

# The Cunningham Courier

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

August 17, 2023  
Volume 33 Number 33  
USPS 006-101

\$ 1.50

Email: [couriernews@yahoo.com](mailto:couriernews@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.cunninghamcourier.news](http://www.cunninghamcourier.news)  
(620) 298-2659

photo by Josh Theis

## Approved Minutes from the BOE July Meeting

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

7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 10, 2023, by President Brent Miller.

Present: President, Brent Miller; Vice-President, Bjorn Halderson; Members, Scott DeWeese, Brent Hansen, Vicki Oldham, Megan Green; Superintendent, Kelly Arnberger; Principal, Cody Dunlap; Clerk, Stacy Webster and Guest; Roberta Kobbe (Cunningham Courier), Shawna Sterneker, Kristen Wegerer, Bart Ricke Abby Bock and Dr Katie Poland.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Bjorn Halderson, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

President Miller welcomed the guests.

Motion made by Vicki Oldham, seconded by Megan Green, to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2023 regular meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Brent Hansen, seconded by Bjorn Halderson, to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2023 2022-2023 Amended Budget meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Bjorn Halderson, to approve the payment of bills and the financial reports as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Vicki Oldham, seconded by Brent Hansen, to approve the following appointments as listed: Stacy Webster, Clerk; Kristen Young, Treasurer; Ninnescah Valley Bank, Depository; Busby, Ford, Reimer, Auditor; General Council from KASB, Attorney; Cunningham Courier, Official Newspaper; Dr. Kelly Arnberger, Freedom of Information Officer; Stacy Webster, custodian of district records; Dr. Kelly Arnberger, Truancy Officer; Stacy Webster, KPERS Representative; Dr. Kelly Arnberger, Local Homeless Liaison; Dr. Kelly Arnberger/designee, hearing officer for suspension and expulsion; Aimee Ogg, Food Service Representative; Dr. Kelly Arnberger, hearing officer for free and reduced meals; Dr. Kelly Arnberger, Compliance Coordinator for Federal Anti-Discrimination Laws including Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, and Section 504 (ADA). Yeas: Miller, Halderson, DeWeese, Hansen, Oldham, Green. Nays: none. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese,

seconded by Megan Green, to adopt the following Resolutions and procedures:

2024-001 to establish the USD #332 petty cash fund in the amount of \$500.00 and Cunningham Schools petty cash fund in the amount of \$500.00.

2024-002 to establish a school activity account.

2024-003 to establish Ninnescah Valley Bank as the depository of USD #332's funds for the 2023-2024 school year.

2024-004 to authorize payment of warrants before board action.

2024-005 to maintain a direct deposit account.

2024-006 to waive the annual requirement of general accepted accounting principles and fixed asset accounting.

2024-007 to establish board meeting dates for 2023-2024.

2024-008 to rescind previous policies and adopt policies to govern the district during the 2023-2024 school year.

2024-009 to comply with immunization laws and regulations.

2024-010 to establish home rule.

2024-011 providing for an agreement for administrative services for the 403(b) retirement program.

2024-012 Employee Section 125 plan.

2024-13 providing for Hazard Mitigation.

Authorize the disposal of old records as per statute.

Approve participation in federal programs.

Adopt the 1,116 hour school year.

Authorize the liquidation of surplus property through consignment auctions.

Approve participation in the Federal Food Service Program.

Motion carried 6-0.

Kingman Healthcare Presentation. President Miller turned the meeting over to Cody and Bart who shared what district coaches wanted out of the Athletic Training proposal. Dr. Poland discussed what the proposal would cover and answered questions from the board.

Member Travis Thimesch arrived to the meeting at 7:09 p.m. during the discussion.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Vicki Oldham, to approve the Athletic Training proposal in the amount of 6,750.00 for the 2023-24 School year. Motion carried 6-0. President Brent Miller abstained himself for conflict of interest.

Dr. Arnberger shared that he had a revised bid for grade school carpet

replacement. Discussion followed. Consensus was that it is not a current priority and could wait until a later date.

Motion made by Bjorn Halderson, seconded by Travis Thimesch, to approve the recommended KASB policy updates as presented at last board meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

Dr. Arnberger shared with the board what he has learned about the construction project since his first day and what progress has been made.

Superintendent Arnberger suggested that as a meet & greet for him and the community he serve ice cream at the open house in August. He also shared goals for strategic planning and district needs assessment and information about the Schools for Quality Education group. Next he addressed the guests, introducing himself and asking who they were and what made them interested in coming to the meeting. Finally, he asked the board for direction on what type of district provided electron device they would like to utilize for board business.

Principal Dunlap included an outline in the board packet. He touched on summer school, next year's JH/HS class schedules, Gym closure for July and August, and student test scores. Sharing of the test scores showed areas that will be addressed in the needs assessment tool. Lastly, he shared that Pretty Prairie has reached out again to discuss baseball/softball. Board discussion followed. Consensus was to continue working toward a scheduled season next spring.

Member Scott DeWeese reported that at the June meeting the coop reported lower turnover rates in paras for the upcoming year and that the 2021 audit is complete.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Travis Thimesch, to approve membership in KASB and KASB Legal Assistance. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Travis Thimesch, seconded by Vicki Oldham, to approve membership in ESSDACK. Motion carried 7-0.

Superintendent Arnberger suggested a 5 min break at 8:35 p.m.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Bjorn Halderson, to go into executive session with Superintendent Arnberger at 8:40 p.m. to discuss personnel performance and wages for the non-elected exception under KOMA and return to the board room at 8:55 p.m.. Motion carried 7-0.

President Miller declared the meeting in open session at 8:55 p.m.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese,

seconded by Vicki Oldham, to go into executive session with Superintendent Arnberger and Principal Dunlap at 8:55 p.m. to discuss personnel performance and wages for the non-elected exception under KOMA and return to the board room at 9:05 p.m.. Motion carried 7-0.

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

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Bjorn Halderson, to go into executive session with Superintendent Arnberger and Principal Dunlap at 9:05 p.m. to discuss personnel performance and wages for the non-elected exception under KOMA and return to the board room at 9:15 p.m.. Motion carried 7-0.

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

Motion made by Vicki Oldham, seconded by Megan Green, to go into executive session with Superintendent Arnberger and Principal Dunlap at 9:15 p.m. to discuss personnel performance and wages for the non-elected exception under KOMA and return to the board room at 9:30 p.m.. Motion carried 7-0.

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

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Vicki Oldham, to approve a 2000.00 stipend for the grade school teachers who are teaching the Summer Jump start program. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Travis Thimesch, seconded by Megan Green, to approve a 2000.00 stipend for the high school teacher who taught the summer credit recovery program. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Travis Thimesch, seconded by Brent Hansen, to approve the 23-24 Supplemental positions as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Vicki Oldham, seconded by Bjorn Halderson, to authorize the district credit card limit to be increased to 5000.00. Motion carried 7-0.

Member Bjorn Halderson shared that he had been asked to bring the idea for an after school program before the board. Board will discuss at a later date.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Travis Thimesch, to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.



**ATTENTION**  
RUNNERS, WALKERS,  
SPONSORS,  
VOLUNTEERS,  
& MENTAL  
HEALTH RESOURCES

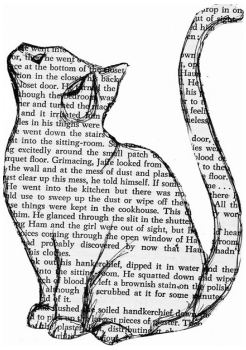
**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN**  
**FOR THE 2ND ANNUAL**  
**KINGMAN COUNTY STRONG**  
**COLOR RUN FOR**  
**SUICIDE PREVENTION**

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT [KINGMANHC.COM](http://KINGMANHC.COM)  
OR CALL 620-532-0156



**THIS EVENT IS**  
**FREE TO**  
**PARTICIPATE IN**

SPONSORED BY:  
**KINGMAN**  
HEALTHCARE CENTER  
**FOUNDATION**



Meanderings

I groaned when I got up this morning. Then I groaned when I thought about how much work I had to do on this paper. Then I groaned when I thought about getting up to feed the dog. One last groan when I opened the blinds and the sunshine came barreling through the windows.

But I bravely got dressed and ready for the day. Life stops for no groan.

I found the article on page 6 about pollinators in an email sent to me by Kansas Farm Bureau. It was first published in Kansas Living Magazine, which is published by Kansas Farm Bureau.

I found it to be a timely piece, in that I have butterflies all over my front yard. They have discovered my apple tree. They will also flit around my crepe myrtle and my Rose of Sharon bush, but it seems they prefer the rotten apples on the ground and in the trees. Observation: It is hard to keep groaning when butterflies are flitting around your front yard.

I first 'discovered' this kaleidoscope of butterflies when I went to mow one evening last week. (Officially, a group of butterflies is called a kaleidoscope... isn't that a cool word for all those fluttering little insects) I pushed the mower towards the tree and a plethora of butterflies exploded off the ground. I backed up the mower, and apologized to any butterflies who may not have escaped the blades. I walked around the area, scaring up more of the insects. When I was sure they were all off the ground, I carefully mowed the area.

I do not remember

the butterflies coming in droves in previous years living here. I would think I'd remember this many butterflies attacking my apple tree.

I can remember a time when they stopped on my marigolds, back when I had marigolds. But just not the number that are here now.

I have commented to folks that they are hanging around so long because they like being drunk on the fermented apples they are feasting on.

And that got me to thinking. I googled, "Do butterflies get drunk?" And National Geographic says they, indeed, do get drunk on fermented fruit. They also like beer and wine. (And, no doubt, other alcoholic beverages.)

I have no idea how long they will be around, but I hope their drunken, fermented feast does not make them miss their migration schedule to wherever it is they need to be.

(The photo with the article is one I took this morning.)

I dislike that apple tree because of all the fruit it drops on the ground and the need to mow the grass the fruit is in. And no, I don't pick up the fruit before mowing. I'm too lazy. I keep thinking that someday I am going to have the thing cut down. But then I notice the deer coming up and eating from it, squirrels also occasionally come and swipe an apple, possums nose around there as well, now there are the butterflies in this world. Well, maybe I could plant some butterfly bushes before I cut down the tree.... It's all in the future. I'll worry about it when it happens (or not).

Technology is giving me issues. I have new internet/phone service. There have been a couple of issues, but SCTelcom has someone monitoring the situation and they have sent out a technician as well. It will all get figured out. I have confidence in them.

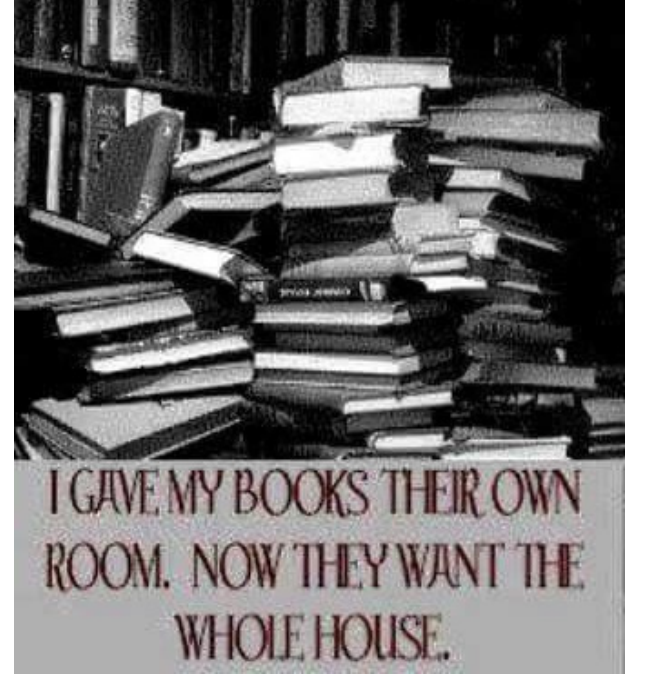
Now my cellphone is not working correctly.

