

The Cunningham Courier

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(620) 298-2659

December 7, 2023
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photo by Nadine Hope

Approved Minutes from the November BOE Meeting

The West Kingman County Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 8, 2023 by President Brent Miller.

President, Brent Miller; Vice-President, Bjorn Halderson; Members, Scott DeWeese, Brent Hansen, Vicki Oldham, Megan Green, and Travis Thimesch; Superintendent, Dr. Kelly Arnberger; Principal, Cody Dunlap; Clerk, Stacy Webster and guests Randy Ford, Richard Martin, Shannon Mattal, Randy Keene, Dale Thompson, Penny Thompson, Rebeca Kraft, Kristen Wegerer, Shawna Sternecker, Roberta Kobbe, Abby Bock, Jason Osner, Lauren Ward, and Steele Ward.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Brent Hansen to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

President Miller welcomed the guests to the meeting then turned it over to Principal Dunlap. Principal Dunlap gave special recognition and thanks to the USD 332 custodians for the hard work that they have been doing and the work they have ahead of them with the

construction move.

Guests Shannon Mattal, Randy Keene, Dale Thompson, Penny Thompson, Rebeca Kraft, Lauren Ward, and Steele Ward left the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Motion made by Vicki Oldham, seconded by Megan Green, to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2023 regular meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Travis Thimesch, to approve the payment of bills and the financial reports as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Randy Ford presented the 2022-2023 Audit to the board and answered questions.

Guest Karla Westerman arrived during the audit presentation at 7:14 p.m.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Vicki Oldham, to accept the 2022-2023 Audit as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Guest Randy Ford left the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Superintendent Arnberger discussed our open enrollment policy that he presented for review. He also touched on the KESA Process changes and the status of the strategic planning process. Lastly he turned the meeting over to

Richard Martin to update the board on the current fleet status. Dr. Arnberger asked for direction and feedback from the board.

Principal Dunlap reported more on the KESA process and talked about our MTSS process and plans to partner with Orion to enhance our process.

Member Scott DeWeese shared that the 2023 audit is almost complete and there has been less turnover at the coop.

Superintendent Arnberger asked for a 5 min break at 8:25 p.m.

Guests Jason Osner and Richard Martin left the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Superintendent Arnberger gave the board an update on the construction project progress, including a time line of moving dates. He asked for board consensus to alter the calendar over the thanksgiving break to accommodate teachers settling their classrooms. Consensus was to extend the break by 1 1/2 days.

Motion made by Bjorn Halderson, seconded by Travis Thimesch, to go into executive session with the board and Administration for 20 minutes at 8:45 p.m. to discuss personnel 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 Vicki Oldham, seconded by Travis Thimesch, to go into executive session with the board and Administration for 20 minutes at 9:05 p.m. to discuss personnel for the non-elected exception under KOMA and return to the board room at 9:25 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

President DeWeese declared the meeting in open session at 9:25 p.m.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Brent Hansen, to go into executive session with the board and Administration for 5 minutes at 9:25 p.m. to discuss personnel for the non-elected exception under KOMA and return to the board room at 9:30 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

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

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Vicki Oldham, to extend Superintendent Arnberger contract until June 30, 2025. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Bjorn Halderson, seconded Megan Green, to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 p.m. YMotion carried 7-0.

Wildcats End Football Season as State Runner-Up

"Get into Dodge!" has a familiar ring to it for the Cunningham faithful. State football weekend found the Cats headed west for the 4th year in a row. That's a tradition we can get behind! The first year the Cats were eligible for postseason they logged a 4th place finish in the then Wild West Bowl. In 2021 they moved up to runner-up. Last year the Wildcats earned the first state championship in KSHAA sanctioned 6-man football. In other words, the majority of this team is not new to the trip or the game. They had been there before.

This team has played in the extreme heat and the extreme cold. The snow, however, was new. It was one of the biggest snows in quite a while for our part of the state. A great way to spend the state game! Going in, we knew the undefeated Cheylin Cougars were the odds on favorite. They were clicking on all cylinders, beating some tough competition to punch their ticket to Dodge. The Cats knew they would play the underdog role and relished the chance to knock off the Cougars.

Fat flakes from a big, wet snow greeted us at the stadium. The field was covered and the lines had to be cleaned off multiple times before and during the game. Blame the excitement, the conditions, or whatever you want, but the Wildcats did not get on the board with their trademark fast start.

After a good defensive first series they gave up a long score. Then a turnover deep in their own territory resulted in another TD for Cheylin. Unfortunately, it was the beginning of more to come. The Cats struggled to sustain drives on offense. Then the defense would battle, and a big play would result in another score for the Cougars. In the second quarter the Cats had their best offensive drive of the day.

It was set up by a defensive stand turning the Cougars over on downs inside the 15 yard line. Dagim and Jack went back to back with great pressure and tackles.

The Wildcat offense had some effective plays on the drive. Will hit Dylan for a 13-yard pass. Jack had a 21-yard snow plow type run, bowling over defenders. Luke found Dylan with a 13-yard pass to cap the drive. Dagim made the extra points kick. The offense had one other big play on the day with Luke to Luke for 26-yards on a pass. Outside of that, the Cats had trouble moving the ball and stopping the Cougars when they needed to. In typical 6-man fashion, everything was magnified. Those turnovers added up and the Cougars made the Cats pay nearly every time. It was an ending that was not a common prediction. Most people had Cheylin as the favorite and the Wildcats

with a chance to win. The Cougars running away with the win was as hard to predict as it was to take.

The Wildcats ended the year with a runner-up trophy, a 10-2 record, and some fantastic photos from playing football in the snow. Luke McGuire and Jack Ruckle ended their Wildcat football careers (junior high and high school)

with 3 undefeated seasons, 1 State title, 2 State runners-up, and 1 fourth place. They lost 5 games total in 6 years. Well done, young men. That is quite a legacy to leave the program.

-Coach McGuire



Taylor Schultz/USD 332 photo

Jack Ruckle



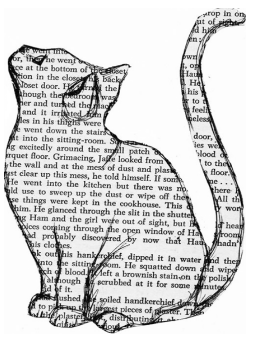
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Meanderings

Meanderings readers, I am beginning my column on Monday! How am I feeling you wonder? Or maybe not. Let's say I'm "better than horrible." I have been to the doctor three times. Those antibiotics last week didn't kick any demon butt. Thursday I was put on anti-inflammatories. Nope. Friday I got a steroid shot. It helped but I still am feeling less than my usual somewhat-perky self. I feel better than I did the last two weeks, BUT I can't shake this whatever-it-is-I've-had-for-two-weeks crap, and I don't want to be struggling tomorrow night, trying to get the paper finished while still feeling rather yucky. And I have no idea what it is

I am going to say in this column. Meanderings it will be.

**

A note to my classmates from 1979—I want to be a weeping willow tree.

To let everyone else in on the story. I told my friends that when I kick the bucket, cease to exist, write the last word, give up the ghost, put the final issue to bed You get the idea. I don't want to be buried in a box in the ground. That concept creeps me out. I would prefer to be tossed out in the woods somewhere, in my favorite jammies, staring up at the sky and the treetops. Unfortunately, that probably isn't going to happen.

ALSO I don't want a funeral. Funerals are rituals for the living, and a big hassle. I don't want any part of it, dead or otherwise. That being said, I won't be around to care, right? But here it is in black and white: No funeral.

Are you familiar

with Kelly Hunt? She's a Kansas City singer/songwriter. Blues/folk music. She has written a song titled "It Ain't Over When It's Over". Here's a bit from the song that encapsulates what I feel:

"Don't you waste your good money on a fine headstone

Get a case of fine wine, get everybody stoned

Then just like me you'll be feeling no pain"

There's quite a bit more, but I really like that part of the song. Of course, everyone who knows me also knows I'm a teetotaler. But when I'm gone, go ahead, have a drink or two or three in my memory. And talk about me; but only the good stuff.

Now, you are wondering no funeral? No box/casket? She must be planning on cremation?

That is pretty ugly as well, in my opinion. The positives of cremating remains.... it doesn't take up as much room as a big slab of concrete buried in the ground, and it is only

a bit less environmentally friendly. How about this:

Tree pod burial. That is what I'm leaning toward. Have you heard of it?

You are buried in an organic pod with a tree. No kidding. There is quite a bit of information out there about this concept. I'm taking my information from 8billiontrees.com.

"According to the Green Burial Council, burials in the United States use about nearly 5 million gallons of embalming fluid and tens of millions of feet of hardwood. Millions of tons of concrete and tens of thousands of tons of metals, including bronze each year. Cremation is more difficult to put into perspective, and while better for the environment, it is not without serious consequences."

Back in 2016, two Italian designers, Francesco D'Angelo and Adriano Del Ferro, developed a concept in which human remains (not embalmed or in any

way prepared for burial) having been wrapped in natural fiber cloth, are stored within an eco-friendly, egg-shaped pod. This pod is then interred within the ground and a tree is planted directly above it. As the natural fibers of the pod break down, the dead body inside is exposed to the elements of the earth and begins to decay, releasing nutrients and microbes that feed the tree which will continue to grow well after the body has completely disintegrated.

