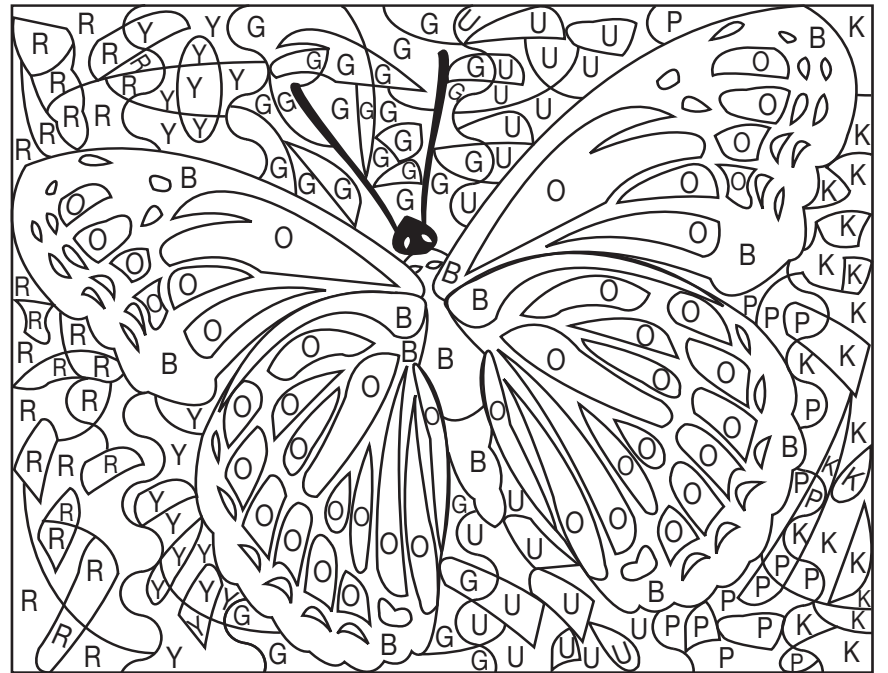
Who's taking whaaaaaat?



- O = orange
- B = black
- R = red
- Y = yellow
- G = green
- U = blue
- P = purple
- K = pink

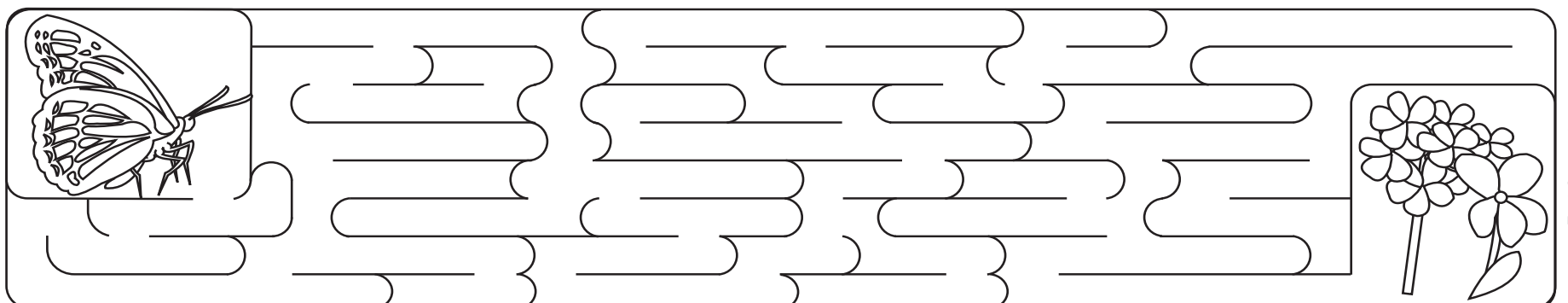
### Monarch Migration

Monarch butterflies travel over 2,000 miles from the U.S. to Mexico. They start flying at the end of summer and get there by November to stay for the winter. **Use the color key to see what they look like!**



### Butterfly House

Have you ever heard of a Butterfly House or Zoo? They are places where butterflies live protected. They are full of plants and flowers! The butterflies breed and live in an environment set up for all their needs. **Help the butterfly land on the flowers:**



(Answers on page 10)



Community Bonds

Jackie Mundt, Pratt County farmer and rancher

Living in a small town is wonderful. Knowing people in the grocery store, the space and security for children to play in parks or yards and a shared sense of ownership with your neighbors to help and make life better for each other are some of the things that make this life sweet.

Smaller usually feels like an advantage in rural communities, except there are fewer people to help financially support the cost of community resources. Farmers and other landowners cover a large portion of the communities' financial needs through property tax payments to support local municipalities, schools,

hospitals and other taxing entities.

Incredibly rural communities often have a choice between shockingly high taxes or a glaring lack of important community services. Bond issues are a way for the community to declare their opinion of whether some of the taxes are worth it.

This spring, our school district like many other across the state, has a bond issue on the upcoming ballot. The school is asking our community to make improvements to existing facilities to accommodate unmet and future needs.