I usually only use it to message my classmates of '79. I DO NOT USE IT FOR WORK! I am unable to text all my old friends to tell them we are gathering this Saturday. The darn message just keeps saying "Sending." Whatever. I hope I don't need to get a new phone. I bought this one on August 9th of last year. I can't believe it only lasts a year before it craps out. How frustrating.

I will try and contact the company tomorrow to see if I can get this back

on track. I do NOT want to go through the hassle of getting a new phone and setting it up. I am most unhappy thinking about it. I don't doubt I will wake up tomorrow morning and groan thinking about having to deal with it. However, sometimes phones fix themselves in the middle of the night, right?

Always reading, and currently reading, "After You" by Jojo Moyes, Roberta



Tallgrass and Tumbleweeds by Gaille Pike

Dear Readers, The First Days of School I recall most vividly are those Tuesdays after Labor Day that kicked off my academic years in Healy's U.S.D. 468's Grade School. In my mind's eye, I see that big brick rectangle on the northeast edge of town, with its imposing double doors inset between banks of classroom

windows. Images of wide hallways and high ceilings, wax streaked tiled floors, and desks rowed toward blank slate chalkboards flood my memories, awash with children's chatter, punctuated by the swishes and thumps of new shoes and clothes. Then an indescribable scent fills my nostrils viscerally evoking hope and wonder.

I'm sure the utter cleanliness inherent on these mornings contributes to my bursting with lemony optimism and curiosity olfactory memory.

Potential rides on these whiffs of Prell shampoo, Ivory Soap, Pledge, and Borax and in this moment of beginning afresh, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE.

But there's more in this inaugural cologne than Dippity-Do and whatever the janitor used on the floors and chalkboards. Our Crayola boxes, our Elmer's glue, and our Big Chief Tablets did not smell the same on the day school let out as they did on the day we cracked them open. Nor did our fat pencils ever

equal the fragrance they emitted upon when first sharpened them. Spotless and equipped, we embarked on learning.

Anyone who has or works with children (educationally or otherwise) knows the state my memory recalls is unnatural, fleeting at best and most often disperses in a heartbeat. Smudges and shyness are to be expected, but the small in stature have a mysterious beguiling capability, even when sitting still and hands kept to themselves, to attract very big messes.

Or create them out of absolutely nothing. As long as nobody loses an eye, I admit I admire this often odiferous trait. It's not for the faint of heart or delicate of snout. It logically follows that I only breathed any First Day of School perfume for a few moments, despite my many years of education.

I may not be able to describe it well. But it was POTENT. If fragrance counters had sold it, they wouldn't have been able to keep it in stock. Then again, that was back before school

started in August...and we still had Department Stores.

So much has changed and for the better that I cannot even imagine what aromas will greet students and teachers as school doors open this week. I can only hope that whatever they smell in that moment inspires similar enthusiasm and desire for knowledge. Happy First Day of School!

Until next week—keep your eyes on the stars and your back to the wind.



The Friends You Didn't Choose

Jackie Mundt, Pratt County farmer and rancher

A strange and vivid memory from my pre-teen world was

thinking after high school life was pretty much over. It makes me laugh and shake my head a little to think about how naive and small my world was because I couldn't imagine anything worthwhile in life beyond high school.

Even as a senior in high school if you had asked what life would look like in 20 years, I don't think I would

have guessed correctly about anything personal or professional.

I am happy to report that life has been bigger, better and crazier than I would have imagined; I attended and earned degrees from two universities, have lived at 16 addresses in six states, traveled to 17 countries around the world, worked for 11 companies, made my wildest dreams come true and learned what it takes to achieve greatness at something. There have also been hard times, failures and plenty of stress, but I learned from it all.

The best part of my life in the past two decades is the friends I have made along the way. I won't extol the many virtues of my friends because we all think our

friends are the best, but I know I have been blessed with a tribe of people who share my interests, values and ambitions. It took leaving my home town to find most of these people.

My graduating class had 52 kids in it. It was a given that you were friends with everyone more out of proximity than commonality. I knew some of my classmates much better than others, but I knew them all and considered them friends. Together, for better or worse, we spent 13 years learning, growing and playing.

This fall we have plans for a 20 year class reunion, and I am honestly excited. It may be a case of distance and time making my heart grow fonder but I can't

wait to hear about where their paths have taken them and who they have become. Even if I didn't get much choice in my classmates, they still hold a special place in my heart; we lived too much life together not to care.

I know my perspective on class reunions is not shared by all people. It makes me a little sad to hear someone say they will never attend a reunion. I have never understood people who want nothing to do with their past or the others who feel pressure to look fabulously successful for a reunion.

The mean girls and rivalries of TV and movie high school reunions seem to be inflated. I believe in my heart that most people at a reunion

are genuinely excited to see each other to catch up and share memories from their time together.

Maybe that's all it really takes for a great reunion: people choosing to believe the best in their former classmates. We can all celebrate success, give an encouraging word of support, or reminisce about the memories of our youth.

For one day, we can rekindle relationships that helped us become who we are today, be grateful for our time together and enjoy the grace of time passed. I am choosing to believe in the goodwill and love of all friends, even if they aren't the ones we chose.

Copyright © 2023 Kansas Farm Bureau, All rights reserved.


Kingman Public Transportation advertisement with phone number (620) 532-5744 and service hours 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The Cunningham Courier subscription information, including address, contact details, and rates.

Large advertisement with text: 'DRIVE SOBER EVEN IF IT'S A LABOR OF LOVE' and 'DRIVE TO ZERO' logo.

Advertisement for the Kansas Protection Report Center with text: 'Stop. Verify. Report. Financial scammers are everywhere.' and phone number 1-800-922-5330.

## Community Bulletin Board

<b>Friday, August 18</b> New Teacher In-Service	<b>Tuesday, August 29</b> HS VB at Otis Bison with Stafford
<b>Monday August 21</b> Teacher Professional Day	<b>Wednesday, August 30</b> Book Club "Being Mortal" by Atul Gawande
<b>Tuesday, August 22</b> Teacher Professional Day ** 5:00 - 7:00 USD 332 Open House	<b>Thursday, August 31</b> JH VB at HOME vs Fairfield and Stafford *** HS/JH Cross Country at Pretty Prairie *** JH FB at HOME vs Fairfield
<b>Wednesday, August 23rd</b> First Day of School.	
<b>Monday, August 28</b> 6:30 City Council	

The Community Calendar is sponsored by



nvalleybank.com Member FDIC

101 E. First Street  
Cunningham, KS  
620-298-2511

To reserve the Cunningham Community Center, contact Molly Morgan at 620-298-3077

### 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

### "How'd Your First Month Go?"

I recently asked Dr. Kelly Arnberger about his first month as Superintendent of Cunningham USD 332. This is his response:

### Musings After a Month

Greetings everyone in Wildcat land. Thank you for taking the time to read this and to Roberta for offering the space. It is truly a privilege to serve the students, staff, and patrons in Cunningham.

I do not have the words to describe how quickly the first thirty days as superintendent passed. I was once told that as I got older it would certainly feel like time flies. I do not remember who told me but they were right.

I have met several gracious people welcoming me to the community. I can already say I am being treated much better than I deserve. The point of this article is to describe what I have observed in 30 days and what we might expect. Construction! When I walked in, a concrete slab was poured and cured. Since then, another slab poured and two buildings have taken significant shape. The exterior of the buildings are completed enough that construction should be able to continue inside the buildings regardless of weather. The goal for completion of the first phase of high school construction is November 1. What that means is that we should be able to begin the process of filling the building with the materials

we will continue to use from the old high school and complete the final touches so that we may occupy the new portion of the high school. As progress continues, we will discuss what moving and occupying looks like and a timeline for making it happen.

School year prep! The buildings never really close. Even though there is ongoing construction, the custodians, maintenance, and clerical staff were here deep cleaning to ensure a great first day for students on August 23. The office staff spent countless hours ensuring we were well prepared for enrollment and anything else parents and students may need to get ready for the year. I think we take these vital activities for granted. Truth is, preparation for a new school year takes place everywhere but there is a difference. I believe one of the reasons why you are proud of your district and why our enrollment grows is that the care and commitment demonstrated by all staff is readily apparent. There is a little extra energy here!

I also observed our jump start program. Over twenty students participated in our summer program helmed by a handful of our teachers helping ensure those students were not only ready for the new school year but also excited. Beyond jump start, the majority of teachers were in and out of the buildings this summer getting ready because they are excited to teach our students!

What is coming up? School! I hope you share in the same excitement. Every school leader says this is going to be the greatest school year

ever....they are committed to the places they serve. And maybe it can ring hollow after a while but, in our case, it truly is. Not in our lifetimes are we going to share the journey of building a new high school, competing at the highest levels, and learning all at the same time. It will truly be unique, exciting, and if we are being real together, anxious. We will face some challenges and adversity together. Great thing is that it will be us together and the challenges and adversity are not permanent. My expectation is that in May we will all talk about how quickly the year passed, how much we have accomplished, and how we will be ready to do it again.

Finally, what is going with public school in general? We see more news coverage than ever before. We hear about test scores, funding, local control, special education funding, and teacher shortages. Each topic is worth diving into but each also needs to remain in the context of how USD 332 is the best reflection of the wants and aspirations of the people of the community. Our test scores are pretty good. We have fewer students scoring in the lowest category on state assessment than the state average. That said, we will always strive to figure out ways to provide solid intervention for all students so all graduates will have multiple options when they leave us. If you are curious about how or what we are doing to provide an environment that responds to

how students learn best, stop by and check us out.

One of the big issues you will see in the news later this fall and next spring is funding for special education. At the local level, we provide the necessary tools and assistance for our children demonstrating exceptionalities. The reason the funding is in the news is because of how school districts receive funding to ensure all special education students receive a free and appropriate education. How does it affect us? Should the legislature fund the excess costs of special education fully, that would free up money in the general fund. That money could be utilized for a variety of reasons; program additions or enhancement, both academic and extracurricular, provide incentive to recruit and retain quality teachers and staff, and potentially ease the burden on the supplemental general fund (LOB) helping keep mill rates in check. At the end of the day, we will serve all of our students to the best of our abilities and continue to manage the needs of our students and steward the resources utilized to ensure all students find success at USD 332.

Our goal is fairly simple. Be the school that responds to the needs and reflects the goals of our entire community. Thank you for your continuous support of the students and staff at USD 332. I look forward to the best school year ever.




**Cozy's Pizza**  
115 N. Main  
Cunningham, KS 67035  
620-298-7000  
Mon., Tues.,  
& Thurs. - 11:00 to 8:00  
Friday and Saturday - 11:00 to 9:00  
Closed Wednesday and Sunday

**Kingman Historic Theatre**  
Starting on Friday, June 30,  
2023 through August,  
The Kingman Historic Theatre is offering **BOGO FREE** on ALL of our movie admission tickets. That's right, come to any movie and buy one admission ticket at \$6.00 and get the second admission ticket free!!!! Thank YOU for supporting YOUR Kingman Historic Theatre!

**KANSAS STATE FAIR** SEPT. 8-17 HUTCHINSON, KS

**NEX-TECH GRANDSTAND ENTERTAINMENT**

- Sept. 8 NEEDTOBREATHE
- Sept. 9 Carly Pearce with Megan Moroney and Lauren Watkins
- Sept. 10 Rob Schneider with Byron Kennedy
- Sept. 11 Demolition Derby
- Sept. 12 Cooper Alan with Frank Ray
- Sept. 13 Matthew West with Anne Wilson
- Sept. 14 Hairball
- Sept. 15 La Fiera de Ojinaga
- Sept. 16 Ja Rule with Disco Lines
- Sept. 17 All-Star Monster Truck Tour

Nex-Tech Grandstand is sponsored by Nex-Tech Wireless and Nex-Tech.