And you can plant these trees anywhere. There are memorial parks where these trees can be planted, but they can also be planted (with your soon-to-be-decaying body) in a park or your backyard. Really anywhere. (check local and state regulations before trying this at home.)

Now doesn't this sound like an environmentally friendly idea? You won't be able to rise out of the ground come the zombie apocalypse, because you will be com-

pletely decomposed. I'm okay with that, trust me.

And you can pick the tree you want to 'come back as.' Really cool.

I suppose if I'm wanting to come back as a weeping willow, I will need to be planted close to a good water source.

I'll have to think about the 'where.' Plenty of time to do, I hope.

**

Information sought: Subscriber Carol called me from Haviland. Did I know who made Uncle Brian's Carmel Corn in Cunningham, Kansas? I do not know. If you know, she'd be interested in this information. Contact me.

Always reading, and currently reading, "Eyes of a Child" by Richard North Patterson, Roberta

"If I were a tree, I would have no reason to love a human." — Maggie Stiefvater, The Raven Boys

Tallgrass and Tumbleweeds by Gaille Pike

Dear Readers,

For the first 18 years of my life I lived within walking distance of my maternal grandparents' house, a haven where I was warmly welcomed every time I arrived, even on the several occasions throughout the year when Grandma Stewart was sort-a-sorting. When she sort-a-sorted during fair weather, I'd find my Grandad

outside. He'd cock his head toward the door as he tousled my hair, then wink and whisper, "Enter at your own risk." I had no such Winter warning though because he braved the storm inside to stay warm. I knew she always sort-a-sorted in early December so I should have foreseen it. But filled with a only with a child's Christmas anticipation, it startled me every year.

If you're unfamiliar with sort-a-sorting, it is the well-intentioned attempt to organize any category of personal possessions which results in

a way bigger mess than you started with before it gets all straightened out. Grandad kicked off each Advent with one big sort-a-sorting stone, aimed to both ready the house for holiday company AND tidy up her sewing and craft supplies. To my knowledge Grandad never killed any turtle doves, though her December sort-a-sorting usually forced my Grandad and I to perch atop cardboard box trees because there was no other place to sit.

"Look at this" or "Show me that," she say as she held aloft a trea-

sure or pointed with her trusty sort-a-sorting stirrer, the yardstick. Then she tell the story of the item before she determined where it should go. When I'd catch my Grandad's eye, he'd throw back his head and laugh and in an instant, we'd all three be laughing, a contagious laughter that echoes in my head all these decades later. I don't recall how Grandad ever got it all cleaned up or how long it took her. But I do know that I waited around for it because that would be the moment Grandad put their Christmas tree up,

which generated a second sort-a-sorting round as Grandma pulled out all her decorations. Though every item had a tale, some never needed telling. The way she polished and readied for shelled nuts the wood bowl made by her son, my Uncle Rolland (which I now possess) more eloquently expressed its value than even I can say.

My Mother is also a sort-a-sorter, as am I, and as I suspect are many other members of our Clan. It may not be in our DNA but I am convinced it's a trait passed down from my Grandmother, though

few of us are as cheery a sort-a-sorter as she. I fear I grow cranky while sort-a-sorting and think, "WHAT on earth have I done?" I long to hear her say, "Tell me about this" or "Show me that" but she only silently watches from photographs. I'm on my own with whatever mess I've made. The cleanup goes faster if I laugh at my sort-a-sorting self, wiping my tears as I go.

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

A Column by Dorothy Rosby

Lie—and Other Tips for Writing the Perfect Christmas Letter

When I was growing up, my father strung all the Christmas cards my family received in a big X across the ceiling in our living room. I don't receive enough Christmas cards to make an X on my ceiling. I probably couldn't even make a Y or an I. I might be able to make a semicolon.

I used to get more cards, maybe because I used to write more cards. And yes, I mean hand-write. Here's how I did it:

I'd start with the first person in my address book, my friend Sue Allen. I'd write out her card then painstakingly copy its contents to my card for the Barbers. Then I'd use the Barbers' card as a model for the Belmonts and so on. I wrote out my cards in much the same way things were done before the invention of the printing press. My handwriting got worse with each card but my stories probably got better.

It was tedious and time-consuming. In fact, the year I sent my last batch of handwritten Christmas cards, everyone from the Johnsons to the Zieglers didn't get them until St. Patrick's Day. But it was so easy I hardly had to think about it. Or anyway, I hardly did think about it. That may explain why over

the years several friends complained that they'd received someone else's card. Someone named Sue.

The year Sue got someone else's card I decided to quit sending cards. And I didn't for years. Unfortunately, in return I got fewer and fewer Christmas cards myself until I was down to two—one from my insurance agent and one from a company that sells prepaid funeral plans.

That's when I decided to try a Christmas newsletter. And since then I've started to hear from people I haven't heard from in years. Of course, they're not sending cards; they're sending letters. And those just don't look good strung across my ceiling. Still, I appreciate them.

I also learn from them. As you can see from the actual letters I've included in this book, I do try to heed the most common complaints about holiday letters. If you decide to write one yourself, follow my guidelines:

1. Don't wait. The earlier you get your letter out the more you can enjoy the holiday season. At least that's what I've heard.

2. Embellish. If your life is like mine, your Christmas newsletter

could be—how can I say this diplomatically—dull enough to induce coma. I'm not admitting to anything here, but a lot of people think Christmas letters can be honest or they can be interesting.

Still, you'll want to balance the need to embellish with consideration of your readers' feelings of inadequacy. Sure, write glowingly about your many travel adventures but then mention your credit card bills. And be sure and tell them if you lost your luggage, your passport or your temper.

Along with writing about all your successes, tell them about the speeding tickets and overdraft notices you've received during the past year. If you lost anything in the stock market recently, now would be a good time to mention it. Also, legal issues are always interesting.

3. Be brief. A holiday letter should be the trailer, not the whole movie. Don't overdo it when describing the many accomplishments of your children and pets. Avoid blow-by-blow accounts of remodeling projects. And leave out the details of minor and elective surgeries—unless there were complications. Write more than

one page and your letter will look like work to read. Your readers may set it aside with the intention of getting to it after the busy holiday season is over. But then it could get tossed out with the wrapping paper and they'll never know about your legal troubles.

4. Include a family photo. A picture really is worth a thousand words—and given the choice I think most people would choose the picture. Besides, a photograph can say a lot that those on your Christmas list would enjoy hearing: You're alive and well. You appear to be happy. And you've gained weight just like they have.

5. Personalize your letter. If you aren't careful your Christmas letter will be about as intimate as the back of a cereal box. But you can easily individualize it by typing the phrase "Merry Christmas" on the salutation line and then handwriting the first name of your recipient beside it, preferably in their favorite color. If you still don't feel your letter is personal enough try enclosing a lock of your hair or your child's tooth.

6. Introduce. If you feel the need to discuss

people not all of your readers know, make it a point to explain who they are. For example, "We went to Bill and Ann's for Thanksgiving," should be expanded to "Bill is Nick's cousin who moved here from Phoenix after he met Ann on the internet. Nick is our next-door neighbor who is married to Ann's sister Arlene who worked with me at the first job I had when we moved here in 2017." You get the point—if you made it this far.

7. And finally, keep your wits about you. Never put on a little Christmas music and curl up by your Christmas tree with a cup of cocoa while you write your letter. This is no time to be overcome with Christmas spirit. If you're not careful you may say something to everyone on your address list that you only mean for a few of them. Something like, "If you're ever in town, you're welcome to stay with us."

Excerpt from 'Tis the Season to Feel Inadequate, Holidays, Special Occasions and Other Times Our Celebrations Get Out of Hand now available at Mitzi's Books in Rapid City and on Amazon in both print and e-book versions.

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Community Bulletin Board

Thursday, December 7 Falcon Classic at Fairfield *** 8:00 Advisory Committee Meeting *** JH BB vs Stafford at HOME	Thursday, December 14 JH BB vs. Argonia at HOME
Friday, December 8 Falcon Classic at Fairfield	Friday, December 15 HS BB at Wichita Classical
Saturday, December 9 Santa Day Parade	Saturday, December 16 FFA Christmas Party
Monday, December 11 School demolition *** JH BB vs Central Christian at HOME	Monday December 18 PK - 12 Christmas Program
Tuesday, December 12 HS BB vs Argonia at HOME	Tuesday, December 19 2nd quarter ends *** School early release *** HS BB vs Macksville at HOME

The Community Calendar is sponsored by



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Cunningham, KS
620-298-2511

*"She thought of the library, so shining white and new; the rows and rows of unread books; the bliss of unhurried sojourns there and of going out to a restaurant, alone, to eat."
— Maud Hart Lovelace, Betsy and Tacy Go Downtown*

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



Holiday Open House
at
Ninnescah Valley Bank
on
Friday, December 15th
9:00 to 12:00 and 1:00 to 3:00

Cunningham Santa Claus Day Parade NEW Information
NEW Combined Parade Entry Categories:

- 1 Battery Cars, Wagons, Tricycles
- 2 Costumes, Pets, Walking Entries
- 3 Wheels: scooters, skate/hoverboards, rollerblades, bicycles
4. Motorized Vehicles: golf carts, ATV- must be single-rider only (4 wheeler/dirt bike) UTV (gator, side-by-side, etc.)
- 5 Floats
- 6 Other: motorcycles, vintage cars, tractors, fire/EMS, large equipment
- 7 Horses

Anyone can join the parade, however, ONLY decorated entries, age 18 and under in categories 1 - 4, as well as ANY entry in the float category will be eligible to be judged for prize money.