Bond measures are really asking whether you and your neighbors want to join together and spend money out of your own pocket on an investment in the community. All investments should be considered carefully by weighing the cost against the risk and reward.

In our ultra-polarized

world, some people will quickly jump to one side or the other of this issue. Some will oppose the measure because the cost is too high or they believe the improvements are not needed. Others are strongly in favor of all investments in education and community improvements regardless of the cost.

This community has been fortunate to have had citizens who balanced fiscal responsibility with a vision for a community that is a great place to live. As I look around, it is easy to see all the places where people have made investments of time and money to make our community great.

I often marvel about how people have been proactive and really cared about the future of our community. It's not like that everywhere. I appreciate the past investments and feel a sense of obligation and desire to

do my best for the future of this place.

Personally, I am typically pro-investment because community growth and improvements to our schools and other facilities make for a high quality of life that attracts new people and helps us all to thrive. However, the idea of more taxes pushes me to temper that reaction with an evaluation of the project before deciding my stance.

It is my responsibility as a voter and community member to evaluate the

proposed bond against my own desires and the needs of our community. The vote is a few weeks away, and I have been investigating the proposal, discussing it with my fellow voters and seeking knowledge to fill gaps in my understanding.

If you have a bond issue in your community, I hope you will take the time to evaluate what is being asked and if the solution is the right course of action. Getting to the decision right can have a big impact on the future

of your community. I haven't made a decision on the bond issue yet but am confident I will walk into the polling booth as an informed voter with the best interest our community in mind. I also have faith that my fellow community members have the same feelings of responsibility and ownership of the decision they make.

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On April 13th, the Kingman County Humane Society had their ribbon cutting ceremony after joining the Kingman Area Chamber of Commerce. (from left to right) Robyn Longhofer, Katie Nesbitt, Darin Nesbitt, CJ Jergenson, Shelby Snyder, and Scotty Jergenson.

Upcoming Auctions

**FARM AUCTION**  
 Sat. April 22, 2023 – 10:00AM  
 From Pratt: 4.5 N on Hwy 61 to Natrona 40th Ave, 6 N  
 From Preston: 6 W on NE 70th st, 6 N on NE 40th Ave  
 Glenn and Laralee Sukup

**LAND AUCTION**  
 Wednesday, May 3, 2023 Time: 1:30 pm  
 154 +/- Acres Pratt County, KS Hunting Land  
 Hamm Auction Center  
 Seller: Brad Schulte and Mark Schulte

For more information and a complete list of auctions, see our website at [www.hammauction.com](http://www.hammauction.com)  
 107 NE State Road 61, Pratt, Kansas, 67124  
 620-672-6996



Please consider volunteering or adopting or fostering or donating to your local Humane Society

Kingman County Humane Society Pets Ready for Adoption

Ike

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Male Domestic Shorthair  
 6+ pounds  
 Age: 8+ months  
 Adoption Fee: \$50.00  
 Intake Date: February 9, 2023

Pookie

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Female Husky  
 40 pounds  
 1 1/2+ years  
 \$180.00  
 Intake Date: April 7, 2023



Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, from 8:00 - 5:30 (except during lunch 12-1) on Wed., from 8:00 - 12:00 Call for Saturday hours. 1015 East U.S. 54, Kingman, KS

Have you ever watched butterflies flutter by and wondered where they come from and where they go? I wanted to learn more about them so I went to visit a butterfly house.

## Butterflies

**What's In a Name?**

1. English — A. papillon  
 2. French — B. butterfly  
 3. Russian — C. petalouda (petal leaf)  
 4. Greek — D. babochka (bow tie)

**Monarch Migration**

**Butterfly Thieves!**

Who's taking whaaaaaat?

**Metamorphosis**  
 (Transforming or changing)

**Four stages of butterfly's life cycle:**

1. a butterfly egg is laid on leaf
2. a caterpillar (larva) hatches
3. it hangs by silken threads and forms a pupa
4. later, the butterfly (winged adult) comes out and the cycle begins again

by Annimills LLC © 2023

**Kingman County Commission Minutes**

Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. April 10, 2023, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse.

Present: Jerry Henning, Chairman; Patrick Elpers, Commissioner; Jack Thimesch, Commissioner  
Carol Noblit, County Clerk; Brandon Ritchea, County Counselor

Visitors: Bob Morris, Kingman Leader-Courier; Larry Landwehr; Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director

Online Visitors: Heather Kinsler; Shanna Henry; Mary Schwartz

Staff: Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director and Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director.

Chairman Henning asked if there were any additions to the agenda.

Chairman Henning would like to have a proclamation added.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning asked if there was any public comment.

Leslie Schrag was in to let the Commissioners know that Johnna Fairchild had went to Topeka to talk with Lt. Governor Tolland about the child care that she has been working on.

Ms. Schrag discussed that the CDBG grant for the USD 331 child care will not be submitted this year as they did not have time to get things done before the hearing deadlines.

The School District will be applying for the Accelerator Grant to help with moving forward on the Child Care Center.

Bill Vanlandingham was in to talk to the County Commissioners about the Heritage Hall of Honor. He has three new inductees that will be framed and placed at the Expo Center by Memorial Day.