**KansasStateFair.com**

**Kingman Historic Theatre**  
August 17, 2023  
6:30 p.m.  
Free Faith-based Movie  
**Faith Under Fire**  
Rated PG  
Sponsored by KAMI

**Kingman Historic Theatre**  
237 N. Main in Kingman  
(620) 532-1253  
http://www.kingmantheatre.org/  
All Seats \$6.00  
(cash or local check only)  
Showtimes:  
Friday & Saturday at 7:30  
Sunday at 5:30  
Thank YOU for supporting YOUR Kingman Historic Theatre.

**August 11 - 13**  
**TMNT: Mutant Mayhem**  
Rated: PG



YEARS AGO IN

*The Cunningham Clipper*

W. A. Bradley / William Bradley

**1928**

August 17—Rex Shelman of Cherokee, Oklahoma, was here Tuesday and made a deal whereby he becomes the owner of the South Barber Shop, after September first.

Rex is a Cunningham boy and has many friends here. He has been gone for several years, but just the past few years he has been working for an undertaking establishment in Cherokee, Okla.

Plans and specifications for grading, culverts, and bridge construction on 8.187 miles more of paved road in Kingman county have been approved by the state and federal highway departments for aid. This road is on Highway 54 east of Kingman. The contract will be let September 6 at 11 o'clock.

This year's Kansas winter wheat crop is estimated as the largest on record. An average yield of 17 bushels per acre on 10, 532,000 acres harvested places this year's production at 179,044,000 bushels. This has been approached only once before, in 1914, when an average yield of 20.5 bushels per acre on 8,600,000 acres yielded 176,300,000 bushels.

A Cunningham man says the devil wouldn't be so hard to overpower if he didn't have so many people assisting him.

**1933**

August 11 – The annual Maud School picnic was held last Sunday at Hellar's Grove with a large crowd in attendance.

A bountiful basket dinner was enjoyed at noon, and in the afternoon all enjoyed the speeches and talks given recalling fond memories of the earlier life, when the Maud school district was in her infancy.

Barney DeWeese, oldest pupil of Maud present, reawakened old memories in his talk of the organization of the school district, which was done on June 17, 1880.

Mr. Sam Baldwin of Kingman, second teacher of the Maud district, and the oldest teacher present, made an interesting talk, enjoyed by everyone.

It has been reported that one day last week, a drove of white turkeys belonging to H. S. Bonar, following the grasshoppers, strayed on to the railroad tracks east of town.

The engineer on the local freight stopped his train and "shooed" the turkeys off the track before proceeding on his way.

We believe said engineer deserves a nice fat white turkey for his Thanksgiving dinner for such a considerate action.

**1938**

August 12— The annual Maud Reunion was held in the Kiowa Park last Sunday where a large number gathered with well filled baskets to enjoy a bounteous program and a social time together in the afternoon.

Those from Cunningham attending were Wm. Cooley, Mrs. Gregory, Mrs. Allen Washburn, Mrs. Jessie Nossaman, Lee Washburn, Rachel Naanes, Betty Amick, Virgil Bainum, Mrs. Nina Milsap, Mrs. Tom Long, Donald Milsap, and Delmer Huffman.

Showing at the Cunningham Theatre – Friday and Saturday, Edward G. Robinson in "A Slight Case of Murder"

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Dorothy Lamour and Ray Milland in "Her Jungle Love"

**1943**

August 13 – Verne Stanley miraculously escaped serious or possibly fatal injuries last Thursday evening when he was attacked by an angry bull at his farm northeast of town, suffering painful injuries to his head and chest, a gored leg and the loss of a tooth in the encounter. He was also badly bruised about the body and suffered shock, but is recovering nicely now.

He was knocked unconscious in the attack, although he was able to rise and was coming to the house when discovered by his young son, Jimmy, he has no recollections of what transpired from the moment of the animal charged him until several hours later after his injuries had been treated by a physician.

Dig your own potatoes. Patch run, \$1.00 per bushel. Shirley Cannon. –adv.

Windmills, windmill towers, barb wire and smooth

wire are now available in limited quantities at the Fee Hardware Company. –adv.

The Better Homes and Gardens Club Flower Show will be held on Saturday, August 14, in the Ratcliff building. It is hoped that many people in the community will exhibit flowers, fruits, vegetables or grains.

This is the first year the club has planned such a show, but hope to make it an annual affair.

**1948**

August 13 – Cunningham added the Kingman County League championship to their 1948 baseball laurels Sunday afternoon when they defeated St. Leo, 5 to 3, on the local diamond.

"Lefty" Joe Theis pitched a great game against St. Leo. He gave up just three hits, one of them the infield variety, struck out sixteen batters, and allowed no walks.

Ollie Adelhardt, on the mound for St. Leo, pitched an admirable game, giving up six hits, all singles, fanning six, and walking two. Each pitcher hit one batter.

The Becker Service Station is now completed and presents a handsome addition to Cunningham. The three-bay building is 30x60 feet and contains the office and accessory room, and lubrication and wash room. They have installed a new power washer equipped with both hot and cold water.

Paul E. Dawe, district superintendent of the K-T Oil Corporation, has been here assisting with the buildign completion. William Becker is the station manager, and Bud Becker and Don Theis are attendants. Harold Stark is the bulk agent.

**1953**

August 14 – Miss Joan Brady, daughter of Mrs. Lizzie Brady of Penalosa, became the bride of Corporal Robert Stillwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Stillwell of Cunningham, in a quiet ceremony in the Evangelical United Brethren Church in Penalosa, Sunday afternoon. Rev. A. L. Deever, pastor of the church, read the wedding vows as the couple stood before an improvised altar of colorful gladioli.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Durall of Coats, announce the birth of a son, Monday, at the Pratt County Hospital. He weighed eight pounds, four ounces, and has been named Curtis Craig.

Mr. and Mrs. Seth Whitmore of Cunningham are the maternal grandparents, and Mr. and Mrs. O. N. Durall of Coats, are the paternal grandparents.

**1958**

August 14—A large crowd enjoyed the Cunningham Picnic and Dance, Tuesday evening, sponsored by the Sacred Heart Church.

Over 650 people partook of a delicious fried chicken and fresh country sausage dinner.

Kansas State Highway Patrolman Richard Smith of Kingman, won the large food freezer given as the major prize at the picnic.

A miscellaneous bridal shower in the high school recreation room Saturday evening, July 26, honored Miss Johnna Cooley, bride-elect of Elmer Freund.

Some needed construction work is underway this week at the grade and high school grounds.

The entire back part of both school grounds has been leveled, and plans call for further landscaping and sidewalks.

A concrete apron or driveway is being laid in front of the bus garages, and a metal storage shed located in back of the high school is being moved to a new location just east of the shop building.

The grade school plans to build two tennis courts on the school grounds in the near future.

**1963**

August 15 – Most youngsters are watching the approaching date of the first day of school with much make-believe concern, but Cunningham Grade School officials are trying to make that inevitable "first day of school" a little more pleasant for the pupils.

Dafforn Appliances began installation this week of large air conditioners for each classroom at the school.

About 50 invited relatives and friends of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Washburn of Haysville, gathered at the home of his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Raney, and family, Sunday afternoon for a "surprise party" honoring the 25th wedding anniversary of the Washburns.

The free outdoor movie in the City Park this evening is the comedy, "The Sergeant Was a Lady," starring Martin West and Venetia Stevenson.

**1968**

August 15 – Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Fitzsimmons of Pratt, announce the birth of a son, Wednesday, July 31, at the Pratt County Hospital in Pratt.

He weighed five pounds, ten ounces, and has been named Dennis Lynn.

The paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Fitzsimmons and the maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harold DeWeese, all of Cunningham. The maternal great-grandmother is Mrs. Lizzie Brady of Penalosa, and the paternal great-grandfather is Carl Poland of Cunningham.

The Kingman County Fair Board and the Kingman County Historical Society will host the seventh annual Old Settler's Picnic next Wednesday, Aug. 21, at the bandstand in Riverside Park in Kingman.

YEARS AGO IN

*The Cunningham Clipper*

Publisher: Charles G. Barnes  
Editor: Kathleen Pakkebieer  
Reporter: Florine Kampling

**1978**

August 17 - Getting into the swing of things – Kyle Meireis, 2<sup>nd</sup> grader, tries out the swings on the playground o the lonely school while Dad checks on supplies he's ordered for the coming semester. Coach reported that most of the supplies were in . Looks like school will get into full swing soon!

Terry Elliot, catcher for Pratt Elks All Star Team was named to the All Tournament Team in the state Elks Jr. Baseball Tournament held in Pratt Aug. 11-12-13. The Pratt Team finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the tournament.

Edith Jane Gillen and Rodney James Hall were united in marriage in the First Presbyterian Church in Irving, Texas on August 5, at 4:30 p.m. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Gillen of Irving, Texas and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Hall of Waco, Texas.

Guests from Cunningham were the bride's grandmother, Mrs. Amy McClellan, Mr. and Mrs. George McClellan, and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd McClellan. From Pretty Prairie came Mr. and Mrs. Frank McClellan and Kellie, and from Overland Park came Mr. and Mrs. Bob McClellan.

Melva Oller spent from Thursday until Sunday in Kansas City visiting Patti Deviney at the home of her sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jiminez and family. Patti and Melva helped with the new baby girl and J.T., then had a good time at World's of Fun and shopping.

Troy and Shawn Bates of Lucas spent the past 10 days in the Bob Walter home while their parents were on vacation.

Hilltop Happenings We want to welcome Pat Osborn into the acitivties room. She is still the supervisor of house-keeping. We would also like to welcome Mary Oller as a new part-time employee.

Eunice Hellman has also returned to work this fall.

**1983**

August 18, 1983 – Cunningham Schools will begin class Thursday, August 25. The regular school day will be from 8:15 to 3:20. As was done last yar, school will not let out early except when weather conditions are such that it is not in the best interest to continue the school day. The decision will be made before noon and announced over KAKE 1240, KFH 1330, KBRA 97.9, KWLS 1290, KWLS 93.1, KARD 107.3.

Heather Routh received the grand champion ribbon in the Junior Division at the Style Review at the Kingman County 4-H Fair. Scott Glenn also placed high, as the local 4-Her was awarded the grand champion ribbon in the Junior Division in the Best Groomed Boy Contest.

Andrea Holcomb, Jennifer Albers and Heather Routh modeled in the style review. Vickie Becker and Heather Routh received purple ribbons in the coking division. Brandee Strohl took home a purple ribbon in arts and crafts projects. Ryan Kerschen and Cindy Becker display their winning stamp projects. Mike Hansen received a purple on his photography project and Ryan Kerschen displayed his sister, Julie's purple winning pictures. Heather Murphy showed her purple ribbon she received on her garden display.

I would like to sincerely thank the following people who helped me after being laid off from work. Mr. and Mrs. Alva Hellar, Elizabeth Sheldon, Anna Dafforn, Sophie Gridley, Robert Thimesch, and daughter, Yvonne and John and Julie Scanlon. Leona Bishop

**Fitzsimmons**  
**INSURANCE**  
Locally owned and operated for over 30 years  
Crop\*Auto\*Home\*Farm\*Commerical\*Life  
116 N. Main  
PO Box 398  
Cunningham, KS  
**(620) 298-5291 or (800) 536-5291**  
www.fitzsimmonsins.com  
leann@fitzins.kscoxmail.com  
FitzSimmons Insurance Agency, Inc. is an independent insurance agency and an equal opportunity provider

**Museum Hours**  
**Tuesdays, Thursdays,**  
**and Saturdays**  
**9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**  
or contact  
**Angie Mertens at 620-532-4354 or**  
**Alan Albers at 620-298-2725 or**  
**Mike McGovney at 620-770-9503**  
**(Volunteers Needed**  
**at the museum)**

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

## Promoting and Celebrating Pollinator in Kansas

by Meagan Cramer

One out of every three bites of food we eat is because of pollinators — the buzzy and busy insects and animals that pollinate and fertilize plants. In fact, almost 80 percent of the 1,400 crops grown around the world require pollination. And some of the foods we enjoy most like almonds, apples, pears, coffee beans and cocoa beans are very dependent on pollinators.