There will be 3 placings per category. Participants can be any age but must include an under 18 youth riding to be judged.

Prizes: Categories 1 - 4
1st place \$10.00;
2nd place \$8.00 3rd place \$6.00
Float prizes: 1st place \$75.00
2nd place \$50.00 3rd place \$25.00
Drivers in categories 1 - 4 must have a legally licensed driver age 15 or older

Candy may be tossed by any entry ON FOOT or in line in front of the floats

For parade questions please contact:
Tim & Barbara Schultz at 620-318-6022
Jerree FitzSimmons at 620-243-4176
MaKala FitzSimmons at 620-388-5202

PLEASE remove vehicles off of 4th Street in front of the Cunningham Schools by 12:30 for parade lineup. PLEASE remove vehicles from the 100 block of Main Street by 1:00 p.m.

Don't Forget Kevin Halderson's 70th Birthday Celebration!

Please join us for a come and go reception Sunday, December 10th, from 6:00-8:00 at the Cunningham Community Center. No presents please.



2023 Ambassador Chili and Bingo Night

Join the Kingman County 4-H Ambassadors on December 10 for a fun evening of Chili and Bingo Night at the Kingman VFW Hall. For \$10 adults can eat all the chili they would like and have one bingo card. Kids 12 and under are \$5 for all-you-can-eat chili and one bingo card. Additional bingo cards can be purchased for \$2 each. All the proceeds from this event will go to the Kingman County Humane Society. "This is the third year for this event. The 4-H Ambassadors have been able to help several different families with the proceeds from this event in the past," said Melissa Thimesch, Kingman County 4-H Agent. "This year the Ambassador team wanted to help another team in Kingman County that helps so many people and animals."

The Kingman County 4-H Ambassadors would like to thank Julie Lyon for the use of the VFW building. The members would also like to thank Trinity Fitness, Houdini's Pizza, Pizza Hut, The Polished Coop, Pixley and Mae, Sonic, Forge Financial, Jeri's Kitchen, Cleo's, Molly's Attic, Floyd Auction and Real Estate, Fisher Lumber, and all of the 4-H Clubs for donating prizes to our event.



CHRISTMAS BINGO

JOIN PROJECT PROM AFTER THE PARADE FOR AN AFTERNOON OF BINGO FUN AND PRIZES FOR EVERYONE!

DECEMBER 9 • 2:30 - 4:30

CUNNINGHAM COMMUNITY CENTER

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DEC 11 | 104 W. 4TH STREET CUNNINGHAM, KS | 8 AM - 4 PM

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All Seats Free Saturday night only
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Showtimes:
Friday: 7:30 p.m.
Sunday: 5:30 p.m.
No Movie on December 9th due to the Exile LIVE at The Kingman Historic Theatre Concert

December 8th & 10th
Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes
Rated: PG-13

Thank YOU for supporting YOUR Kingman Historic Theatre.

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

W. A. Bradley / William Bradley

1928

December 14 – Mr. Fred Ball is busy this week moving his cream station into the new building erected by the Fairmont Creamery Company.

Mr. and Mrs. Carde Cannon are driving a new Model A Ford purchased last week from the Dafforn Motor Company in Zenda.

A number of business men and farmers are meeting in the High School Auditorium each Monday night and playing a few games of volley ball.

Wetherall Brothers have just mailed out about a thousand large double-page bills announcing a big Christmas Sale. They have arranged a nice holiday stock and are offering many rare bargains in seasonable merchandise.

Quite a number of prizes will be given away during the sale, among them a Crosley Band-Box radio set. These prizes will be given away without any purchase on the customer's part.

The sand which was hauled on the streets Community Day and the days following was certainly a life-saver to the streets this week when a steady rain fell all night Wednesday.

Adding seven miles of road to the county highway system, the board of county commissioners has decided to improve the stretch running straight east from St. Leo.

The new road will serve an important territory, and will connect the two north and south county roads running north from Zenda, and north from Nashville.

The mile west from St. Leo to the north and south county road has previously been part of the county road system.

1933

December 8 – Mr. Wiley Doty suffered a very painful and serious accident, Tuesday morning, when he fell from a load of hay at the Jane Morton farm, breaking both arms just above the wrists.

1938

December 9 – Students of both the grade and high schools are receiving free musical instrument instruction through the federal government's WPA agency. Mrs. Carl Schwake of Kingman, is the instructor.

The Wildcatters won their first game of the current basketball season from Turon High School last Friday night by a score of 13 to 5. Only half of the game was played at Turon because of an electric power failure which ended the game at half-time.

1943

December 1943 – Publication is suspended for the duration of the war.

1948

December 10 – Bids on the new grade school building were opened Wednesday and were found to be about twenty-five thousand dollars greater than the funds available for the project. A new bond issue of twenty-five thousand dollars will be necessary if the Board of Education sticks by its set of original plans for the new building.

Cunningham defeated Nashville in a basketball game played at Nashville Friday night by the score of 41 to 31. Bobby Urban and Jack Watkins paced the Wildcat scoring attack with 12 points each.

Mr. John Kaster opened his law office in Cunningham this week. Mr. Kaster married a former Cunningham girl, Emma Jane Baber, and has previously practiced law in Topeka. He was released from active duty with the United States Army in 1947, after attaining the rank of Colonel in the Army's legal department.

1953

December 11 – Mr. and Mrs. Roy Halderson of Glasco, announce the birth of a son, Saturday, December 5, at the Concordia Hospital. The baby weighed six pounds, thirteen ounces, and has been named Kevin Roy.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wetherall of Cunningham, are the maternal grandparents.

The Cunningham Wildcats lost a thrilling overtime basketball game to Plevna High School last Friday night on the Plevna court. The final score was 59 to 57, and the regular game ended with the score tied at 55-all.

Cunningham's center, Ronnie Adelhardt, used his six-foot, seven-inch height to good advantage and scored twenty-five points for high scoring honors in the game. Billy DeWeese scored twenty-one points.

1958

December 11 – Major Willis E. Brady, 39, a former Penalosa boy, was listed as missing after the crash of a B-52 ject near Altus, Okla., Tuesday night.

His mother, Mrs. Lizzie Brady, and a sister, Mrs. Robert Stillwell, live at Penalosa, and another sister is Mrs. Harold DeWeese of Cunningham; a third sister, Mrs. Ruth Wise, lives in Falls Church, Va. A brother, Howard, lives in Wichita.

The high school basketball team evened up their season at two wins and two losses with a 54 to 43 victory over Goddard at Goddard, Tuesday evening.

Bill Ridge, Richard Kerschen, and Tony Hartle paced the Cunningham scoring attack. Ridge and Kerschen each connected for 12 points, and Hartle counted 10 points.

1968

December 12, 1968 – Plans are "shaping up" for the big welcome to be accorded Santa Claus when he comes to Cunningham, Saturday afternoon, Dec. 14, according to Dean Cooley, General Chairman.

The Cunningham Wildcats won their first basketball game of the season at Alden last Friday night, trimming the Tigers, 47 to 42.

John McCune paced the Cunningham scoring attack with 20 points, 10 of them from the free throw line.

The Nashville-Zenda Thunderbirds broke into the win column last Friday night, thumping the Sharon Cardinals, 67 to 60, in a Golden Plains League game played at Zenda.

Steve Adelhardt led the N-Z scoring attack with 28 points.

Bells will ring from the United Methodist Church this Sunday. The bells, a gift to the church and community by Mrs. Ferd Burnett, are a memorial to her respected husband, the late Dr. Ferd Burnett, who game many years of his life to the Cunningham community as a physician.

Workmen installed the bells Wednesday.

The Cunningham Post Office will be open all day Saturday for the convenience of Christmas mailers, according to Postmaster Evan Thornhill.

The City of Cunningham water tower is attractively lighted this year at Christmas-time with red and blue lights representing a huge Christmas bell in the sky.

The tower lights were installed by Harry DeArmond and Don Becker.

Roy Ellis, 57, a resident of Cunningham for 36 years, died Monday west of Garden City from an apparent heart attack while driving his truck.

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

Publisher: Charles G. Barnes

Editor: Kathleen Pakkebiar

Reporter: Florine Kampling

1978

December 14 - The Wildcat Varsity Boys took a very important 73-62 victory from Skyline T-Birds last Friday night on their home court. The fine crowd was treated to an exciting night of basketball. This was an important mental victory for us over a fine Skyline

ball club. It also put is in good shape in the league race. Anytime you defeat a team like this, it takes a whole team effort and that is what it was.

Offensively, Joe Strohl led the attack with 29 points on 14 of 27 shots for a fine 52 percent. Scott Huhman hit on 9 of 16 shots for 56 percent and 18 points. Berry Bortz also hit double figures with 11, as he hit 5 key free throws. Wade Ruckle had 8, tom Crawford 4, Bill Osner 2, and Randy Hageman. Mike Beat gave us a fine effort though not scoring.

Long time residents of Cunningham community, John and Cleora Dupee, will be guests of honor in celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary at an open house to be given in their home hosted by their children, Terri and Marilyn and Howard VanSlyke, and their grandchildren, Lee and Chad VanSlyke.

The anniversary open house is to be held Sunday, Dec. 17 from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Beat are happy to announce the birth of a baby boy, Curtis Eugene on Wednesday, Dec. 6 at Kingman Community Hospital. He weighed 6 lb. 12 1/2 oz. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. George Beat of Pratt and Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Cain. Great grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Wyer of Penalosa.