Commissioners discussed that they have heard good comments on the Heritage Hall of Honor.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk submitted the April 3,

2023, Commissioners Meeting minutes for approval. MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the April 3, 2023, Commission Meeting minutes. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning discussed a Proclamation for declaring April 9-15, 2023, as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the Proclamation. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning discussed that a life-saving award was given to three individuals, a dispatcher, a deputy and a police officer for helping to save the life of a local resident with the assistance and cooperation of Kingman EMS. He was glad to see everyone working so well together for our community.

The Commissioners wanted to acknowledge that the departments work well together and that it helped save a life.

Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in with a permit from the following:

American Engineering & Testing-soil borings in various locations in Canton and Valley Townships.

Mr. Arensdorf discussed that AEP submitted the payment for the borings.

Mr. Arensdorf submitted the March Budget reports for Road & Bridge.

Mr. Arensdorf discussed that he needs to submit the Federal Fund Exchange application for .90 cents on the dollar exchange for federal funds and that he will be the contact person. The money would be placed in the ¾ cent sales tax fund.

Asphalt Quotes received last week were reviewed by Mr. Arensdorf.

Product	Ergon	Coastal
Vance Brothers	Asphalt Fuel & Sup.	
MC800	3.45 gallon	3.13 gallon
3.89 gallon	3.28 gallon	
CMS-1	2.91 gallon	2.93 gallon
3.14 gallon		
CRS-1H	2.46 gallon	2.38 gallon
gallon		2.74 gallon

Mr. Arensdorf discussed the asphalt quotes from last week and his recommendation was to go with Coastal for the MC800 and CRS-1H.

Mr. Arensdorf also recommended going with Ergon for CMS-1.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the recommendation by Mr. Arensdorf to go with Coastal for MC800 and CRS-1H. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the recommendation by Mr. Arensdorf to go with Ergon for CMS 1. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Arensdorf discussed the KDOT Bridge program.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the participation on the 2025 office system bridge program. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Arensdorf submitted the 2022 County Engineers Annual Report to the Commissioners.

Mr. Arensdorf gave an update on the Engineers Annual meeting held last week in St. John.

Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director; Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director were in to review and discuss the Decommissioning/Pilot Agreement and Road Agreement for Flat Ridge IV with the Commissioners and Brandon Ritchea, County Counselor.

Commissioners discussed the fines for hauling outside of the haul route and the fines for not notifying when hauling heavy equipment.

Commissioners discussed when does a windfarm become operational.

Commissioners discussed other items that they had questions on with Mr. Ritchea.

Commissioners would like to contact Canton and Valley Township officers and have them come in to discuss the roads in the proposed haul route.

Mr. Goetz and Mr. Arensdorf left the meeting at 11:41 a.m.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:42 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

**Minutes from Pratt County Commission**

The Pratt County commissioners met in regular session Monday, April 10, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. in the commissioner room, 1st floor of the courthouse. The following members were present: Thomas W.

Jones III, Rick Shriver, Dwight Adams, Tyson Eisenhauer, county counselor, Lori Voss, clerk, and Mark Graber, IT director.

Heather Morgan, economic development/zoning consultant, followed up with KDOT information on EV charging stations. They will be working with a private sector partner. Pratt County has

been instructed to work with this partner and she will follow up with them.

There is an economic development meeting Wednesday to approve façade grants. She reported EMS rates for runs reimbursement is increasing from Medicare.

The constitutional amendment question approved by the senate was SCR 1611. It has not been

considered by the house yet but will need 2/3 majority vote to advance it to a statewide ballot question. If adopted by a two-thirds majority of each chamber of the Kansas legislature and then approved by Kansas voters, this would amend the Kansas constitution to generally limit, for property tax purposes, the valuation growth of

any real property to 4 percent per year. The limit would not apply to new construction or when improvements have been made. There are a few

other small exemptions as well. The Kansas legislature approved a tax bill to move the state to a single tax rate, cut property

(con't on page 12)

**Public Notice**

*Published in The Cunningham Courier on Thursday, April 13, 2023 (2t)*

KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

Request for Proposals To Provide

A Ceiling replacement in the Appraiser's Office and Emergency Manager's Room (Request No. 2023-2023001)

Issued: April 10th, 2023

Closing Date: Monday, May, 1, 2023

Closing Time: 10:00 a.m., Local Time

The Board of County Commissioners of Kingman County, Kansas (the "County") is soliciting proposals from qualified vendor contractors for the replacement and installation of new ceiling tiles at the Kingman County Appraiser's Office and Emergency Manager Office located at 130 N Spruce St in the City of Kingman, Kansas. Copies of the Request for Proposals may be obtained from the Kingman County Clerk at the address set forth below. The Request for Proposals also is available on the County's web site:

<http://www.kingmancoks.org/DocumentCenter/View/>

For information regarding this Request for Proposals, contact:

Jerry Henning

Telephone: (620) 532-6217

Email: [jhenning@kingmancoks.org](mailto:jhenning@kingmancoks.org)