What do you imagine a pollinator looks like? If you're like me, a plump little bumblebee comes to mind first, but there are many types of pollinators. They do include our friend the bumblebee and other bees, but wasps, moths, butterflies, birds, flies, ants and bats (yes, bats!) are also pollinators.

Some pollinators (like bees) collect pollen on purpose while others do it all by accident. Pollen sticks to them while they are drinking or feeding on nectar on flower blooms and is then moved from flower to flower.

pollinator garden in Kansas bees

## POLLINATOR PRAIRIE

If you'd like to see a pollinator garden in action, visit the Pollinator Prairie at 320 S. Blake St. in Olathe. The garden sits on an area that housed a chemical recycling, storage, repackaging and distribution facility from 1951 to 1989. In 1994, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) placed the site on its National Priorities List, a compilation of hazardous waste sites eligible for long-term remedial investigation and cleanup financed under the federal Superfund program.

Today, the area has been cleaned up and consists mostly of native plants that provide sources of food, shelter and safe areas for breeding pollinators like bees, birds, butterflies and monarch butterflies. Besides creating a healthy and beautiful area for local residents, the garden's other goals include showing them what a thriving pollinator garden looks like.

"People think of gardens as having to be very landscaped," says Mariruth Gruis, an environmental engineer and extension master naturalist (EMN) who's been involved with this

site since 2000. "Native plants don't have to be very precise. We want to use our demonstration gardens to show people how they can use small spaces to provide big benefit to pollinators. You can bring wild and beautiful plants to your space without it having to be a very manicured look."

Every year volunteers host two events at the Pollinator Prairie to celebrate pollinators and educate the public. In June they host Wonders of Discovery, a free family-friendly event that celebrates Pollinator Week (June 19-25), and in the fall, they host Hasta Luego Monarchs that celebrates the monarch butterflies' trip to Mexico for the winter.

"I really love the education part of it," Gruis says. "When we get kids and they begin learning and they're really excited about it, I realize it becomes a cascading network of how we're getting the word out about pollinators and sharing it more and more."

For the most up-to-date information on events and dates, visit their Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/PollinatorPrairie](http://www.facebook.com/PollinatorPrairie).

## DYCK ARBORETUM

Another great resource in Kansas is Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in Hesston, a not-for-profit public garden owned by Hesston College that sits on 30 acres. It's one of the largest native plant gardens in the region, featuring more than 1,000 varieties of native and adaptable trees, shrubs, wildflowers and grasses. Katie Schmidt serves as the arboretum's ground manager and horticulturist, and she says their goal is to promote native plants.

"Most neighborhoods have lawns and non-native plants," she says. "We like to help people transition to something more pollinator-friendly and more native to Kansas so they can create diversity in their residential plots."

Every spring and fall the Dyck Arboretum hosts FloraKansas: Native Plant Days, which serve as fundraisers and opportunities for people to purchase plants. The spring event was held in April this year and the fall event will be Sept. 8-10. Schmidt says fall is a perfect time to plant native plants.

"I've had way better success planting in the fall because the weather is milder," she says. "Most plants will die because of the heat, so planting in the fall helps you avoid that."

Schmidt has three tips for anyone just starting to poke their toes into planting for pollinators:

### 1. START SMALL.

Most of us are taught how to care for lawns and annuals and not native plants. There's a learning curve, so start small with a back corner of your yard. When that is up and established, move on to another section. It will be easier to manage the watering and weeding.

### 2. TREAT IT LIKE AN EXPERIMENT.

Things are going to die, and plants will need to be replaced because you're learning about new ones. Schmidt says even as a professional, she still kills a lot of plants, so don't be discouraged.

### 3. USE YOUR RESOURCES.

Schmidt encourages everyone to check out their website, [dyckarboretum.org](http://dyckarboretum.org), and look at their blogs and social media clips. The more you learn, the more you'll understand the science of why pollinators prefer native plants.

"I've seen people go from hesitant first-time gardeners to total plant nerds," she says. "We love to see that transformation."

## SUPPORTING MONARCHS

Matthew McKernan, Kansas State University Research and Extension horticulture agent in Sedgwick County, has another tip for anyone getting started with pol-

linator gardens.

"People need to understand it's not always going to look pristine," he says. "You want larvae to eat the leaves so you can get new butterflies. Expect some holes in leaves from time to time or plants to get partially eaten while they support our ecosystem."

McKernan also encourages gardeners to look for a variety of plants that will bloom from spring through fall because this strategy will create an attractive landscape and provide a continuous food source for pollinators, since something will always be in bloom.

If you aren't sure where to start, he encourages you to just try something.

"Even if it's just a few plants here and there — maybe it's a food source for a monarch — all of that is going to benefit pollinators," he says.

Speaking of monarch butterflies, these beauties fly through Kansas when they migrate. In the spring, they leave Mexico and make their way north into the Great Lakes region by way of the Southern Plains (that's us!), and by late fall, they head back down to Mexico.

McKernan says monarch caterpillars only eat milkweed, so if you're hoping to support monarchs, planting milkweed is one way to do it.

If you have questions about native plants or pollinators, contact your local Kansas State University Research and Extension agent. You can find your agent by visiting [www.ksre.k-state.edu/about/statewide-locations.html](http://www.ksre.k-state.edu/about/statewide-locations.html).

## SUPPORTING POLLINATORS ON THE FARM

Royce and Sharon Schmidt have 40 acres of farmland in Harvey County that's been in the family for three generations. The couple has made a concerted effort to turn the land back to prairie after Sharon became concerned when the fruit trees in their orchard weren't producing fruit.

She did some research and found the website [monarchwatch.org](http://monarchwatch.org). Monarch Watch is a non-profit program based at the University of Kansas that focuses on the habitat and migration of monarch butterflies. Sharon combed through the resources on the site and the couple got to work implementing changes on their farmland.

The changes didn't happen overnight — it took five years for native grasses to get established — but she encourages anyone interested in trying to support pollinators to give it a try. They reseeded most of their acreage to native grass and their neighbor cuts it for hay. They leave five acres unmowed and two acres are set aside as a pollinator garden. Their work has paid off with an uptick in pollinator activity and fruit production.

"We have a creek that runs through our property and when I walk through, I can see a buzz of things," she says. "The number of butterflies, bees, different moths and even birds is incredible. Even on the small scale we're doing it, it made a huge difference."

*Kansas Living Magazine, a publication of Kansas Farm Bureau*



Courier photo

**SUDOKU**

Call today and receive a **FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF**

**SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB** 1-855-576-5653

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In-Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 068299 0083445

6				3		7	1	
3					2			
		1	8				3	
		3	5	7				
1			9	2				4
			1	6	9			
	5			8	4			
		2						7
8	1		4					5

© StatePoint Media  
Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

## Statepoint Crossword

Theme: Back to School

**CROSSWORD**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11				12			13	14		
15				16			17			
	18			19			20			
			21				22			
23	24	25				26		27	28	29
30			31		32	33		34		
35		36			37			38		
39				40			41		42	
43			44				45		46	
			47				48	49		
	50	51			52				53	54
55					56			57		58
59					60			61		
62					63				64	

### ACROSS

- \*Medical school entry requirement, acr.
- \*Atlas image
- Hula dancer's necklace
- German money
- Ready for picking
- Nerd
- Like many Brothers Grimm stories
- Month of Purim
- \*Some exams
- \*Laptop and books container
- Fastens a fly
- Licorice-like herb
- \*Teacher's favorite
- Like hot lava
- Cassava, pl.
- Chapter in history
- Deadly
- DEA agent
- Second person singular past of "do," archaic
- Greet, to a dog
- Be in harmony
- Inwardly
- Opposite of pluralism
- Even, to a poet
- \*Academic planners
- \*High predecessor
- Passé
- Barnyard honker
- Rooftop contraption
- \*Meal container
- Emerald or aquamarine, chemically speaking
- Trans-Siberian Railroad city

### DOWN

- Actress Ryan
- Larry David's "\_\_\_\_ Your Enthusiasm"
- Bizet's "Habanera," e.g.
- Tabby's mate
- King with a golden touch
- Rapidly
- \_\_\_\_ up, to become more cheerful
- Spring
- Morays
- Abdominal pain cause, acr.
- Plunder
- Dirty one
- \*One of 3 Rs in grade school
- Genuflected
- Letter-writing friend
- \*M in LMC, educationally speaking
- Circular gasket
- Big Dipper's visible shape
- Biblical gift-givers
- Propelled a boat
- Angler's basket
- Part of an act
- Rare bills
- Chewbacca's sidekick
- \*Word in thesaurus, e.g.

### ACROSS

- Mennonite's cousin
- \*Gym class prop
- \*Art class cover ups
- Old fashioned contests at dawn
- Lower value, as in currency
- Plug a pipe, e.g. (2 words)
- Beginning of ailment
- Exceedingly
- Bob of boxing world
- Bonkers
- Shamu, e.g.
- Dec. holiday
- Capture
- Porky's or Petunia's home

Off First Month of New Service!  
USE PROMO CODE: GZ590

**Consumer Cellular**

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

### Kingman County Commission Minutes

Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. August 7, 2023, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse. Present: Patrick Elpers, Commissioner; Jack Thimesch, Commissioner; Carol Noblit, County Clerk

Visitors: Bob Morris, Kingman Leader-Courier; Larry Landwehr; Julie Lyon

Online Visitors: Tammy

Staff: Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director; Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director; Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director and Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director.

Commissioner Thimesch asked if there were any additions to the agenda.

Commissioners discussed that they will have comments only.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to ap-

prove the agenda. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioner Thimesch asked if there was any public comment.

Larry Landwehr mentioned all the work that Julie Lyon did on the Saddle & Ropers building and that it looked nice.

Julie Lyon discussed how important having an Economic Development Director is and that they have been working together with surrounding counties.

Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director was in to discuss that the sound system had some issues but she believed that the problem was fixed.

Ms. Frampton let the Commissioners know that the electronic sign warranty will end in May 2024 and will need to look getting a maintenance agreement in the future.

Ms. Frampton gave an update on the Expo Center and some events that are coming up.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the transfers of \$853,865.40. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director was in to let the Commissioners know that he will be bringing in a resolution next week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session with Stan Goetz, HR at 9:09 a.m. to discuss an individual employees evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act for discussion of non-elected personnel matters, and they will return to open session at 9:16 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners. Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:16 a.m.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to keep

employee pay whole during the one week mandatory waiting period. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director was in to discuss that the CDBG/CVR grant and that there needs to be a hearing held and published at least 7 days prior to the hearing.

Commissioners agreed to have the hearing for the CDBG/CVR on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Thimesch discussed that the City of Cunningham is needing sewer and water to keep up with the growth of Cunningham.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-R11,

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AS TO FORM A PROPOSED AGREEMENT BETWEEN WORKFORCE ALLIANCE OF SOUTH CENTRAL KANSAS, INC. AND THE CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**BOARD FOR THE KANSAS LOCAL WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT AREA IV AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THE SAME BY THE COUNTY'S REPRESENTATIVE TO SAID CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIALS BOARD**

appointing Jerry Henning. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director and Steve Bachenberg, County Engineer were in to update the Commissioners.

Mr. Arensdorf discussed the fuel bids received last week.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the fuel bid from Farmers Coop of Garden Plain. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Arensdorf let the

Commissioners know that the Pre-construction for St. Leo Road is set for August 15, 2023.

Mr. Arensdorf discussed that John Riggins from Kirkham Michael Engineer will be in at 11:00 a.m. on August 14, 2023, with the Biannual Bridge Inspection Report.

Mr. Bachenberg let the Commissioners know that status of the FLAP project and that it will possibly be another two weeks before construction begins.

Mr. Bachenberg let the Commissioners know that he has been putting some numbers together to submit to KDOT for the fall submittal program.