Zenda news: Mrs. Beulah Panek, Kingman, is spending several days with Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Goetz and Rick.

Brad Mantooth, Pratt, was weekend visitor of Mr. and Mrs. Edd Nichols.

Bill Swingle, Valley Center visited Mrs. LaVonne Swingle Saturday morning.

The December meeting of the Cunningham 4-H Club met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Pelzl. Debbie Mills led the club in the 4-H pledge. Kerry House led everyone in singing Christmas carols. For roll call, we exchanged gifts. There were 14 members, 8 leaders and 13 guests present. Pelzl's served av ery delicious lunch. Michele Albers, reporter

Without many hands doing many things it would not be possible ot have a Community Christmas Program. A special thanks to all those who worked hard to make our Santa Claus Day Program and parade a success. Dean Cooley – Leo Zrubek, Jr.

December 8, 1983

Several Cunningham 4-H members and families attended the 4-H Achievement Banquet sponsored by the Kingman Chamber of Commerce at the Armory in Kingman.

County awards were given to Dana Murphey in Gardening, Julie Kerschen for Foods and Preparation and Cindy Becker in Forests. Receiving the Broze Pin was Ryan Kerschen.

The Clover Pin was received by Tom Stemeker, Michael Hansen, Heather Murphey, Brent Hansen, Scott Glenn and Julie Kerschen. The silver pin was received by Cindy Becker.

Starting time Santa Claus Day parade on Saturday will be earlier than anticipated. It will begin promptly at 2:15 p.m.

All entries for the parade must be made Saturday, between one and two o'clock in order for the judging which takes place at 2 p.m. prior to the parade, so please be in plenty of time.

Booths at the Community Center are \$5 per booth and are still available at this time.

The Lady Wildcats opened their basketball season with a game against a 3A school, Medicine Lodge, on December 6. The ladies were defeated 28 – 36.

Individual stats include Kathy Beat, sophomore, with 13 points, and 12 rebounds; Treva Westerman, sophomore with 6 points and 5 rebounds; Jeannette Fischer, senior, with 3 steals; and Terry Alley, senior with 3 steals and 2 assists.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Werner announce the birth of their son Nov. 19 at Kingman Community Hospital. He weighed nine pounds and has been named Barret Adam. Brothers at home are Jason, 9 and Nicholas who is two years old.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Werner, Dodge City and Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Denton, El Dorado.

Great-grandmothers are Mrs. Lawrence Werner, Dodge City and Mrs. E.S. Gordley of Kinsley.

"That men do not learn very much from the lessons of history is the most important of all the lessons that history has to teach." — Aldous Huxley, Collected Essays

"You can hide memories, but you can't erase the history that produced them." — Haruki Murakami, Colorless Tsukuru Tazaki and His Years of Pilgrimage 624 likes

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. 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

Spring Will Come Too Late

By Amy Michelle Wiley

It was nearly spring. The land lay desolate. The earth was cracked open, choking on its own dust. No seeds had been entrusted to it, for there were no seeds left. They had long ago shriveled away, dying in the unending sun.

Tanith stood in the doorway of her house. Even her tears no longer fell to water the ground. The flowers and crops would never again come. At least not for her.

She shifted to look behind her, always watching her son. Hanno was little more than dry skin stretched over bones. His stomach protruded from

his small body, and his eyes fell deep into their sockets. It would not be much longer. Not for either of them.

Tanith sank to the floor, her legs trembling with the exertion of standing for the few minutes. She pulled her son close.

“Soon it will be spring.” His voice was raspy, but somewhere deep inside, he found the strength to smile.

Always she had told her son to look for spring. It was a time for rain to wash away the dirt, sun to touch away the cold, and crops to grow with health.

But rain had not come for several years. And this time spring would come too late.

“I will go now and get kindling to build a

fire and cook our last bit of meal.” Some mothers perhaps would give all the food to the child. But not Tanith. She would not let him die alone. She would be there, holding him, whispering to him. “Then we will eat together.” And die together.

The breeze was cold against her dry skin and it kicked up clouds of choking dust, making the world seem to swirl even more. The road to the edge of town stretched unending before her.

Tanith tripped on something unseen. Or perhaps her legs simply gave out. She lay in the road, nearly unconscious, and panicked. No! Do not let me die here! Have mercy on me, on my son. She was not sure who she cried out to. If there was

a God, He had long ago abandoned her people.

Somehow she dragged herself once again to her feet. Only a few more steps and she could see some scattered branches. Even the trees were dying, their brittle branches falling with the smallest wind, the hope of spring too late.

A voice suddenly reached out to her, faint and unclear. Tanith raised her head, trying to focus on the hazy figure of a man that stood before her. Finally the words entered her ear. “Please, would you bring me a jar of water so I may drink?”

He wanted water. She almost laughed. Why would she bring him, a Jew passing through, a bit of their precious, nearly-gone water? Ah, but why

not. It was not as if she would be needing it. She was moving toward the city well when he spoke again.

“Bring me also, please, a bit of bread.”

That stopped her. She turned, aghast. “As surely as the LORD your God lives, I don’t have any bread—only a handful of grain and a little oil! I am gathering these sticks so I may prepare a last meal for my son and me.” Would he take the only thing she had left to give her son?

“Do not be afraid. Go and prepare the meal. But first take a bit of it and make me a small cake. Then make something for you and your son. For the LORD God of Israel says, ‘The jar of grain and the jug of oil will not be used

up until the LORD gives rain on the land.’”

Tanith could only stare. Could she believe this? Would she believe this? Her feet turned and she went numbly toward her home. Her mind could not get around what the Jew had said. Surely the God of Israel did not care about a Gentile. The words she had thought only shortly before came to her mind, “Have mercy on me, on my son.”

She allowed herself to hope just a little, imagine that it might be true. That this would not be her last day. Her son’s last day. And that perhaps, perhaps they would live to see spring after all.

(Based on 1 Kings 17:10-16)

Birthdays Remembered

By Shari Armstrong

Growing up, birthdays were always fun for my sister and me. Three things were certain: Mom would make our favorite meal and cake, we’d get a couple gifts from Mom and Dad and we’d get our birthday card from Grandma and Grandpa with two dollars in it. No more, no less, no matter how old we were. The only exception to this was after I graduated high school. My freshman year in college I got something better, a box of Grandma’s homemade apple bars. I was really

popular in the cafeteria that day.

Grandma and Grandpa usually tried to come see us on our birthdays, until the hour and a half drive got to be too much for them, especially with my birthday being in January. The weather sometimes didn’t cooperate. But I didn’t mind having my birthday in January, because Grandpa’s birthday was two days after mine. As a child, I always thought that was great. The most memorable birthday visit was when my sister turned five and getting ready to start kindergarten. Grandpa gave her a box of sandwich bags. I’ll never forget the

sight of my sister pulling out bag after bag, trying to see what Grandma and Grandpa got her that she thought was hidden in the bottom of the box. Grandpa just sat there grinning.

Grandma never forgot anyone’s birthday. Not only did she remember the six grandchildren, but all their nieces and nephews. Not an easy task since she had seven siblings. Grandpa only had one brother, so his side was a bit easier. Then of course, the grandkids started getting married to add the great-grandchildren and she remembered theirs, too. While I was pregnant with our daughter, Grandpa started to

have health problems and the family had to make the decision to put him in a nursing home and Grandma in assisted living. Even through all the health problems she never forgot a birthday.

After Eileen was born in 2001, we took her to see them as often as possible. The first time, Grandpa just slid his arm over, and grinned, waiting for us to put her beside him on the bed. Time went on and he got weaker, his mind starting to wander. This was really hard to see, since until about five years earlier, he was still riding his bike around town. About a year later, we got the call on my husband’s birthday, just days after

their 66th anniversary, that Grandpa had gone to heaven that morning. I cried as he held me and said that just this year we could celebrate his birthday next week. At the funeral, Grandma sat with a quiet smile on her face. As people gave their condolences, she would just say, “Thank you. I know I’ll see him again soon.”

Then came my birthday about six months later, and my card came. Not to my address but to Mom and Dad’s and no name on the envelope. She was starting to forget things, she knew it was someone’s birthday, but couldn’t remember who’s for sure. She’d also signed it from

Grandma and Grandpa. I cried again. That was the last birthday card I got from them.

Right now it feels like history is repeating itself, because during my pregnancy with our son, Grandma had to be moved to a nursing home. We weren’t even sure she’s stay with us to meet Joshua, but she got to meet him couple months ago. Today three things are certain: Grandpa had his birthday in heaven, Grandma will be joining him for her birthday there soon, and God is providing the gift of eternal life and banquet in heaven for his family.



Catholic Churches

Sacred Heart, Cunningham
Saturdays 5:30 p.m..

St. John, Zenda
Sundays 8:30 a.m.

St. Leo
Sundays 10:00 a.m.

St. Peter Willowdale
Saturdays 4:00 p.m.

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



Lutheran Churches

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

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

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

Pastor vacancy until further notice.



Church of Christ

Penalosa
Sunday 11:00 a.m.