Pre-Closing Date Conference

A Pre-Closing Date Conference will be conducted on Monday, April 24, 2023, in the County Commissioners' meeting room

on the lower level of the Kingman County Courthouse, 130 N. Spruce, Kingman, Kansas @ 4:00 p.m. The Pre-Closing Date Conference is to provide all prospective Interested Parties an opportunity to view the ceilings in the bid and an opportunity to pose questions or provide comments regarding this Request for Proposals. Prospective Interested Parties and their representatives should familiarize themselves with the terms and provisions of this Request prior to the Pre-Closing Date Conference. All Interested Parties are encouraged submit questions and comments prior to the Pre-Closing Date Conference to the attention of the County Clerk in writing or in electronic format to [noblitc@kingmancoks.org](mailto:noblitc@kingmancoks.org). The Commission requests all Prospective Interested Parties attend the Pre-Closing Date Conference, failure to attend may remove your bid from consideration.

Vendors should submit one (1) original and five (5) copies of Vendor's Proposal in sealed envelopes or packages as described in the Request for Proposals. The outside of the envelopes or packages must be labeled with the Vendor's name and address and be clearly marked "Ceiling Tile Proposal, Attention: Kingman County Commissioners." Proposals must be received on or before the Closing Time on the Closing Date in the offices of the Kingman County Clerk at the following address:  
Kingman County Clerk  
Kingman County Courthouse  
130 North Spruce  
Kingman, KS 67068

**Public Notice**

*Published in The Cunningham Courier on Thursday, April 13, 2023 (2t)*

KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

Request for Proposals To Provide

A Remodel of the County Storage Facility on A Avenue (Request No. 2023-2023002)

Issued: April 10th, 2023

Closing Date: Monday, May, 8, 2023

Closing Time: 10:00 a.m., Local Time

The Board of County Commissioners of Kingman County, Kansas (the "County") is soliciting proposals from qualified vendor contractors for the Remodeling of the Kingman County Storage Facility on A Avenue in the City of Kingman, Kansas. Copies of the Request for Proposals may be obtained from the Kingman County Clerk at the address set forth below. The Request for Proposals also is available on the County's web site:

<http://www.kingmancoks.org/DocumentCenter/View/>

For information regarding this Request for Proposals, contact:

Jerry Henning

Telephone: (620) 532-6217

Email: [jhenning@kingmancoks.org](mailto:jhenning@kingmancoks.org)

Pre-Closing Date Conference

A Pre-Closing Date Conference will be conducted on Monday, May 1, 2023, in the County Commissioners' meeting room on the lower level of the Kingman County Courthouse, 130 N. Spruce, Kingman, Kansas @

4:00 p.m. The Pre-Closing Date Conference is to provide all prospective Interested Parties an opportunity to view the buildings in the bid and an opportunity to pose questions or provide comments regarding this Request for Proposals. Prospective Interested Parties and their representatives should familiarize themselves with the terms and provisions of this Request prior to the Pre-Closing Date Conference. All Interested Parties are encouraged submit questions and comments prior to the Pre-Closing Date Conference to the attention of the County Clerk in writing or in electronic format to [noblitc@kingmancoks.org](mailto:noblitc@kingmancoks.org). The Commission requests all Prospective Interested Parties attend the Pre-Closing Date Conference, failure to attend may remove your bid from consideration.

Vendors should submit one (1) original and five (5) copies of Vendor's Proposal in sealed envelopes or packages as described in the Request for Proposals. The outside of the envelopes or packages must be labeled with the Vendor's name and address and be clearly marked "Storage Facility Remodel, Attention: Kingman County Commissioners." Proposals must be received on or before the Closing Time on the Closing Date in the offices of the Kingman County Clerk at the following address:  
Kingman County Clerk  
Kingman County Courthouse  
130 North Spruce  
Kingman, KS 67068

**Public Notice**

*(Published in the Cunningham Courier, April 20, 2023)*

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN AND TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, May 18, 2023, the Cunningham City Planning Commission will consider the following zoning applications at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 119 N Main, in Cunningham, Kansas:

Case No. SU-23-002. Special use requested to establish Recreational Vehicle/Camper parking for the purpose of evening and weekend security, in the I-1 Industrial District.

Legal description: Section 5, T28, R10W, Acres 2.9, Tract beginning at NE Corner NE4; Then South along East line of NE4 697.9 feet

to South line of former railroad right of way; Then West 1874.6 feet for Point of Beginning; TH S221 W527 N273.9.

General location: 415 W Santa Fe Street, Cunningham, Kansas

You may appear at this time either in person or by agent or attorney, if you so desire, and be heard on the matter. After hearing the views and wishes of all persons interested in the cases, the Planning Commission may close the hearing and consider recommendations to the Governing Body. The public hearing may be recessed and continued from time to time without further notice.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023

/s/ Molly Morgan  
Molly Morgan, Zoning Administrator

Cunningham City Planning Commission

**Public Notice**

*First published in the Cunningham Courier, Thursday, April 20th, 2023.*

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

ARLENE M. ZERGER, Deceased.