Commissioners discussed the information received from Invenegy for Flat Ridge 4 & 5. The proposed amount is \$3,000 per megawatt with a 2% increase yearly.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 10:46 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

### Governor Announces Record-Setting Agriculture Exports of Nearly \$5.5 Billion

~Agriculture Secretary Mike Beam Meets with International Ag Leaders to Strengthen Trade~

TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly today announced that agricultural exports reached \$5.46 billion in 2022, the highest export total in decades. The Kansas agriculture industry has grown significantly since Governor Kelly took office; in 2019, Kansas had \$3.8 billion in exports.

Once again, the top ag export for Kansas was

red meat, which made up \$2.1 billion or 38.9% of all agriculture exports. Second were cereals (including corn, wheat, and sorghum), and third was oil seed (primarily soybeans), making up 24.5% and 12.5% of total agricultural exports, respectively.

“Once again, we are shattering records to grow our economy and strengthen our ag industry,” said Governor Laura Kelly. “But even with these record exports, we aren’t taking anything for granted – which is why Secretary Beam and

I are building relationships with international trading partners to ensure Kansas farmers and ranchers can continue to feed the world.”

Mexico was Kansas’ largest ag importer with \$2.17 billion in 2022, Japan was the second largest with \$781 million, and Canada was third with \$594 million.

Kansas Secretary of Agriculture Mike Beam met today with his state and provincial agriculture counterparts from Mexico, Canada, and the U.S. as part of the annual Tri-National

Accord in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, to strengthen relationships with key trading partners. This annual event allows state agricultural leaders to discuss critical issues affecting trade between the three countries, including animal health, rural development, and agriculture technology.

“Kansas is a national leader in agriculture, and the continued growth in agricultural exports shows the significance of the work being done throughout the Kansas ag industry to develop

these international markets,” said Secretary of Agriculture Mike Beam.

Participation in the Tri-National Accord continues KDA’s vision of achieving long-term, sustainable agricultural prosperity and statewide economic growth. For more about international marketing programs at KDA, including information about upcoming trade missions, and to see the full report on Kansas’ ag exports in 2022, go to [agriculture.ks.gov/International](http://agriculture.ks.gov/International).

**30x60x12**  
OPEN SIDED BUILDING **\$22,590\***



Five 12' Open Bays • 3' Overhang on Front

Visit our WEBSITE for MORE Details & MORE Specials!

**QSI**  
Quality Structures  
Richmond, Kansas

QUALITYSTRUCTURES.COM  
**800-374-6988**

\*Price Includes: Delivery and install on your level site. Travel charges may apply. Price effective Aug. 1, 2023 – Aug. 31, 2023.



Courier photo

*“It was then that I noticed the hibiscus tree. Its magenta flowers were in bloom, brilliant and full with fertile golden centers. The tree was incongruous with its surroundings- the dirt, the man weathered from the sun and life.”*  
— Alex Brunkhorst, *The Gilded Life of Matilda Duplaine*

### Kingman County Sheriff's Report

#### Sunday, August 6

Traffic Stop	4
Fire/Camper	17000 Blk SW 80 St, Nashville
Disabled Vehicle	W Hwy 42 & SW 80 Ave, Zenda
Disabled Vehicle	E Hwy 42 & SE 30 Ave, Rago
Damage to Property	10000 Blk SE 3rd St, Murdock
Follow Up	17000 Blk SW 80 St, Nashville
Fire/Grass	SE 100 Ave & SE 150 St, Norwich
Animal Complaint	14000 Blk SE 40 St, Cheney
Debris in Roadway	3000 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	NW 50 St & NW 10 Ave, Kingman
Agency Assist	120 N Spruce, Kingman

#### Monday, August 7

Traffic Stop	1
Civil Paper Process	1
Miscellaneous	200 Blk S Main St, Norwich
Fire / Hay Bale	SE 40 St & S Berry Ave, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	2000 Blk S Hwy 14, Kingman

#### Tuesday, August 8

Traffic Stop	2
Civil Paper Process	2
Suspicious Activity	13000 SE 140 Ave, Norwich
Unsecured Building	N Westview & W Burns Ave, Norwich
Traffic Complaint	E Hwy 54 & NE 150 Ave, Cheney
Disabled Vehicle	16000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
Miscellaneous	200 Blk S Main St, Norwich
Miscellaneous	2000 Blk N Main St, Kingman
Follow Up	300 Blk E D Ave, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	E Hwy 54 & NE 70 Ave, Kingman
Non-Injury Accident	NW 180 Ave & W 1st St, Cunningham
Check Welfare	13000 SE 140 Ave, Norwich
Traffic Complaint	17000 Blk W Hwy 54, Cunningham
Check Welfare	13000 SE 140 Ave, Norwich

#### Wednesday, August 9

Traffic Stop	1
Civil Paper Service	1
Disturbance	13000 Blk SE 140 Ave, Norwich
Transport Prisoner	120 N Spruce, Kingman
Trespassing	200 Blk S Main St, Nashville
Transport Prisoner	120 N Spruce, Kingman
Animal Complaint	E Hwy 42 & SE 30 Ave, Rago
Damage to Property	4000 Blk SE 160 Ave, Cheney
Traffic Complaint	E Hwy 42 & SE 160 Ave, Norwich
Traffic Arrest	NW 10 St & NW 170 Ave, Cunningham
Burglary	2000 Blk NW 50 Ave, Kingman

#### Thursday, August 10

Traffic Stop	2
Civil Paper Service	2
Non-Injury Accident	N Hwy 11 & NW 50 St, Kingman
Check Welfare	200 Blk W Rowlen Ave, Nashville

#### Friday, August 11

Traffic Stop	5
Civil Paper Process	6
Non-Injury Accident	14000 Blk NW 50 St, Cunningham
Secure Building	S Main St & E 8th St, Kingman
Warrant Service	120 N Spruce, Kingman
Abandoned Vehicle	SW 100 St & SW 90 Ave, Zenda
Warrant Service	120 N Spruce, Kingman
Suspicious Persons	3000 Blk NE 70 Ave, Kingman

#### Saturday, August 12

Traffic Stop	5
Civil Process Service	1
Animal Complaint	4000 Blk NE 40 Ave, Kingman
Warrant Service	300 Blk E C Ave, Kingman

A COLUMN BY TOM PURCELL

### To Aliens, Human Wisdom is Unbelievable

Last week a whistleblower testified before Congress, alleging that federal officials have concealed evidence of unidentified flying objects from the public for decades.

I'm not sure why advanced beings would want to talk to us, but if they came today, I imagine their visit might go something like this:

leader!" the small, gray being with a large, light-bulb-shaped head says to me.

"He taking a nap," I say. "We're not sure he's really in charge, anyhow."

"Then take me to who is in charge," says the alien.

"Nobody's sure about that, either."

"But I have important questions about your government and your people," says the alien. "I wish to gather any wisdom that your people can teach me."

After I stop laughing, I offer to do my best to help the creature understand human nature.

"Explain to me how your government works," says the alien.

"I'm not sure anyone

can fully explain that," I say, "but I'll give it a go."

The alien nods, genuinely curious, and I continue.

"My country's founders were very distrustful of government because they feared that some wicked humans would pursue government power to enrich themselves and to oppress their enemies. Such tyranny has been a common problem throughout human history."

"That is a regrettable human trait?" asks the alien.

"For sure," I say. "That's why our founders established three branches of government — legislative, executive and judicial — to ensure that no one branch would become too powerful.

There are various limits and controls on the powers of each branch, but people in Washington keep trying to get around the concept, anyhow."

"Can you provide an example?" asks the alien.

"Our president recently tried to use \$430 billion in taxpayer funds to relieve college debts held by a key voting bloc. But our Constitution says that only the Congress, not the president, has the ability to appropriate funds. The Supreme Court rightly blocked the president's scheme."

"This is a very inefficient form of government," says the alien.

"It is more inefficient than you can imagine," I say. "We are a representative republic, which means we the people

elect representatives who are supposed to make our government accountable to us."

"Supposed to?" says the alien.

"Our government has gotten so big, a lot of it doesn't seem to be accountable to anyone," I say. "Take the money we spend on our defense. The Washington Examiner says the Pentagon has failed five audits and can only account for 61% of its \$3.5 trillion in assets."

"Oh, my," says the alien.

"It happens all the time," I say. "Voters may vote for the legislators who write our laws, but once the laws are passed, they are interpreted by bureaucrats who create and impose all kinds of new costly regulations

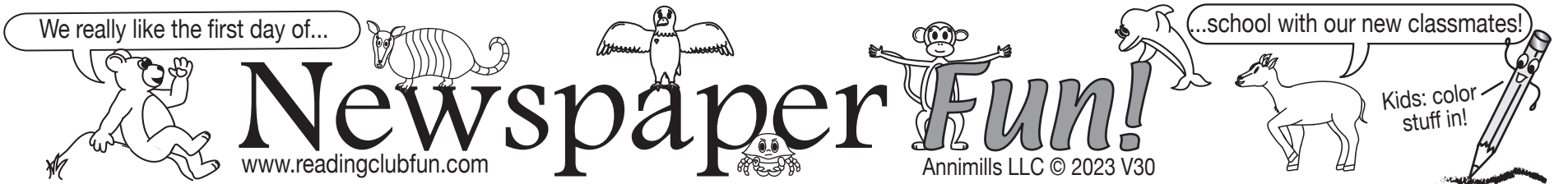
on our country. Nobody regulates the regulators. How's that for the wisdom you want my people to teach you?"

"Look," says the alien, glancing at the device strapped onto his wrist, "it's been really great talking to you. But your galaxy is one of 2 trillion in existence. There surely has to be more-intelligent life out there than what I'm finding here."

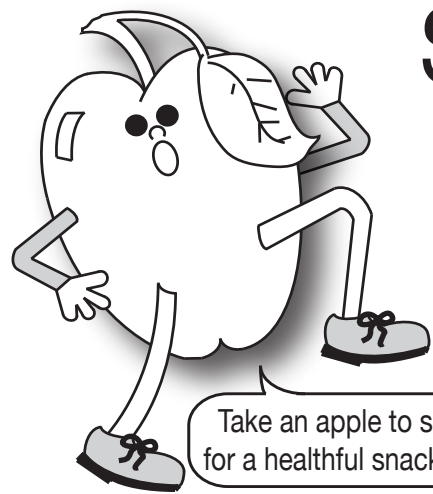
With that the alien jumps into a shiny round cylinder and disappears into the clouds,

"Come back!" I shout. "I didn't even begin to tell you how much money human beings love to waste on war!"

Copyright 2023 Tom Purcell, distributed exclusively by Cagle Cartoons newspaper syndicate.



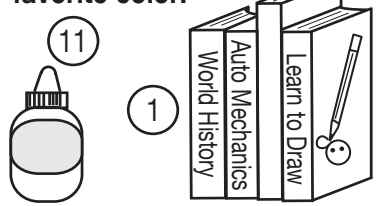
## Step Up to a New School Year!



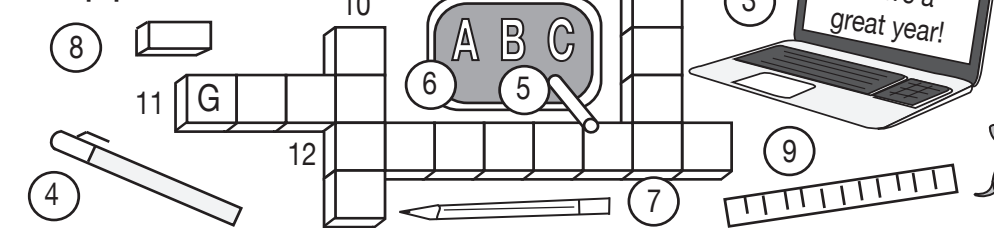
Step up to a new school year! Get ready to do your best. You can do it! Most schools supply the basic items and equipment you need to start, but may expect you to bring some supplies to help out. So, get packed and enjoy this fresh start!