First Christian Church

Cunningham
Sunday School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 10:45
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00
Jr High Youth Group 4:00 pm Sunday
Sr High Youth Group 7:30 pm Sunday
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:00

Pastor Mike McGovney 620-298-3201



United Methodist Church

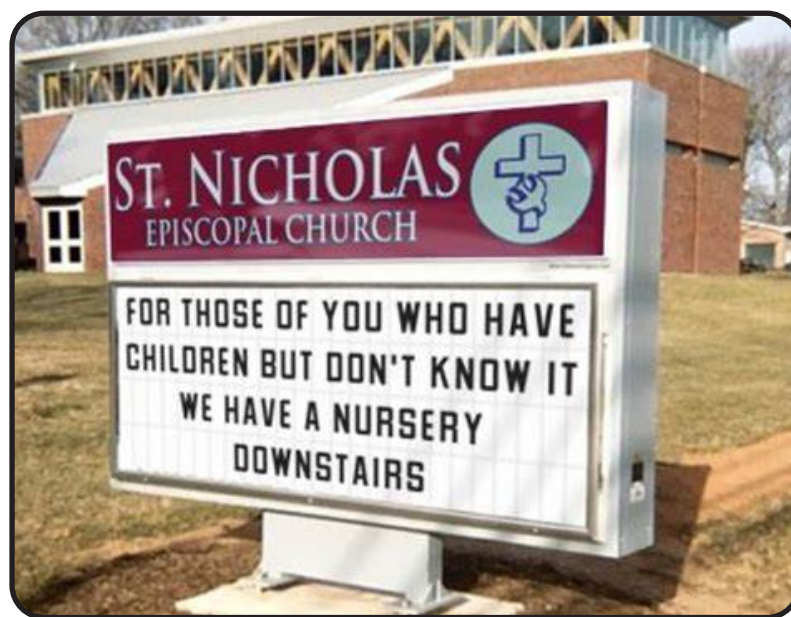
Penalosa
Worship 9:15 a.m.

Cunningham
Worship 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Mathew Ndambuki Musyoki
620-298-2090

Zenda
Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School: Children 8:30 a.m. Adults 10:00 a.m.

Pastor J L Nichols
620-491-0680



Giving Opportunities in our Community

4C Day Care Leave a donation with the Methodist Church.

West Kingman County Education Foundation

Use your Dillon's Card! (to donte contact Janet DeWeese 620-298-2717)

Hands of Hope (contact any church)

Cunningham Alumni Scholarship Fund

(send checks to the West Kingman County Education Foundation)

Cunningham Community Center (leave donation at the bank)

Lions' Club (Money is being raised to dig a well in the village of Kakindu, Kenya)

Cunningham Museum (to donate contact Alan Albers or Mike McGovney)

Cunningham Public Library (to donate, contact Kerri Steffen)

Cunningham EMS (to donate, contact Monte Rose or Kathy Albers)

Cunningham Hands of Hope, Inc.

Who: A Not-for-Profit (501c3) organization providing assistance through donations and volunteers.

Who we serve: Residents within the USD #332 school district

What: Food

When: First and Third Tuesday 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Where: 117 N Main (Old School Board Office)

Why: To provide food assistance to those in need.

How: Attend weekly distribution. Adult of household must be present.

Do you need assistance outside distribution hours?

Please call 620-491-0292 and leave a message. Your call will be returned as soon as possible. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

CJH End Pre-Season Games

The Junior High Wildcats played their fourth and final preseason basketball game on Nov. 30th at Norwich. The Cats rode to the Eagles' Nest with a 3-game win streak. Knowing the team that waited for them, there was no overconfidence. Norwich and Cunningham have met 3 times per year for several years, and we've witnessed some crazy things on the Eagles' home court.

The first quarter started off with rough shooting for the Wildcats, but with defense and rebounding being a faithful friend, the Cats weathered the poor shooting in a draw after the first frame 2 to 2. There was really lots of basketball, just not much of the ball actually going through the basket. The Cats did pull ahead slightly in the second quarter. The second half was very similar with the Cats gaining a point here and there each quarter to end the night with a 9-point win.

Brody led the Cats on the boards with 10 and Nathan followed up with 8. Brody also led in steals with 6.

by Coach McGuire



Tyler Osner



Nathan Ndambuki



Brody Bock

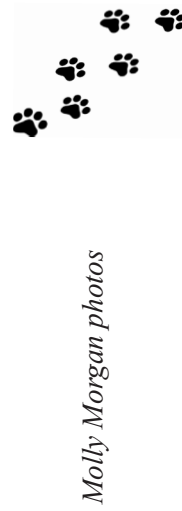


Adam Sterneker

Wildcat Scorers

Nathan Ndambuki	8
Brody Bock	7
Adam Sterneker	6
Tyler Osner	4
Liam McGuire	2

Score	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Cunningham	2	8	8	9	27
Norwich	2	4	7	5	18



Molly Morgan photos

Head Coach: Lance McGuire
Assistant Coach(s): Eric Kerschen

#	First & Last Name	Grade	Height
0	Caysn Miller	6	4' 8"
1	Jace Oldham	6	4' 6"
2	Lucas Theis	6	4' 5"
3	Wesley Preisser	7	5' 2"
4	Will Halderson	8	5' 2"
5	Weston Rogers	8	5' 5"
10	Grady Smyth	6	4' 8"
11	Andrew Kerschen	8	5' 2"
12	Carson Strohl	7	5' 4"
13	Landon Green	6	4' 11"
14	Tyler Osner	8	5' 7"
15	Kalvin Fischer	6	5' 0"
20	Brody Halderson	6	5' 6"
21	Liam McGuire	7	5' 9"
22	Colton Rohlman	7	5' 9"
23	Cole Hageman	8	5' 11"
24	John Paul Kerschen	7	5' 0"
25	Jeremiah Slayden	7	5' 3"
30	Adam Sterneker	8	5' 4"
31	Ethan Kostner	6	5' 4"
32	Gunner Glenn	8	5' 7"
33	Caden Johnson	7	5' 7"
34	Nathan Ndambuki	8	6' 1"
35	Kane Reid	7	5' 5"
40	Landen Hageman	6	5' 3"
41	Bryer Barber	6	5' 2"
42	Wyatt King	8	5' 10"
43	Brody Bock	8	5' 10"
44	Cooper Neufeld	6	5' 4"
55	Hank Adams	8	5' 11"



Kourtni Fischer

Head Coach: Bart Ricke
Assistant Coach(s): Kelsey Beat

#	First & Last Name	Grade	Height
1	Katie Ogg	7	5' 3"
2	Lux Thimesch	6	4' 3"
3	Ava Neywick	6	4' 10"
4	Carly McGuire	6	5' 4"
5	Maelynn Jump	7	4' 9"
10	Sage Thimesch	7	5' 3"
11	Vaughn Preisser	6	4' 11"
12	Morgan Oldham	8	5' 3"
13	Mackley Glenn	6	4' 3"
14	Alyssa Osner	6	5' 6"
35	Keyonna Huffman	7	5' 9"
40	HarLee Barber	7	5' 0"
41	Andi Young	8	5' 7"
54	Kourtni Fischer	8	5' 7"



Coach Ricke and team



Keyonna Huffman

Molly Morgan photos

Cats Tame the Wildcats of Minneola

The Cunningham Wildcats traveled to Minneola on December 1, 2023, to begin their 2023-24 campaign. The Cats came home with their first victory of the season by an 80 to 65 score.

The game was close throughout the first quarter ending in a 16-all tie. Luke Albers led the way with six of his game-leading 36 points. Dylan Halderson added four points along with Will Wegerer and Dagim Reed's three points each. The Cats were 6 for 9 from the free-throw line.

Cunningham pulled out to a nine-point lead in the second quarter but couldn't maintain the difference as Minneola made four three-point baskets to close the score

to one point at halftime. Will Wegerer suffered a head cut after colliding with a Minneola player and spent the last few minutes of the half getting attended to so that he could continue to play in the second half. Albers took advantage of shooting Wegerer's free throws and making both. He and Wegerer each scored seven points, Luke McGuire added six points. The halftime score was Cunningham 36, Minneola 35.

Cunningham did a much better job of defending in the third quarter holding Minneola to 13 points while adding 26 points in the third quarter. Albers continued his offensive attack with 14 points. Wegerer made two more of his five three-point baskets. Reed made his second three-point basket with Halderson and McGuire scoring two

and one point, respectively. Cunningham held a 14-point lead going into the fourth quarter, 62-48.

The fourth quarter saw the Cats extending their lead to put the game away. A few easy baskets late closed the gap to the final 15-point spread. Wegerer had half of the points for the quarter with nine and Albers added seven more to his total. Halderson scored two points to finish with eight points. The final score was Cunningham 80, Minneola 65.

The JV boys played a good two-quarter game winning by a score of 17-14. Kendall Rogers led the scoring with 8 and Dylan Halderson had 6 points. Logan Kinsler scored three points.

Cunningham will be participating in the Falcon Classic at Fairfield on December 5th, 7th, and 8th.



Will Wegerer



Luke Albers

Name	2pt. made	3pt. made	FTM/FTA	TP	Reb.	Asst.	Stl.	Chg.
McGuire		1	4/6	7	8	4	1	
Halderson	3			8	4	1	1	1
Wegerer	2	5	6/8	25	11	8	3	
Albers	9	3	7/7	34	8	2	2	
Reed		2		6	7	3	3	
Morgan						1		
Rogers					2		1	

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	Final
Cunningham	16	20	26	18	80
Minneola	16	19	13	17	65

CHS Lady Wildcats vs. MHS Lady Wildcats



Rylee Miller



Grace Hageman

Photos by Molly Morgan



Ellie McGuire



Maranda Lohrke



Cunningham Gains TWO New Businesses

In a recent news story, (Forbes, maybe?) I read that small business growth is the highest it's been since 2006, when the government began keeping track. Small business growth means growth for middle-class America. And here in Cunningham, our community has gained two more new small businesses to grow our small town.