Case No. KM-2022-PR-61 (Petition Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on April 12, 2023, a Petition was filed in this Court by Charlene

S. Childs, Linn A. Zerger, and Darrin L. Zerger, duly appointed, qualified and acting Co-Executors of the Estate of Arlene M. Zerger, deceased, praying Petitioner's acts be approved; account be settled and allowed; the heirs be determined; the Will be construed and the Estate be assigned to

the persons entitled thereto; the Court find the allowances requested for attorneys' fees and expenses are reasonable and should be allowed; the costs be determined and ordered paid; the administration of the Estate be closed; upon the filing of receipts the Petitioner be finally discharged as the Executor of the Estate of Arlene M. Zerger, deceased, and the Petitioners be released from further liability.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before May 8th, 2023, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. in the District Court, Kingman, Kingman County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Charlene S. Childs, Petitioner  
Linn A. Zerger, Petitioner  
Darrin L. Zerger, Petitioner

Matthew W. Ricke, #20995  
ATTORNEY AT LAW, LLC

349 North Main, P. O. Box 113  
Kingman, KS 67068  
(620) 532-3103

Attorney for Petitioners

### Minutes from Pratt County Commission

continued from page 11)

taxes, and increase in the standard deduction. The bill will create a new flat tax rate of 5.15% starting January 2024, will not remove the local sales tax on groceries but will remove the state sales tax on groceries beginning January 1, 2024. The bill also included an increase from the first \$40,000 to \$60,000 for the amount exempted from the property value on the state's 20-mill property tax for schools; and standard deduction increases for all taxpayers will be tied to inflation

Starting in 2024 but it left the standard deduction for single filers at the \$3,500 level. Corporate income taxes would be reduced to 3% in 2024. Finally, the bill would end the social security tax cliff which occurred at \$75,000 in income and move to a more gradual phase in of taxes at \$100,000 and includes a \$5,000 per year escalator moving forward.

Vikki Mader, CEO, Horizon Mental Health, gave an update on their services and financials. She stated they will not be asking for an increase in their budget request from the county for 2024. 85% of their staff is veteran ready certified. They

are now trained to help veterans. They are applying for grants to expand mobile crisis treatment. They are trying to partner with hospitals to help serve the homeless and the underserved.

BJ Hayes, emergency manager/zoning director, stated the sheriff's office has moved their radio system to dual band system. He would like to purchase ten of the 800 radios from the sheriff's department for his department, each township fire department and city fire if they would like one. Max Barrett, undersheriff stated they had purchased the radios from Reno County and had to replace antennae and batteries. He stated they have twenty-five, BJ takes ten and Billy Hampton, county fire/rescue takes five. They will keep the rest for their department. Commissioner Shriver stated they couldn't be sold to another county department, that is tax payer dollars that purchased the radios initially so they would be buying them twice. The radios will be distributed as stated above. Max stated they are going to trade in two trailers and purchase a larger one.

They discussed BJ's 6 month evaluation. He will come back for the April 24th meeting to go over the evaluation.

Commissioner Adams

questioned the 400/800/dual band radios. Max gave a short explanation.

Catherine Rohrer, community corrections supervisor, discussed moving funds from one to the other to purchase cars. Commissioner Shriver made a motion to allow her to move funds from the behavioral health one line item to another as stated in the amount of \$1,508.20. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. She reported her 2024 adult/juvenile budgets, are the same as last fiscal year. Commissioner Shriver made a motion to approve signing the 2024 juvenile comprehensive plan. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Jon Roach, noxious weed director, reported the truck that has been rebuilt, is having te same issues as before. The commissioners stated he needs to start looking for a replacement. He is waiting on rain to start spraying. He would like to get a sign for his building. Commissioners gave approval for him to check into signs and report back.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the minutes from April 3, 2023. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion 3-0. A new hire slip was presented from the sheriff's office for detention officer for Tanner Schmidt. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve hiring Tanner Schmidt as detention officer for the sheriff's department at \$16.26. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Adams brought up the bid for security systems at the jail and courthouse and why a local company didn't get the opportunity to bid. They are not on the state approved list, therefore federal money could not be used. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the road crossing for SC Telcom at SW 10th-85th Avenue, SW 90th Road and SW 100th Street for fiber optic cable. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve an emergency vehicle permit for Shane Rose for City of Pratt fire. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve a donation of \$500 for the 75's dinner. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3-0. It was discussed if they wanted Scot Loyd, accountant to have department head prebudget meetings. Commissioners agreed to set up the meetings. Commissioner Adams made a motion to recess into executive session for eight minutes at 2:52 p.m. for an attorney/client matter concerning tax exemption. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Shriver made a motion to return from executive session at 2:58 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Tony Helfrich, superintendent and David Schmidt, assistant superintendent at USD 382 gave a short presentation on their bond election. Tony went over the improvements to Southwest School and the ACE building. They reported they had toured the PRRC location and stated it would work very well for them. It would fulfill many of the temporary needs they will need if the bond passes. Tony stated they have access to \$750,000 of pandemic money to apply to this project. Commissioner Shriver asked if they wanted to rent the PRRC building would it be for the 2023-2024 year. Tony stated yes it would be for one school year. Tyson stated the PRRC tract needs to be stripped from

the hospital operating lease if it is to be rented out. The commissioners are okay renting it to USD 382 for a year if needed.