Take an apple to school for a healthful snack!

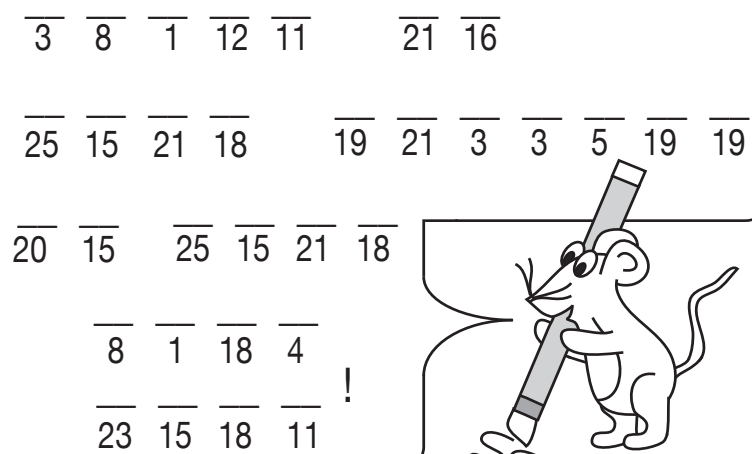
Apples are red, green or yellow! Color this apple your favorite color!



Study the pictures to fill in the puzzle with names of old and new school supplies and equipment:



When you are a student, school and homework are your "job." Arrive prepared every day and you will be able to:



Little Mouse is excited about the new school year. He has a message for you. Use the alphabet code to see it:

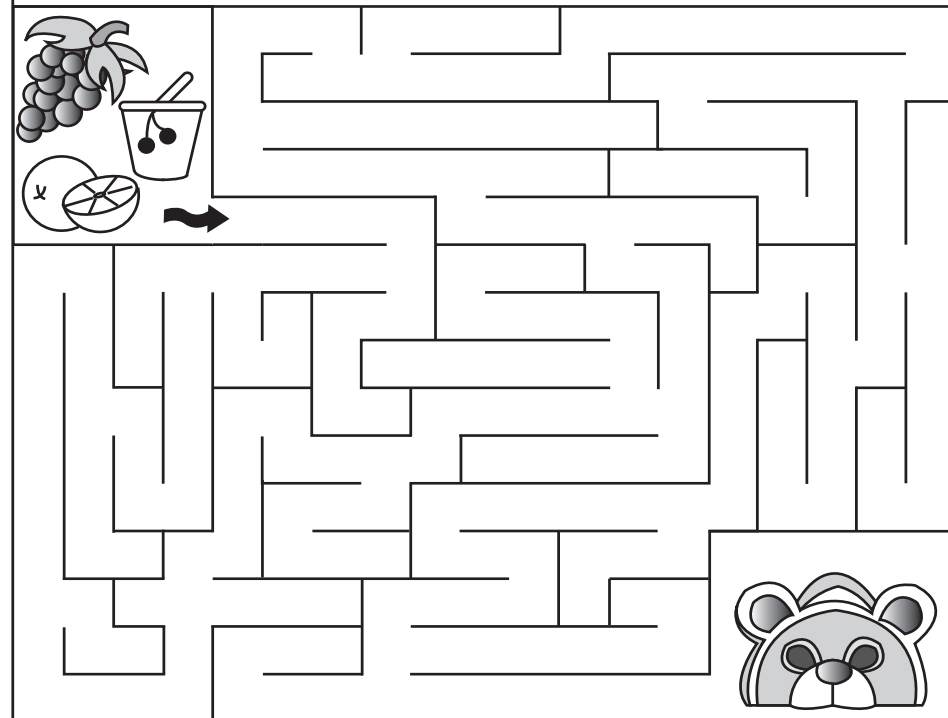
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	

The Real Reason Mary's Lamb Followed Her to School  
Puff! Mary forgot her backpack.  
Pant! I'll get it there!



### Lunch With a Punch!

Pack favorite foods that will give your lunch "nutritional" punch! Choose healthful dessert too. Go through the maze to put your choice into the bag:



### Love That Class!

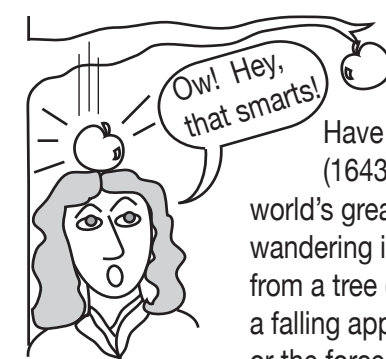
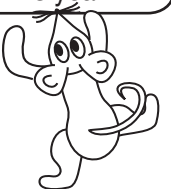
What's your favorite class in school?



There is so much to learn. I'm going to try something new this year!

Find and circle these subjects:

- music history reading foreign languages
- band writing spelling mathematics
- gym art health science



### "How Do You Like Them Apples?"

Have you heard about a man named Sir Isaac Newton (1643-1727)? He lived in England. He was one of the world's greatest mathematicians. One day when he was wandering in a garden thinking, he watched an apple fall from a tree (some stories say that he was hit in the head by a falling apple.) This action made him think about "gravity" or the force with which the earth pulls things toward its center. If you throw a ball into the air, gravity is what causes it to fall back down to you. Gravity gives us weight on the earth. It is the force that keeps the planets in our solar system on their paths.

Scientists use math. Can you fill in the missing math symbol or number to make each equation correct?

- $7 \square + 8 = \square$
- $134 \square 34 = 100$
- $92 \square + \square = 109$
- $350 \square \div 50 = \square$
- $45 \square \times 4 = \square$
- $968 \square \div 88 = \square$
- $6 \square \square 9 = 54$
- $73 \square - 54 = \square$

(Answers on page 9)



### Governor Kelly Welcomes Dolly Parton to Kansas for the Imagination Library Statewide Celebration

~Proclaims August 14 'Imagination Library of Kansas Day' in the State~

OVERLAND PARK – Governor Laura Kelly today welcomed iconic singer-songwriter and early childhood literacy advocate Dolly Parton to Kansas to celebrate the statewide expansion of her Imagination Library program.

The celebration comes after the announcement last month that every child in Kansas is now eligible to participate in the program to receive one free, high-quality, age-appropriate book per month until their fifth birthday. That's a total of 60 books from birth to age 5! Today, Kansas is one of just 15 states where the program is available statewide, with more coming onboard later this year.

"Well Kansas, we did it! I'm so thankful for Governor Kelly, Representative Waymaster and the countless friends and local partners across Kansas who have made this dream come true," Dolly Parton said. "Let's celebrate by registering as many children and families as we can to receive the gift of Imagination Library books right to their home each month. Together, we can inspire children across Kansas to love books and reading, and that's a gift that will last a lifetime."

This statewide expansion of the Imagination Library was made possible through the additional funding that was included in Governor Kelly's budget proposal at the start



of the 2023 legislative session and was passed by the bipartisan Kansas legislature.

"I'm honored that Dolly has taken the time to help our state celebrate this exciting milestone of being able to provide the gift of reading for children and families in every part of Kansas," Governor Laura Kelly said. "I urge all eligible families to take advantage of this program and to sign their children up for the Imagination Library of Kansas."

This was a closed event to nearly 500 supporters of the program and special guests hosted by the Imagination Library of Kansas. The event featured a sit-down conversation between Dolly Parton and Governor Kelly where Parton also presented the governor with a copy of her book, Coat of Many Colors. Governor Kelly also declared August 14 "Imagination Library of Kansas Day." The celebration was emceed by Representative Troy Waymaster, whose three children are all enrolled in the Imagination Library Program. The evening concluded with Parton signing "Coat of Many Colors" and "Try."

"All children in Kansas should be able to have the same opportunity that my sons have," Representative Troy Waymaster said. "All three of our sons participate in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library,

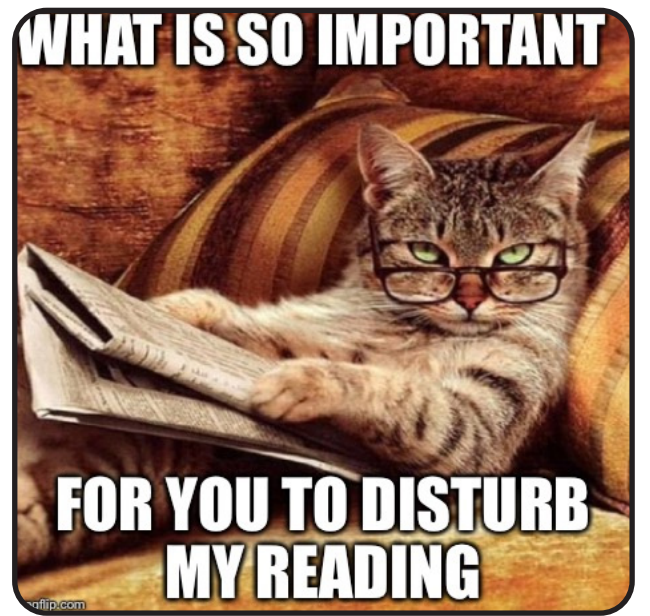
thank you, Dolly Parton, for providing the gift of reading for all children ages zero to five in the state of Kansas."

To enroll 0-5 children for free books from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, click here. The following photos from today's event are available for media use:

About Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Since launching in 1995, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has become the preeminent early childhood book-gifting program in the world. The flagship program of The Dollywood Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, has gifted over 200 million free books in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, and The Republic of Ireland. This is achieved through funding shared by The Dollywood Foundation and Local Community Partners. The Imagination Library mails more than

2 million high-quality, age-appropriate books directly to children's homes each month. Each child enrolled in the program receives one book per month from birth to age five - at no cost to families. Dolly envisioned creating a lifelong love of reading and inspiring children to Dream More, Learn More, Care More and Be More.

The program's impact has been widely researched, and results demonstrate its positive impact on early childhood development and literacy skills. Penguin Random House is the exclusive publisher of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. For more information, please visit [imaginationlibrary.com](http://imaginationlibrary.com).



Cool Facts #171

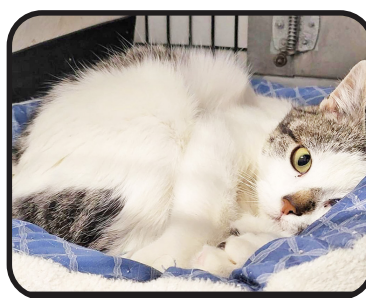
Abibliophobia is the fear of running out of reading material.

"The person, be it gentleman or lady, who has not pleasure in a good novel, must be intolerably stupid." — Jane Austen, Northanger Abbey

## Kingman County Humane Society Pets Ready for Adoption

### Kennedy

Sponsored by Baker Accounting



Male Domestic Shorthair  
7 pounds  
1 year +  
\$25.00

Kennedy has been at the shelter since February 9, 2023

Some of our cats just prefer to be outdoors and live a more independent lifestyle. We call these Working Cats or Barn Cats. They don't care if they get kisses and cuddles, but they still need a few basics like shelter, food, water and medical care when needed. All of our working cats have been spayed or neutered and are current on vaccinations. So we do ask for a small adoption fee of \$25 for these cats to help us cover our vet expenses. They are still great cats. WE GUARANTEE THESE CATS WILL BE GREAT MOUSERS OR DOUBLE YOUR MICE BACK! :-)

### Ellen

Sponsored by Baker Accounting



Female Terrier/Retriever  
40 pounds  
6 months +  
\$200.00

Ellen has been at the shelter since February 12, 2023

Ellen is a little goofy and a little sensitive. She really wants to please so she should be easy to train. She's very playful

and would love to be your constant companion.

Update from her weekend foster family: Ellen loves to roll in the grass check out every new thing she sees. Gets along great with the other dogs and cats. She's a little shy at first but is becoming very playful.

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



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

## Step Up to a New School Year!

Favorite Classes!

"How Do You Like Them Apples?"