If you haven't welcomed Teralyn Arensdorf to our community, be sure to stop by Main Street Chop Shop and say "Hi". Teralyn has opened a barber shop next door to the clinic. She has quite a few skills to keep you looking your best. She can do 'everything' -- cut hair, color it, shave it.. just about any service you need. And, gentlemen, she does, indeed, offer straight-razor shaves. Go ahead, give her a call, set up an appointment. 620-491-0917

Her hours are Mondays 11:00 – 7:00; Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 10:00 – 5:00; Saturdays 8:30 to noon. She will be closed on Wednesdays.

And next door to Main Street Chop Shop, is the other new business, The Rusty Rose Gift Shop. The Rusty Rose's proprietress is Alesha Arensdorf, Teralyn's mom. Mrs. Arensdorf offers fresh cut floral arrangements she creates herself (flowers provided by Valley Floral), with next day delivery. She has several fine gifts in her store with affordable price ranges. She would also be interested in talking to local artisans about the possibility of selling their creations.

Alesha has set her store hours for Monday – Friday 12:00 to 5:00.

The Rusty Rose will be hosting an Open House on Santa Claus Parade Day from 10 to 5. Raffle tickets will be available for purchase with an opportunity to win a small Christmas tree on display in the store. The proceeds from the raffle will go to purchase arrangements/gifts for the residents at Hilltop Manor. Be sure to stop in and purchase your tickets!

Need to order flowers? Call 620-491-2546

It is important to shop local. It is important to support small businesses. Please support all our businesses in Cunningham.



Alesha Arensdorf and Dixie sit in front of a gift display in The Rusty Rose.



Molly Morgan photos

Teralyn Arensdorf gives a badly needed haircut to Kory Morgan. (Mom's words not mine.)



Floral arrangements created by Alesha Arensdorf.



The Arensdorf business women in front of the Chop Shop.



Making Fundraising Fun

Jackie Mundt, Pratt County farmer and rancher

This past weekend Kansas Farm Bureau leaders from across the state gathered for our annual meeting. It is great to catch up with friends, gain new insights and take part in the grassroots policy process that makes our organization so unique.

A highlight of the weekend was a fundraising dinner with a Cousin Eddie theme from "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation".

The event, hosted by the Kansas Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture, was in support of the End Hunger Campaign, that aims to address and eliminate food insecurity across the state.

This was no black-tie affair. There were moose mugs, people in bath robes and all kinds of fun accessories. Donations were taken for holiday punch, bingo cards for the movie, and a dessert dash after the traditional Christmas dinner. The after dinner entertainment was an interactive movie experience complete with reciting the pledge of allegiance as "grace" and wrapping it up with a sing along of the "Star-Spangled Banner". One of the high-

lights of the evening was the best dressed contest, where the crowd voted on people who had done the best job of dressing like characters from the movie.

If you have no idea what I am talking about, do yourself a favor and watch the movie; it really is a true Christmas classic.

It was one of the more enjoyable fundraising dinners I have attended. This wasn't a fancy event for high-dollar donors but it also wasn't a home-cooked meal type held in small towns almost every weekend. I was impressed to learn that the night of festivities raised close to \$20,000 with only a few hundred people in attendance. Caught up in the experi-

ence, I found myself giving more than I normally would.

In the last few years, giving money to organizations has become a higher priority for me. It makes sense that as a more established professional, I am in the financial position to start giving money. But it is more than that. A few years ago an experience philanthropist shared advice with me to "give just a little bit more than is comfortable." He went on to say that giving can teach us what we are capable of, and he has never known anyone to regret giving to good causes.

I had never thought about giving as a stretch goal before. Giving back to organizations I have benefited from has al-

ways been on the future to do list. It always felt far off like someday when I make lots of money, I will give back. The idea that I can and should be giving now, as much or as little as I can, was an eye opener. Generosity in a moment of need and giving what you can is more meaningful than giving what you don't need, when it is convenient for you.

The foundation's dinner was the kind of event that empowered people to give money at whatever level they could and made it fun to join in the giving.

Start today and build the habit of giving what you can, when you can. Give a few bucks to the Salvation Army bell ringer, buy a toy for a tot or

help stock your local food bank to spread holiday cheer. Send your favorite nonprofit an end of the year donation whether it's \$5, \$50 or \$500.

It's time to stop imagining and see all that you can do.

"Insight" is a weekly column published by Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm organization whose mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service.

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News from Kansas Farm Bureau

Governor Kelly Receives Final Report and Recommendations from Wildfire Task Force

TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly announced today that the Governor's Wildfire Task Force has submitted its final report summarizing and providing recommendations on how to improve the systems, procedures, and personnel that make up the state's oversight of wildfire events.

In July 2022, Governor Laura Kelly appoint-

ed a group of leaders from across the state to serve as the Governor's Wildfire Task Force to create recommendations for how Kansas communities can better prevent, respond to, and recover from wildfires.

"I created this Task Force last year because Kansas has been devastated by wildfires far too many times, and it was clear we needed to take a deeper look at how we prevent and respond to these disasters," Governor Laura Kelly said. "I appreciate the comprehensive recommendations Secretary Beam and the Wildfire

Task Force have provided, and I look forward to working together to better support Kansans before, during, and after wildfires."

The Task Force was chaired by Secretary of Agriculture Mike Beam and included representatives from local, state, and federal agencies and organizations that have played an active role in responding to wildfires across the state, along with several state legislators.

"I have appreciated the candid, yet cordial, exchange of concerns and suggestions among the Task Force members,"

said Secretary Beam. "It's obvious to me the entities involved in wildfire prevention, response, and recovery have enhanced their collaborations and partnerships in recent years, and they are committed to taking further steps to strengthen the state's wildfire resilience."

The Task Force report is organized into three sections: Mitigation and Prevention, Response, and Recovery. In the Mitigation and Prevention section, the Task Force examines the efforts in place to monitor fire risk, major contributors to the fire risk across

the state, and work that is underway to mitigate that risk. The Response section examines the response plans and systems in place locally and statewide and how they could be strengthened. The Recovery section examines the strategies for long-term recovery following a wildfire event.

Recommendations include expanding efforts to reduce fuel loads, improving weather monitoring, increasing resources for local fire departments, and enhancing funding for firefighting equipment. Many recommendations focus on the importance of mitigation

strategies, recognizing it as a shared responsibility that will require collaboration between public and private landowners. The Task Force also recognized the significant role of volunteer firefighters and the challenges local communities face in recruiting and retaining these volunteers.

State officials will now determine next steps for implementing Task Force's recommendations.

The full report can be found here or at agriculture.ks.gov/WildfireTaskForce.

Kingman County Sheriff's Report

Sunday, November 26	
Fire / Vehicle	SW 150 Ave & SW 10 St, Cunningham
Non-Injury Accident	6000 W Hwy 54, Kingman
Disabled Vehicle	N Hwy 14 & E Hwy 54, Kingman
Non-Injury Accident	NE 50 St & NE 160 Ave, Cheney
Miscellaneous	120 N Spruce, Kingman
Disabled Vehicle	NE 50 Ave & E Hwy 54, Kingman
Miscellaneous	120 N Spruce, Kingman
Disabled Vehicle	11000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
Monday, November 27	
Civil Paper Service	1
Theft	600 Blk N Main St, Spivey
Fire/Vehicle	11000 Blk W Hwy 42, Zenda
Traffic Complaint	3000 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
Check Welfare	200 Blk S Douglas St, Cunningham
Tuesday, November 28	
Traffic Stop	3
Traffic Stop / Arrest	15000 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman
Transport Prisoner	120 N Spruce, Kingman
Miscellaneous	120 N Spruce, Kingman
Wednesday, November 29	
Traffic Stop	1
Traffic/Arrest	11000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
Suspicious Vehicle	200 Blk W A Ave, Kingman
Alarm	3000 Blk SE 150 St, Rago
Suspicious Activity	NW 50 St & NW 160 Ave, Cunningham
Miscellaneous	120 N Spruce, Kingman
Medical	200 Blk W B Ave, Kingman

Thursday, November 30

Traffic Stop	1
Civil Paper Service	1
Animal Complaint	NW 70 Ave & W Hwy 54, Kingman
Transport Prisoner	1500 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman
Fire / Semi	1700 E Hwy 54, Kingman
Miscellaneous	120 N Spruce, Kingman
Miscellaneous	15000 Blk NE Lakeview Dr, Cheney
Traffic Complaint	1200 Blk W Kelly Ave, Kingman

Friday, December 1

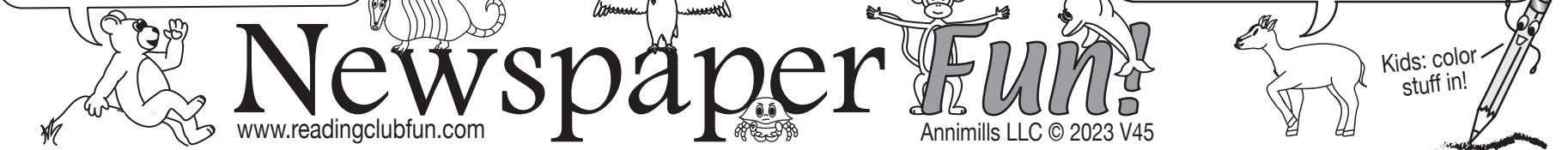
Traffic Stop	5
Civil Paper Service	8
Suspicious Activity	100 Blk N Main St, Cunningham
Disabled Vehicle	11000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
Miscellaneous	120 N Spruce, Kingman
Non-Injury Accident	NE 35 St & Ne 40 Ave, Kingman
Disabled Vehicle	100 Blk NW 50 St, Kingman
Miscellaneous	8000Blk SW 100 St, Nashville

Saturday, December 2

Traffic Stop	9
Suspicious Vehicle	SE 70 St & SE 150 Ave, Norwich
Traffic Complaint	E Hwy 42 & SE 80 Ave, Rago
Alarm	300 N Main St, Zenda
Suspicious Activity	NE 45 St & NE 10 Ave, Kingman
Unlock Vehicle	2900 Blk SE 180 St, Harper
Unsecured Building	100 S Main St, Spivey
Suspicious Vehicle	200 S Parkway St, Norwich

Chatter works so hard making her...