Tara Pagenkopf, RSVP director, presented checks for signatures. She reported her grant ran out of money, but KDOT is doing supplemental funding, she received all she had asked for which can only be used for drivers, maintenance and fuel. There is a new grant application she has sent in. They discussed her potential shortage of funds until the grants are completed.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to recess into executive session for ten minutes at 3:42 p.m. for an attorney/client matter to discuss bond issue. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chairman Jones made a motion to approve the payment vouchers for April 10, 2023. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to adjourn at 3:52 pm. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

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**CROSSWORD**

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**ACROSS**

- Centrally localized
- Tube in old TV
- Precedes drab
- Giraffe's cousin
- Big Island flower necklace
- Icelandic currency
- Grating sounds
- Software program, for short
- Tool with toothed wheel
- \*Mellow \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ ribbon
- Butter \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ tape
- a.k.a. Common Market
- Printer cartridge color
- Toothy fish
- \*Battle \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ tissue
- \*Ninja \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ dove
- Oil group
- \*Drug \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ friendly
- Old TV episode
- Nobel Peace Prize capital
- \*Amazon \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ valley
- Ages and ages
- Earth shaking
- Hokkaido language
- \*Odd \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ soup
- Stay clear of
- Vegetative state
- Olden day "your"
- Olden day "you"
- Sib
- Park bench friend?
- \*Rose \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ variety
- LDS missionary
- Cacophony

**DOWN**

- On behalf of
- "Fine by me"
- \*Basket \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ study
- \*Adam's \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ pie
- Finely-spun cotton threads
- Eagle's foot
- Workout unit
- Slightly drunk
- "Doggone it!"
- College drilling org.
- 1/36th of a yard
- "\_\_\_, humbug!"
- #15 Down, pl.
- Come to pass
- Feline
- Fissure
- \*Silly \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ down
- Church part, pl.
- Antiquity of the past
- \*Southwest \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ Minor
- Lou of The Velvet Underground
- Rainbow swimmer
- \*Free \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ hour
- Glorify
- Weighted weapon
- Nevada Wolf Pack's home


42. Cuban dance  
 45. 1.094 of a yard, pl.  
 49. \*Doctor \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ knows?  
 51. Description of a fool  
 54. Give qualities or money  
 56. More eccentric  
 57. Theatrical performance  
 58. Previously mentioned, acr.  
 59. Hair styling products  
 60. Annoying biter  
 61. Irish name of Ireland  
 62. Very bright star  
 63. \*Easter \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ salad  
 65. \*Dry \_\_\_ or \_\_\_ cream  
 67. Part of tennis match

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Effective June 1, 2022: Ads are \$6.00 per column inch. Front page ads are \$10.00 per column inch. All ads are subject to approval of this paper, which reserves the right to edit, reject, or properly classify any ad. Note: The views and opinions expressed in advertisements in The Cunningham Courier do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of the Courier or staff. Errors will be corrected when brought to my attention.  
 Classified Ad Rates  
 \$5.00 minimum charge for one-week run.  
 DEADLINES: 2:00 p.m. Tuesdays

**Cozy's Pizza**  
*will be closed Monday, April 17th - Saturday, April 22nd in preparation for Lauren and Wyatt's wedding. We will reopen on Monday, April 24th.*  
 Thank you for your continued support.  
 --Ang



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*Beat Repair, LLC, Truck, Trailer, and Tire Repair will be closed on Thursday, April 20th and Friday, April 21st*

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 OPEN — 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. — Monday thru Thursday  
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 Friday, April 28 - 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
 Saturday, April 29 - 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
 Native American theme items; large beer glass collection; Frankhoma pieces; some tools, furniture, household items and much more.

**Miscellaneous**

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 Seth Thibault, OD  
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 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. M - F  
 604 N. Walnut  
 Medicine Lodge, Kansas 67104  
 620-886-3222  
 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
 Seth Thibault, OD  
 Andrew W. Piester, OD  
 104 West C Ave.  
 Kingman, KS 67068  
 620-532-3154  
 1-800-371-3154  
 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
 Monday - Thursday  
 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Friday

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 Lexi Miller 532-5204  
 Office 620-532-3581  
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 Pratt, KS 67124  
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State Farm Insurance  
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## Barry Eggleston

Pratt - Robert "Barry" Eggleston, 90, passed away Thursday, April 13, 2023 at his home. He was born on December 21, 1932 in Woodward, Oklahoma to David Robert and Jane E. (Irvin) Eggleston. Robert married Kathy Ann (Giles) Eggleston on April 11, 1968 in Oak Harbor, Washington. They were married for 55 years.