1. 7 + 8 = 15  
2. 134 - 34 = 100  
3. 92 + 17 = 109  
4. 350 ÷ 50 = 7  
5. 45 × 4 = 180  
6. 968 ÷ 88 = 11  
7. 6 × 9 = 54  
8. 73 - 54 = 19

FOREIGN LANGUAGES  
C H A L K  
Y O U T R E A D  
S C I S S O R S  
L E A R N T O D R A W  
W O R L D H I S T O R Y  
E R A S E R  
G L U E  
D O G  
A B C  
S C I S S O R S  
K  
glue  
glue

School and homework are your "job." Go prepared every day and you will be able to

C H A L K U P  
3 8 1 12 11 21 16  
Y O U R S U C C E S S  
25 15 21 18 19 21 3 3 5 19 19  
T O Y O U R  
20 15 25 15 21 18  
H A R D  
8 1 18 4  
W O R K !  
23 15 18 11

by Annimills LLC © 2023

### Minutes from Pratt County Commission

The Pratt County commissioners met in regular session Monday, July 31, 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.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the minutes of July 24, 2023.

Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to rehire Janice Pope for a temporary/part time position for RSVP at \$10.50 per hour.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve hiring Tanner Westerman for detention officer at the

sheriff's office at \$16.26 per hour. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Jimmy White, sheriff and Jordan Smith, INA alert representative, presented a proposal for security cameras at the courthouse. The quote is \$35,197.95. Commissioner Shriver made a motion to approve the bid from INA alert for courthouse security in the amount of \$35,197.95 to be paid out of ARPA funds. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Sheri Gatton, district manager and Josh Adelhardt, soil conservation, turned in their 2024 budget which is the same as last year.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to recess into executive session for five minutes at 2:16 p.m. to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Shriver made a motion to return from executive session at 2:21 p.m. with no action taken.

Brian Atteberry, EMS director, requested an executive session. Commissioner Adams made a motion to recess into executive session at 2:22 p.m. for ten minutes to discuss non-elected personnel concerning raises. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Shriver made a motion to return from executive session at 2:32 p.m. with no action taken. Motion carried 3-0.

Brian reported medic 1 is still being checked out for codes, they have determined it is the turbo. He is keeping it on short runs. Medic 4 has an exhaust leak it will be in the shop next week.

Commissioner Shriver commented the

line had been moved on the lots around the public safety building. Everyone agreed this was acceptable.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the payment vouchers for July 31, 2023. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Clerk Voss questioned the procedure for handling the insurance claims for hail damage on the county buildings. Tyson suggested they should go out to bid separately rather than all together. The commissioners decided Clerk Voss can contact each department head to notify them to contact roofing contractors to get bids for their building.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to adjourn at 2:53 pm. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

### MORE Minutes from Pratt County Commission

The Pratt County commissioners met in regular session Monday, August 7, 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.

Scot Loyd, Loyd Group LLC, discussed the 2024 budget for Pratt County. Heather Morgan, economic development/COVID consultant, reported on the KDOT electric vehicle charging stations. Jamie Huber and herself met with KDOT. There are two levels of EV chargers fast charging and level 2 chargers. KDOT says Pratt County is a priority and we could get the fast charging. KDOT will include Pratt as part of their application. Pratt will receive one fast charging station. Pratt possibly will receive two level 2 chargers. Possible locations could be one at the college and one at the tennis courts/hospital area. There is a 20% match for the level 2 chargers. She is checking into different funds/grants to qualify or the private sector owned. The city of Pratt nor Pratt County are interested in owning the level 2 chargers. They would need to be private sector partnered. She reported there is an economic development meeting Wednesday, nothing new will be reviewed.

Tammy Smith, CEO and Alan Waites CFO, PRMC, presented their reports. Tammy reported they added Chris Miller, orthopedic surgeon and Larry Beamer, general surgeon who is working part time ten days a month. Contract labor is still very costly. Alan gave a report on the financial reports for nine months of 2023. Commissioner Adams

questioned when the new hospital was built \$6 million was absorbed into the new bond. He wants to know how much above the sales tax that PRMC pays to cover the first bond.

Alan will check into this and report back. Commissioner Shriver questioned the number of rural hospitals that are closing. Tammy stated it has to do with Medicare/Medicaid payments. He asked if this is a concern for PRMC. Tammy stated this is why they are recruiting new surgeons so they aren't Medicare/Medicaid dependent.

Doug Freund, road/lake supervisor, would like to purchase a water cooler for his employees at the road shop at a cost of \$3,750.00. Commissioner Adams made a motion to purchase a water cooler for the county shop from U-Line at a cost of \$3,750.00.

Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. He reported the county barn is being painted. He stated he was asked to close the road by the golf course for a wedding. The commissioners are not in favor, but suggested he put up caution

signs for people who will be parking on the road. He will start looking for a grader, would like to purchase before the end of the year. The cost is approximately \$350,000.00. He will get quotes and report back. He reported there was an audit from FEMA for work done at the lake, making sure the money was spent at the lake. They stated the job was well done and that they owe the county around \$82,000. The playground equipment at the lake needs to be replaced or repaired. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve raising Doug Freund to \$923.08 bi-weekly pay for the lake. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the minutes from July 31, 2023. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Jones signed the semi-annual report from Great Plains Development Inc.

Commissioner Shriver made a motion to hire Bonita Grapper part time/temporary for the janitor position at \$10.50 per hour at RSVP. Commissioner Adams

seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Shriver made a motion to recess into executive session at 3:42 p.m. for twenty minutes for an attorney/client matter concerning multiple legal issues. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Adams made a motion to return from executive session at 4:07 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Scot Loyd, Loyd Group LLC, rejoined the meeting to continue discussing the 2024 budget. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the payment vouchers for August 7, 2023. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Adams made a motion to pay the AT&T invoice out of the courthouse budget. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to adjourn at 4:50 p.m. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

### Public Notice

First published in the Cunningham Courier, Thursday, August 17, 2023 (1t).

#### NOTICE OF HEARING TO EXCEED REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE AND BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of City of Cunningham will meet on August 28, 2023 at 6:30 PM at 119 N Main St Cunningham, KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds, the amount of ad valorem tax and the Revenue Neutral Rate. Detailed budget information is available at Cunningham Public Library and will be available at this hearing.

#### BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2024 Expenditures and Amount of Current Year Estimate for 2023 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2024 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	Prior Year Actual for 2022		Current Year Estimate for 2023		Proposed Budget for 2024	
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2023 Ad Valorem Tax
General	420,854	43.132	523,464	45.186	661,765	156,064
Debt Service	24,761	7.301	57,662	7.301	76,846	25,217
Library	12,256	3.653	12,260	3.563	13,591	12,307
Employee Benefits	28,707	8.686	20,914	4.922	18,413	16,998
Special Highway					51,864	
Water	121,338		143,500		249,260	
Sewer	58,628		82,500		131,740	
Non-Budgeted Funds						
Totals	666,544	62.772	840,300	60.972	1,203,479	210,586
						Revenue Neutral Rate** 55.137
Less: Transfers	60,000		105,000		105,000	
Net Expenditure	606,544		735,300		1,098,479	
Total Tax Levied	190,418		190,428		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
Assessed Valuation	3,062,449		3,123,203		3,453,796	
Outstanding Indebtedness, January 1,	2021	2022	2023			
G.O. Bonds	270,000	235,000	200,000			
Revenue Bonds	0	0	0			
Other	300,000	279,085	266,917			
Lease Purchase Principal	0	35,908	30,952			
Total	570,000	549,993	497,869			

\*Tax rates are expressed in mills  
\*\* Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Molly Morgan  
City Official Title: City Clerk

“State fairs are where dreams come true and memories are made.”

**KANSAS STATE FAIR**  
SEPT. 8-17 HUTCHINSON, KS

**ADVANCE TICKET PRICES**

**THROUGH SEPT. 7**

Adults (13+)	\$7 (\$10 Value)
Children (6-12)	\$4 (\$6 Value)
Seniors (60+)	\$4 (\$6 Value)
Midway Wristband	\$30 (\$35 starting Sept. 1)

Tickets are available online, at any Kansas Dillons store, or at the KSF Ticket Office. A Military Ticket is available at the Ticket Office or can be purchased at each gate when arriving at the Fair. Price is \$4 and is valid for each family member.

**KansasStateFair.com**

### Public Notice

First published in the Cunningham Courier, Thursday, August 17, 2023.

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

HAROLD G. FIESER, Deceased.

Case No. 2022 PR 3

(Petition Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on August 11, 2023, a Petition was filed in this Court by Francine L. Fieser and M. Eileen Hawkins, duly appointed, qualified and acting Co-Executor's of the Estate of Harold G. Fieser, 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's be finally discharged as the Co-Executor's of the Estate of Harold G. Fieser, deceased, and the Petitioners be released from further liability.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before September 5, 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.

Francine L. Fieser and M. Eileen Hawkins, Co-Executors

Matthew W. Ricke, #20995  
ATTORNEY AT LAW, LLC  
349 North Main, P. O. Box 113  
Kingman, KS 67068  
(620) 532-3103  
Attorney for Petitioner

### Public Notice

First Published in The Cunningham Courier, Thursday, August 10, 2023

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

SALLY A. DAVIS, Deceased.  
CASE NO. 2022 PR 46

(Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Connie Hageman, Laura Cress and Melinda G. Miller, duly appointed, qualified and acting Co-Administrators of the Estate of Sally A. Davis, deceased, praying Petitioners acts be approved; account be settled and allowed; the heirs be determined; the Estate be

assigned to the persons entitled thereto pursuant to the laws of intestate succession; fees and expenses be allowed; costs be determined and ordered paid; the administration of the Estate be closed; the Co-Administrators be discharged and Petitioners be released from further liability.

You are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before August 29, 2023, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., in the District Court, 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.

Connie Hageman, Laura Cress, Melinda G. Miller, Co-Petitioners  
Matthew W. Ricke  
Ricke & Ritcha Law Office  
349 N. Main, PO Box 113  
Kingman, KS 67068  
Attorney for Petitioners

Built Stronger. Looks Better. Lasts Longer.



HORSE BARNs | GARAGES | HOMES | SHOPS

Visit our website and YouTube channel to view thousands of projects and testimonials!

800-447-7436  
mortonbuildings.com



©2021 Morton Buildings, Inc. A listing of GC licenses available at [mortonbuildings.com/licenses](http://mortonbuildings.com/licenses).

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

**Byron Walker Wildlife Area**

The Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks is bidding out a cropping permit on 148 acres of cropland on Byron Walker Wildlife Area located 9 miles west of Kingman. Individuals interested in bidding should contact the Manager, Troy Smith, at (620)532-3242.

**RV/Camper for Sale**

2021 Grand Design Transcend  
247B8 DH Camper  
30 ft. long, bunkhouse, large holding tanks,  
solar panel with controller,  
excellent condition, \$19,500.  
Call Don Hellar 620-450-8233

**Help Wanted**

Part-Time office professional needed for Kingman Co. Extension. Excellent customer service and strong attention to detail. Must have knowledge of basic accounting and bookkeeping skills, computer literate in word, excel, and social media. This position will be for 30 hours per week at \$20 per hour. For application, contact Melissa Thimesch at 620-532-5131. Applications will be taken until the position is filled. "K-State Research and Extension - Kingman County is an equal opportunity provider and employer. A criminal background check is required."

**Cunningham Liquor**

OPEN — 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. — Monday thru Thursday  
11 a.m. to 10 p.m. — Friday & Saturday  
12 noon to 8 p.m. — Sunday  
"Cold Brew... Warm Spirits" 298-2033

**Conrardy Seeds**

Custom Seed Cleaning  
7681 SW 80 Ave Kingman, KS  
(620) 532-5508  
AgriPro Alfalfa Seeds  
"Wheat is Our Specialty"

**Cunningham Auto Service**

Complete Auto Care  
Call Tom or Matt  
620-298-2029  
cunninghamautoservice@gmail.com



*This advertising space  
available for \$12.00*

**Advertisements**

*are needed*

**Theis**

Dozer Service, Inc.