...tasty holiday dishes and treats!



Holiday Foods and Treats

Everyone will be cooking, baking, frying, frosting, decorating or at least eating their family's favorite foods for winter holidays like Christmas, Hanukkah or Kwanzaa!

Read the clues to fill in these two crosswords:

1. traditional Mexican Christmas dish, popular in southwest U.S. – corn dough with spicy pork or beef filling, wrapped in corn husks before cooking – served with sauce, cream or crumbly fresh cheese

2. treat of sugar, fruits and nuts: rolled into a ball or shaped to look like a fruit or a star

3. meat glazed with honey, brown sugar, mustard and pineapple juice

4. this pie is mostly dried fruit such as raisins – used to be made of chopped meats

5. cake made with candied fruit, nuts, spices

6. treat shaped into a cookie or a house

7. bird roasted, stuffed with apples, prunes, onions and sweet chestnuts (Germany, the United Kingdom and China)

8. pudding; been around for 600 years! – made with meat, pastry and fruits

9. spongy cake rolled like a log and, when cooled, filled with cream – decorated with powdered sugar, candy mushrooms and fresh berries; Bûche de Noël

10. yolks, milk, sugar and cream drink – often spiced with cinnamon or nutmeg

Hanukkah

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday that honors the victory the Maccabees (a Jewish group) had over their enemy. It celebrates the rededication of their Temple in Jerusalem after it had been ruined. There was only enough oil in the lamps to keep the eternal flame in the Temple burning for one day. But, the oil kept burning for eight days while fresh oil was prepared! Hanukkah is a joyful celebration of the miracle that lasted for eight days.

1. jelly doughnut served fresh; sugared

2. deep fried puffs dipped in honey

3. part of a cow used in traditional Jewish dishes – holiday pot roast

4. _____ Dreidels – treat made using different candies

5. made with egg noodles – can be served with vegetables or fruit

6. potato pancake fried with onions – cheeses or vegetables added

Gingerbread Journey! Help the Gingerbread family find its way home for the holidays.

Kwanzaa

Kwanzaa is a seven-day holiday celebrated by African-Americans and people in other countries whose families are from Africa. It is a time to think about their lives, family, history and community. It is a time of lighting candles, feasting and gift-giving.

Fill in this puzzle with these foods that may be made for Kwanzaa:

1. used in casserole, fritters and pies

2. dish with tomato paste, peppers, onions

3. rich soup (onions, red peppers, chicken, rice)

4. fried _____ – vegetable is coated with flour, cornmeal, eggs, salt and pepper

5. main dish, flavored with citrus and cooked until crispy

6. traditional appetizer made from black-eyed peas

Sweet Holiday Treats! Oh, sweet holiday treats! One favorite cookie is called 'peffernisse' – a spicy, round cookie covered with powdered sugar. Silver and gold-wrapped chocolate coins are another favorite treat.

Read the clues below to fill in the puzzle with some more favorite holiday treats:

1. hard candy stick usually colored red and white – peppermint, cinnamon or fruity flavors

2. pecans, pistachios, cashews, almonds – spiced with cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves sugars

3. sweet cake made with ginger and honey – name comes from Germ

4. colorful, sugary treat stretched flat, and then folded back and forth

5. made of sugar and almond meal – origin of this treat is believed to – formed into all sorts of shapes, such as fruits or cartoon characters

6. dough cut into fun shapes and frosted to look like a Christmas Tree, a snowman – can be decorated with all sorts of candy toppings

(Answers on page 10)

Christmas Parade

4th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

4:45 pm at Dafforn Park

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9
11 AM - 5:30 PM

- 10 am - 4 pm Craft Vendors - Downtown
- 11 am - 1 pm Soup & Desserts - Community Center
- 1 pm Parade Line Up - 4th St
- 1:15 pm Parade Judging
- 1:30 pm Parade Starts
- 2 pm - 3 pm Photos w/ Santa - Dafforn Park
- 5:30 pm Movie - East of Bank

THE CUNNINGHAM MUSEUM
PRESENTS:
A Christmas Movie Night

JOIN US FOR AN OUTDOOR PRODUCTION FEATURING:
"The Christmas Chronicles"

WHEN: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH
WHERE: OPEN LOT EAST OF BANK BUILDING
ADMISSION: FREE!!
CONCESSIONS OPEN @ 5:00 PM
MOVIE BEGINS @ 5:30 PM

*FREE WILL DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR CONCESSIONS AND ENTRY!
*ONLY GOLF CARTS ALLOWED IN LOT!
*PLEASE BRING CHAIRS AND BLANKETS.
*PARKING WILL BE AVAILABLE ON SIDE-STREETS AND ON MAIN STREET.
*EVENT IS WEATHER PERMITTING AND TENTATIVE TO RELOCATION IF NECESSARY.



Kingman County Humane Society Pets Ready for Adoption

Oliver

Sponsored by Baker Accounting



Oliver is a male domestic shorthair who weighs about 6 pounds
He is a bit over one 1 year old.
His adoption fee is \$50.00
He has been at the shelter since October 13, 2023

Trooper

Sponsored by Baker Accounting



Trooper is a Male Boxer / Hound mix and weighs about 65 pounds. His age is 5 years +.
His adoption fee is \$180.00
Trooper has been at the shelter since October 16, 2023. He is good with other dogs and is people friendly.

"Such short little lives our pets have to spend with us, and they spend most of it waiting for us to come home each day.

It is amazing how much love and laughter they bring into our lives and even how much closer we become with each other because of them."

— John Grogan, Marley and Me: Life and Love With the World's Worst Dog

Hi! My name is Trooper Since you're reading this, you're probably looking for a new dog. Guess what - I'm looking for a new human. We already have a lot in common. I'm also a great joke teller...

A mother mouse and a baby mouse were walking along, when all of a sudden, a cat attacked them.

The mother mouse goes, "WOOF WOOF!" and the cat runs away.

"See?" says the mother mouse to her baby. "Now do you see why it's important to learn a foreign language?" Note: Trooper enjoys the outdoors. May have had some houstraining. Thinks he's funny.... very good conversationalist. Speaks in tongues.

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

Donations Needed for Kingman Humane Society


The pets at Kingman County Humane Society are in need of the following items: 13-gal. kitchen trash bags dry cat and kitten food clumping cat litter canned dog food Purina Puppy Chow long-lasting chews stainless steel flat-sided water buckets paper towels	bleach liquid laundry detergent poop bag rolls disposable gloves (large) The items can be brought to KCHS at 811 East C Avenue in Kingman Monetary donations can be sent to KCHS P.O. Box 103 Kingman KS 67068
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------



Try different holiday treats!

Holiday Foods and Treats

Christmas



Hanukkah



Sweet Holiday Treats!



Kwanzaa



by Anнимills LLC © 2023

Minutes from the Kingman County Commission

Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. November 27, 2023, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse. Present were Jerry Henning, Chairman; Pat Elpers, Commissioner; Jack Thimesch, Commissioner; Carol Noblit, County Clerk; Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor

Visitors: Bob Morris, Kingman Leader Courier; Larry Landwehr; Julie Lyon and Josh Beckman, Kirkham Michael

Online Visitors: Caller 01; Heather Kinsler; user 01 and F.

Staff: Amber Hartley, County Appraiser; Amanda Stucky, Field Appraiser; Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director; Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse; LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer; Macay Ewy, Emergency Manager and Charles Arensdorf,

Public Works Director. Chairman Henning asked if there were any additions to the agenda. MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning asked if there was any public comment. No comments were made.