Barry graduated from George Washington High School in Alexandria, Virginia in 1950. He joined the United States Navy and served during the Korean Conflict and Vietnam until retiring in 1971. He then moved to Pratt and became the owner of Eggleston Construction. He was a member of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Elks Lodge, Pratt Optimist Club and Pratt Lions Club. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, bowling, art, making jewelry, reading and spending time with his family and being outside.

He is survived by his wife, Kathy Eggleston; children, Diann Due of Baltimore, Maryland, Donna (Rueben) Castro of Prescott, Arizona, Ron (Lynda) Eggleston of Australia, Rick (Nancy) Eggleston of Keller, Texas, Jon Eggleston of Virginia Beach, Virginia, Debbie (David) Breen of Norfolk, Virginia, Russell Eggleston of Pratt, Kansas, Timothy (Estella) Eggleston of Corydon, Iowa and David Barry Eggleston of Manhattan, Kansas; 19 grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

Robert is preceded in death by his parents and brother, Donald Patrick Eggleston.

Funeral service with military honors was held on April 18, 2023 at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Pratt with president Scott Gordon presiding. Cremation followed and no inurnment is planned at this time.

Memorials may be made to Pratt Area Humane Society in care of Larrison Mortuary.

## Ryan Heimerman

Ryan D. Heimerman, 41, passed away unexpectedly on April 10th, 2023, in Wichita, Kansas.



He was born on February 9th, 1982 in the middle of a blizzard in Kingman, Kansas, the son of Robert (Bob) and Carol (Osner) Heimerman. He was a lifetime resident of Willowdale, Kansas, and had an illustrious and successful career as a Senior Quality A&P technician at Textron Aircraft Company (Cessna) for the last 17 years. He leaves behind his family and his beloved fiancée Christina Vierthaler, also of Wichita. Ryan was the oldest of 3 children and is survived by his sister Sarah Heimerman of Wichita, and his brother Nick (Jodi) Heimerman of Saint George, Kansas. Ryan was also a devoted uncle to his nephew Rhett and niece Laila, who brought great joy to his life.

Ryan enjoyed every aspect of the outdoors—going hunting, fishing, or even just spending an afternoon on the mower. He and Bob cared for the Willowdale cemetery for a number of years, taking great pride in keeping it clean and beautiful. He loved animals (probably more than people, honestly), and one of his favorite things was playing with his dogs Penny, Josie, and Cassie and his dog nephews Barrett, Remi, and Ronnie. Ryan had a profound love of music, and enjoyed seeing his favorite bands live, most recently sitting front and center with his brother and sister to see two of their favorite bands in concert, smiling the whole time. He was an incredible drummer and musician that could figure out how to play the drum part to any song, even if he had only heard it once or twice. He could often be heard playing the drums or listening to his favorite bands in his shop to unwind and relax. Ryan had a brilliant mind, excelling at anything that he put it to. He took immense pride in his career and the work he did—he loved every aspect of the aircraft industry and genuinely enjoyed what he did and who he worked with.

Ryan was a loyal and dedicated friend, brother, uncle, partner, and son, and he would do anything for those he loved. He was always there to lend an ear or hand to help anyone in need, and was devoted to his fiancée and family even when things had become difficult in his personal life.

In addition to his immediate family, Ryan leaves behind a large extended family of beloved aunts, uncles, cousins and close friends who will miss him dearly but will find comfort and peace in the cherished memories and moments that they were blessed with by having Ryan in their lives.

Memorials may be made with the Kingman Humane Society or Beauties and Beasts, Inc. (Wichita), both in care of the funeral home.

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## Ruth Thrasher

Ruth Ann Thrasher, born to Clark Day and Orba Jacobs of Nashville, K.S., passed away Tuesday, April 11, 2023, in Hutchinson, KS.

She is preceded in death by both parents, Clark and Orba, and her brother in law, Jim Morris.

Ruth is survived by her loving husband, David, of 53 years, sister, Mary Day Morris, her son John (Holly) Thrasher, daughter, Sarah (Casey) Borrowman, and three grandchildren, Maggie and Jacob Thrasher, and Ryder Borrowman.

Ruth grew up in Attica, Kansas, but lived all over with her husband David. Together they made a home in Arlington, KS and Cunningham, KS. Ruth was a devoted member of the Methodist Church in both communities.

She enjoyed spending time with her family, taking family photographs, and being with her grandkids. She was also an avid gardener and could always be found tending to her flowers- particularly her roses.

Those who knew Ruth understand that there was so much more to her life than this brief description; she will be forever loved and missed.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested any donations be made to Alzheimer's/Dementia research organizations.



## John Havens

John Jasper Havens, 97, passed away Sunday, April 16, 2023 at Pratt Regional Medical Center. He was born on February 9, 1926 in Lamar, Colorado to Homer and Easter (Hutches) Havens.

John graduated from Vilas High School in 1944. He entered the United States Army in October of 1944. He took infantry training at Camp Walters, Texas, medical training at Ft. Lewis, Washington and served overseas on the Island of Saipain during World War II. He was discharged in October of 1946.

In January of 1947, he married Marie Konkel at Vilas, Colorado. To this union three children were born, Judith, Deborah and John David.