416 W Stanley Ave  
Spivey, KS 67142  
(620) 532-3555

- Dozer • Excavator •
- Road Grader • High Loader
- Dump Trucks

**BLAST SERVICE**

Zenda, KS  
620-243-5571  
BEVERages\*Snacks\*Gas  
Everyday 6am-10pm  
"Where Everyone  
Knows Your Business"

**NISLY BROTHERS, INC.**



(620) 662-6561  
Serving Cunningham Since 1993

**C-1 Construction**

**620-532-4195**  
Soil Conservation Practices,  
Site Grading, Pond Dam Restoration  
-SOIL EROSION MEASURES -  
Building Pads  
GREG CONRARDY

**Cards for sale**

*Do you need extra copies of The Courier,  
but can't catch me home, or don't want  
to drive clear to the edge of town?  
You can purchase additional copies at  
Fitzsimmons Insurance there on Main Street.  
(You can purchase a lovely card or two or three  
made by Louise Armstrong while you are there.)*

**Pets/Livestock**

Use Xylecide® anti-fungal shampoo to provide heat relief on dogs & horses. Eliminates shedding & doggy odor. At Orscheln Farm & Home (www.happyjackinc.com)

**Miscellaneous**

BATHROOM RENOVATIONS. EASY, ONE DAY updates! We specialize in safe bathing. Grab bars, so slip flooring & seated showers. Call for a free in-home consultation: 855-382-1221

TOP CASH PAID FOR OLD GUITARS! 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. 855-454-6658

PAYING TOP CASH FOR MEN'S SPORT WATCHES! Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. Call 844-575-0691

Looking for beautiful, energy efficient new windows for your home? Call now and set up your free, no-obligation estimate. Beautify your home today! 895-727-0043

PROFESSIONAL LAWN SERVICE: Fertilization, weed control, seeding, aeration and mosquito control. Call now for a free quote. Ask about our first application special! 855-288-8649.

**Miscellaneous**

VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! 50 Pills SPECIAL \$99.00 FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW! 844-887-7963

My Caring Plan has helped thousands of families find senior living. Our trusted, local advisors help find solutions to your unique needs at no cost to you. Call 855-679-9077

GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. All 50 States. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 855-612-3543.

Shop w/ A Viasat Expert For High Speed Satellite Internet. New Customer Deals In Your Area. Nationwide Service. New Service For 2023. 833-399-3117

**Miscellaneous**

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 855-219-8849

HughesNet - Finally, super-fast internet no matter where you live. 25 Mbps just \$59.99/mo! Unlimited Data is Here. Stream Video. Bundle TV & Internet. Free Installation. Call 855-980-3374

**Advertising Opportunity**

Place your 25-word classified in this paper and 135 more for only \$300/ week. Find employees, sell your home or your car. Call the Kansas Press Association @ 785-271-5304 today!

**Accountants**

**Baker Professional Accounting Services**  
Tax Compliance  
Process Improvement  
Tax Preparation  
Tax Planning  
Quick Books Consulting  
920 E. 1st Street  
Pratt, KS 67124  
www.baker-accounting.com  
620-672-2502

Laubhan, Harbert & Haas, L.C.  
Certified Public Accountants  
Complete Accounting Services  
Tax - Bookkeeping - Payroll - Consulting -  
Joseph A. Harbert, CPA  
217 N Main St. Kingman, KS 67068  
620-532-3667  
Lorin Haas, CPA  
420 S. Jackson Suite 200  
Pratt, KS 67124  
620-672-3400

**Agriculture**

Neville Built  
Grain Trailers  
& Custom-Built Trailers  
Dick or Marvin Neville  
5581 SW 50 St. Kingman, KS  
620-532-3487  
1-800-301-3487

**Banks**

KANZA bank  
151 N. Main, Kingman, KS  
620-532-5821  
Lobby Hours  
9-5 M-F  
Drive Thru Hours  
8 - 6 M-F, 8-12 Sat.  
Equal Housing Lender  
Member FDIC

**Child Care**

**4C**  
Cunningham Child Care  
Children 8 weeks to 11 years  
120 West 3rd  
Cunningham, KS  
620-298-2010

**Home Improvement**

Dixon's  
True Value Hardware  
Heating & A/C  
325 N. Main, Kingman, KS  
532-2631

Subscribe to your hometown paper!

**Hospitals and Clinics**



"Exceptional Healthcare to Every Patient, Every Time"

**Hospital & Family Clinic**

750 West D Avenue  
Kingman, KS 67068  
620-532-3147

**Rehab Services**

760 West D Avenue  
Kingman, KS 67068  
620-532-0110

**Cunningham Clinic**

112 North Main  
Cunningham, KS 67035  
620-298-2397

Visit our website:  
www.kingmanhc.com  
Find us on Facebook:  
Kingman Healthcare Center

**Optometrists**

Troy Maydew, OD  
Seth Thibault, OD  
Andrew W. Piester, OD  
216 S. Oak  
Pratt, Kansas 67124  
620-672-5934  
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

**Real Estate**

Kingman Real Estate  
SALES AND APPRAISALS  
Scott Sparks 532-4242  
Nancy Milford 491-0774  
Lexi Miller 532-5204  
Office 620-532-3581  
146 N. Main, Kingman, KS  
www.kingmankrsre.com  
Ability - Honesty - Service

**Repair Service**

**BEAT REPAIR**  
TRUCK, TRAILER  
& TIRE REPAIR  
825 E. First Street,  
Cunningham KS  
OUR LIVING IS FIXING YOURS!  
**620-589-0114**

**Tax Services**

**Insurance**

Fitzsimmons Insurance  
Cunningham, KS 67037  
Bus: 620-298-5291  
Toll Free: 800-536-5291

For more information  
see display ad on pa

State Farm Insurance  
Jon Wollen, Agent  
152 N Main Street  
Kingman, KS 67068  
Bus: 620-532-3179  
Toll Free: 800-824-6681  
www.jonwollen.com

**Pharmacists**

Kingman Drug  
211 North Main,, Kingman,  
Pharmacists on call 24 hours  
Days - store ph. 532-5113  
Emergency after hours call  
Merlin McFarland 532-3855



**TRINA'S TAX SERVICE**

Trina Wilkerson, AFSP  
(620) 491-1771  
307 N Ninnescah St  
Kingman, Kansas  
www.kingmantaxpro.com

*Advertise Your  
Business  
in the Courier*

### Bill Ogden

William 'Bill' Waine Ogden, 69, died June 20, 2023, at his residence in Hutchinson. He was born July 28, 1953, in Bowling Green, MO, to Mason and Virginia Hamlett (Lindemann) Ogden.

He graduated from Cunningham High School, Cunningham, KS in 1971. Right after graduating, he joined the U.S. Navy until his retirement in 2005. Following his years in the military, William worked as a truck driver.

Bill was baptized and confirmed Catholic, but was not a member of any church. In his spare time, he loved riding his motorcycle. In addition, he enjoyed going fishing in Colorado.

William is survived by his Navy buddies and his long-time friend, Patty Hensley from Kingman.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Virginia Hamlett.

Cremation has taken place. Graveside service was held 10:30 a.m. Friday, July 21, 2023 at Kansas Veterans' Cemetery at WaKeeney. Military Honors will be conducted by the United States Navy Honor Guard.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Kansas Honor Flight, in care of Elliott Mortuary, 1219 N. Main, Hutchinson, KS 67501.



Courier photo

*"the city watches with hibiscus eyes"*  
— Zilka Joseph, Sharp  
*Blue Search of Flame*

### Shirley Shifflett

Shirley Louise Shifflett, 75, of Hagerstown MD, passed away to be with her Lord and Savior on Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at Twin Oaks Retirement facility in Williamsport, MD.



Born August 2, 1948, in Nashville, KS, she was the daughter of the late Florence (Dolly) and Norbert Neises.

Shirley was dedicated to studying the Bible and understanding God's word. She dearly valued the fellowship of her church family at Hagerstown Bible and took every chance to spread her faith through mission trips and faith-based organizations, including Samaritan's Purse and Crown Financial Ministries.

Shirley is survived by her children: Jennifer (Bill) Scharff and Jeffrey Banz; grandchildren: Sara (Zach) Stultz, Zachary Scharff, Aniela Banz and Elijah Banz; siblings: Norma Jean Evers, Ted (Pat) Neises, Marilyn (Dave) Barto, Denise (David) Davis and Judy Neises.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, August 26, 2023, 10:30 a.m. at Hagerstown Bible Church, 203 Summit Ave, Hagerstown MD 21740. This service will also be available via live streaming on the Hagerstown Bible Church Facebook page, and for replay a couple of weeks afterwards. A lunch reception at the church will immediately follow.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making donations in memory of Shirley to Hospice of Washington County via their website hospiceofwc.org.

Arrangements were made with J.L. Davis Funeral Home, and online condolences can be offered at www.jldavisfh.com.

### SPOTLIGHT Time



Here's your opportunity to support your newspaper and our school. Please consider sponsoring the newspaper's school spotlight pages.

The students, athletes and staff deserve this recognition. The family cost will be the same as last year (\$25.00 per person/family) The sponsorship for businesses will be \$60.00. (The same as last year.) I will mail out forms and more information in the next week. If you do not received one and you'd like to sponsor, please contact me and I can get you set up.

By supporting these special pages, you help the newspaper, and the newspaper, in turn helps supports the school. (It keeps your newspaper dollars local.)

You can send a check for \$25.00 (before September 1st) to

The Cunningham Courier,  
320 North Stadium Street  
Cunningham, KS 67035



### Kingman Emergency Medical Services Receives Donation



Representatives from Invenergy present Kingman Emergency Medical Services with an \$8,000 donation on July 27. This donation will underwrite the cost of three IV pumps that will assist emergency responders in their efforts across Kingman County.

**Cleo's Flower Shop**  
229 N. Main in Kingman  
kingmansflorist.com  
(620) 532-3883  
\*\*\*  
221 N. Main in Cheney  
cheneyksflorist.com  
(316) 542-0054  
Sheila Jayne, Owner/Operator

**Free Bread & Baked Goods at the Cunningham Methodist Church**  
2 to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays

**Check the Blessing Box east of the Methodist Church.**  
Anyone can give or take from the Blessing Box at any time.

**Cards by Roberta Kobbe**  
Handmade Greeting Cards for sale.  
Shop for cards at Cleo's in Kingman and Cheney, Ye Olde General Store in Norwich and Market 54 on Main in Pratt or contact me.  
Will mail or deliver.  
Cards and stamps make nice gifts for shut-ins.  
620-298-2659

*Make your next stop unique!*  
**Unique Boutique**  
Tuesday - Friday 10-5  
Saturday 10 - 2  
621 South Main Pratt, KS  
(620) 388-0366

Thank You Note RATES  
Use the Courier to say "Thank You".  
\$.10 per word (\$6.00 minimum)

**Upcoming Auctions**

Monday, August 21st, 2023 - 605+/- Acres of Barber Co Hunting/Ranch Land Auction - 1:30PM at the Hamm Auction Center, Pratt KS or Online

Saturday, August 26th, 2023, Farm & Household Auction 4654 SE Catalpa Rd. Sharon, KS

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

**ECK SERVICES** ALL HOURS - 620.220.5701  
ECKSERVICESKS.COM  
STAY CONNECTED

SERVING THE CUNNINGHAM AREA | FREE ESTIMATES

<b>ELECTRICAL</b>	<b>HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING</b>	<b>PLUMBING</b>
FARM GENERATOR OILFIELD RESIDENTIAL INDUSTRIAL	RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL NEW INSTALLATIONS SYSTEM MAINTENANCE CHANGE-OUTS	WATER HEATERS WATER WELL DRAIN CLEANING KITCHEN/BATH SEPTIC SYSTEMS

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

**Jackie and Ray Schonlau!**

**Advertise with The Courier**