John attended and graduated from Friends Bible College, Haviland which is currently Barclay College. He went on to Northwestern Oklahoma University in Alva, Oklahoma where he graduated in May of 1969.

John served as minister of Friends Churches at Miami, Oklahoma, Hugoton, Kansas, Cherokee, Oklahoma and Pratt, Kansas. John was united in marriage to Ulene Lauritzen in Wichita on August 10, 1974. They served together as pastors of the Federated Church, Mt. Hope, Kansas for 10 years and later at College Ave Friends Church in Oskaloosa, Iowa. He became the chaplain of Pratt Regional Medical Center in 1993 and served for 9 1/2 years.

He was a long time member of Pratt Optimist Club and American Legion at Mt. Hope. He also served on many committees of Mid-America Friends and was a member of Haviland Friends Church. He enjoyed writing, music and being with people.

He is survived by his stepdaughter, Diane Fuhrken of Lenexa; son, J David Havens of Pratt; son in-law, Reverend Richard King of Davenport, Iowa; daughter, Deborah (J.E.) Cochran of Caldwell; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

John is preceded in death by his parents; Wife, Ulene Havens on August 7, 2013; daughter, Judi Jensen; stepson in-law, Steve Fuhrken; daughter in-law, Velda Havens; and stepdaughter, Carol King.

Funeral service with military honors will be held at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, April 20, 2023 at First United Methodist Church, Pratt. A graveside service will be held at 1:00 p.m., Friday, April 21, 2023 at Vilas Cemetery, Vilas, Colorado.

Memorials may be made to Pratt Regional Medical Center in care of Larrison Mortuary.

## Mary FitzSimmons

Cunningham, Mary L. Fitzsimmons, 81, passed away Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at Pratt Regional Medical Center.

Visitation will be held Monday, April 24, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. with family present from 5-7 at Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt.

Funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at Cunningham Methodist Church. Burial will follow at Cairo Cemetery, Cairo.

Memorials may be made to Cunningham Methodist Church or 4C Daycare Center.

Full obituary will be in next week's edition.

## Andrew Schorr

Andrew Alan Schorr (Andy) passed on March 31, 2023 at home with family at the age of 62. He was born February 10, 1961 to William and DonNita Schorr and grew up in Sparta, Illinois. Andy graduated with his bachelors in mechanical engineering from the University of Southern Illinois in 1985 and accepted a job with Martin Marietta (Lockheed Martin) in Denver, Colorado where he met his wife, Stacy Schnittker. After accepting a position with NASA in 1991 he moved his family to Huntsville, Alabama. Andy was passionate about his work with NASA and his contribution to space exploration, including the success of the Artemis I launch. Throughout his successful career Andy received numerous awards including a Silver Snoopy and an Exceptional Achievement Medal among other recognitions. He retired in February 2023 as a Senior Executive Service (SES) leader with NASA after nearly 32 years as a federal employee. Andy's many hobbies included cooking, hunting, sailing and hiking with his dog Taco. His greatest joys in life were his daughters and granddaughters.



Andy is preceded in death by his daughter Morgan and sister Joyce Anne. He is survived by his wife Stacy, daughter Erika and spouse Armando, granddaughters Nora and Isabel, daughter Rachele and fiancé Chad, parents William and DonNita, and sisters Carol and Beverly.

Memorials may be sent to the Clearview Cancer Institute in Huntsville, Alabama.

## Charles Crawford

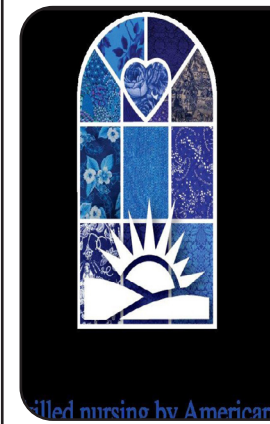
Charles Richard Crawford, 75, died Wednesday, April 12, 2023 in Kingman.

He was born Mar. 22, 1948, at Crescent, OK, the son of Clyde Romane and Sue Benett Hill Crawford. A longtime resident of Kingman, he was a phone and IT technician.

Charles was a veteran of the U.S. Army.

Survivors include daughter Sarah Crawford; brother Melvin Crawford; sister Mary Jane Robinson; two grandsons; and longtime companion Carolyn Allison. Memorial services will be held at a later date.

*More Life Celebrations  
can be found on page 5*



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## TCCC Craft & 'Que

April 29, 2023

Main Street of Norwich, KS

The Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce is excited to host the first annual spring Craft & 'Que! A day full of exciting shopping, food, and family fun!

### Shopping

Choose from 30+ vendors of homemade crafts, decor, art, face painting and more down main street of Norwich!

### Plane Rides

Free rides from kids 8-17 from 9am to 1 pm at the Norwich Airport! Pre-register here:



### BBQ Feed

BBQ feed fundraiser starting at noon! \$10/plate includes meat of choice, side & water!

### Inflatables

The kids have three FREE inflatables to choose from behind Conway Bank

Follow our Facebook page for more info!