Amber Hartley, County Appraiser submitted a form that she will be sending out to landowners use of acreage. Commissioners said that if landowners have questions on the form they can contact them. Amanda Stucky, Field Appraiser was in with an NRP extension request from Matt Casper. MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the NRP Extension for Matt Casper as it is his first request. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk submitted the

November 20th, 2023, Commission meeting minutes for approval. MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the November 20th, 2023, Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Elpers moved to go into executive session with Mendy Frampton at 8:58 a.m. to discuss employee's performance pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act and will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:16 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:16 a.m. with no decision made. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Elpers moved to go into executive session with Carol Noblit, County Clerk and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 9:24 a.m. to discuss employee's performance pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act and will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:29 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve shared leave for an employee. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Elpers moved to go into executive session with Mary Schwartz at 9:30 a.m. to discuss employee's performance pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings

Act and will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:45 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:45 a.m. with no decision made. LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer was in to review the Ambulance Costs with the County Commissioners for 2016 to 2022 audited numbers. Chairman Henning discussed that the excess funds were to be placed into an ambulance fund. Commissioners discussed the numbers that were presented. Jon Wollen, City Commissioner asked if the utilities were included in the figures. Ms. Stegman explained that the numbers came from the City audit and all the expenses were included in the figures for the Ambulance Fund. Larry Landwehr discussed that by the numbers received that the City was not truthful when requesting funding from the County. Ms. Stegman discussed a spreadsheet she submitted that showed the PILOT revenue through the years and what it was spent on. Ms. Stegman let the Commissioners know if the PILOT monies received by December 31, 2023 there will be 62,147.59 will be excess and she asked if it could be used to pay extra expenses for the 911 tower. MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to have the excess funds of \$62,147.59 be used to pay 911 tower expenses that were needed for installation. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Elpers moved to go into executive session with Mary Schwartz at 9:30 a.m. to discuss employee's performance pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings

Manager at 10:40 a.m. to discuss employee's performance pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act and will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:55 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 10:55 a.m. with no decision made. Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in and discussed the snow removal that was done over the weekend. Commissioners commended Mr. Arensdorf and his staff on the great job they did on the snow removal. Mr. Arensdorf submitted a permit to the Commissioners for the following: Haviland Telephone placement of fiber optic cable in various locations in Townships 29 (5) Allen and 30 (5) Bennett. Mr. Arensdorf submitted letters to be signed on the FLAP project-Cheney Reservoir. Mr. Arensdorf submitted a letter that will be sent relating to traffic control at the intersection NE 10 St & NE 100 Ave. Mr. Arensdorf and Josh Beckman, Kirkham Michael were in with a design and construction

engineering agreement for safety improvements at Peter #25 RCB-SW 80 St. for the Commissioners approval. MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the design and construction engineering agreement with Kirkham Michael for Peter #25 RCB not to exceed \$18,563.80. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Beckman discussed some bridges they might want to begin designs for with the County Commissioners. Mr. Arensdorf reviewed the ONYX Seal Coat proposal he received for 2024 with the County Commissioners. Commissioners would like to wait on the ONYX at this time. Commissioners discussed the property insurance quotes received. Chairman Henning went through correspondence received from Council on Aging. MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 12:45 p.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

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6					3	7			2
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1		3	8						4
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	8				4	2			
3									

© 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.

Comfortably Dumb by Bruce Quast



"This is odd... We got a letter from the Small Business Administration."

Statepoint Crossword Theme: Happy Holidays

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
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- ACROSS**
- Bag holder
 - P in mpg
 - Eye part
 - Dog
 - ___ Gershwin
 - *Eggnog ingredient
 - Hold the floor
 - ___ Mahal
 - Anti-elderly one
 - *Breaking news, to a caroler
 - *Coming, in Latin
 - *___'easter
 - "Begone!"
 - Parent-child divide
 - Fur-dwelling parasites
 - Lacrosse stick
 - Kiln for hops
 - Feline vibration
 - Little Richard's "___ Frutti"
 - Cream-filled treat
 - *Number of candles in kinara
 - Mountain goat terrain
 - *"Prancing and pawing of each little hoof," e.g.
 - Carpenter's joint
 - Drug-induced state
 - Make lovable
 - "Cheers" regular
 - *Max to #57 Across
 - Thailand native
 - *Dr. Seuss' spoilsport
 - *Santa chute
 - Water border
 - "What?"
 - D in LED

- Carved
 - Stars and Stripes land
 - Astronomer ___ Hubble
 - Hitler's sidekick
 - Joaquin Phoenix' 2013 movie
 - Crows' homes
- DOWN**
- Dick's and Jane's dog
 - Famous Amos
 - Cormac McCarthy's "The ___"
 - Join the cast of (2 words)
 - Carbolic acid
 - Deodorant target
 - Pitcher's stat
 - Indian prince
 - More than suggest
 - Blood tunnel
 - 90 degrees, on compass
 - Invoice qty.
 - Romp around
 - Key ___ on a movie set, pl.
 - Med school grad
 - Passepartout to Phileas Fogg
 - *Popular traditional holiday entree
 - Home run hero
 - Impostor
 - Prompted
 - "That hurts!"
 - Vegas' main drag
 - Coach-and-four
 - *Number of days in Hanukkah
 - Muscle quality
 - Word processor command
 - *Like Santa's pole
 - Repaired, as in socks

- Mythical giant bird
- Unmarried woman, archaic
- Affirmative interjection
- What timidest and polyimide have in common
- Clarified butter
- Theater seat arrangement
- Wraths
- Burn to a crisp
- "___ your chance..." contraction
- Make changes
- Yearnings
- "Be quiet!"
- Don't waste

8	1	4	6	5	2	7	9	3
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C	R	A	V	S	E	L	A	V	E	R
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G	A	V	L	I	C	E	C	R	O	S
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M	A	R	A	C	R	A	H	C	O	O
L	E	V	A	P	E	R	P	E	R	A

Minutes from the Pratt County Commission

The Pratt County commissioners met in regular session Monday, November 27, 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, county clerk and Mark Graber, IT director.

Heather Morgan, economic development/covid consultant, reported she had worked on an incentive grant for an existing business. She visited with the Fair Association concerning the pavilion at the fairgrounds. They discussed ARPA funds,

she also mentioned grant opportunities that would be available.

Commissioner Shriver made a motion to approve the minutes from November 20, 2023. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve hiring Katie Feldman for the Health Department at \$16.00 per hour. Chairman Jones seconded the motion. Commissioner Shriver abstained from voting. Motion carried 2-0.

Commissioner Adams wanted to acknowledge road department employees that were out Saturday and Sunday clearing snow off the roads. The commissioners expressed their appreciation.

Commissioner Shriver made a motion to recess into executive session for

ten minutes at 2:06 p.m. for attorney/client matter concerning tax statements. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Shriver made a motion to return from executive session at 2:10 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Shriver made a motion to approve the payment vouchers for November 27, 2023. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to recess into executive session at 2:17 p.m. for ten minutes for attorney/client matter to discuss multiple legal issues. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Shriver made a motion to return from executive session at 2:27 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Tara Pagenkopf, R S V P, presented checks for signatures. Commissioner Shriver made a motion to recess into executive session for fifteen minutes at 2:30 p.m. for an attorney/client matter concerning policies. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Adams made a motion to return from executive session at 2:45 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

John Hamm would like a stop sign placed at NE 50th Avenue and NE

10th Street. Tyson will check to see what needs to be done and report back.

Doug Freund, road, reported HRRR street striping, presented a map of where KDOT will stop striping due to not being able to update RR crossing.

Commissioner Shriver made a motion to recess into executive session at 3:01 p.m. for fifteen minutes for attorney/client matter concerning RSVP

policies. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Shriver made a motion to return from executive session at 3:10 pm with no action taken. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to adjourn at 3:12 p.m. Chairman Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Public Notice

First published in the Cunningham Courier, Thursday, December 7, 2023. (3t)

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

DONALD G. AUMILLER, Deceased. Case No. 2020 PR 42

(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 December 4, 2023, a Petition was filed in this Court by Sheryl K. Cheely, duly appointed, qualified and acting Executrix of the Estate of Donald G. Aumiller, deceased, praying Petitioner's acts be approved; account be settled and allowed; the heirs be determined; the Will be construed and the Estate be assigned to the persons entitled thereto; the Court

find the allowances requested for attorneys' fees and expenses are reasonable and should be allowed; the costs be determined and ordered paid; the administration of the Estate be closed; upon the filing of receipts the Petitioner be finally discharged as the Executrix of the Estate of Donald G. Aumiller, deceased, and the Petitioner be released from further liability.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before December 28, 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.

Sheryl K. Cheely, Petitioner
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, November 23, 2023. (3t)

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

DELMAR D. VORAN, Deceased.

Case No. 2023 PR 25

(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 November 20, 2023, a Petition was filed in this Court by Steven W. Voran, Sharon A. Bergkamp and Adrian L. Voran, duly appointed, qualified and acting Co-Executors of the Estate of Delmar D. Voran, deceased, praying Petitioners 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 Petitioners be finally discharged as the Co-Executors of the Estate of Delmar D. Voran, deceased, and the Petitioners be released from further liability.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before December 12, 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.

Steven W. Voran, Sharon A. Bergkamp and Adrian L. Voran, Co-Executors
Brandon T. Ritcha, #25768
ATTORNEY AT LAW
349 North Main, P. O. Box 113
Kingman, KS 67068
(620) 532-3103
Attorney for Petitioners

Public Notice

(Published in the official City of Cunningham newspaper on Thursday, December 7, 2023)

ORDINANCE NO. 683

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE 662 CONCERNING THE PARKING OF CAMPING TRAILERS AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES IN THE CITY

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CUNNINGHAM, KANSAS

Section 1: Ordinance No. 662 of the City of Cunningham is revoked.

Section 2: This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force on January 1, 2024.

Passed by the Governing Body of the City of Cunningham, Kansas, this 27th day of November, 2023.

Governing Body of the City of Cunningham

/s/ Aaron Murphy, Mayor
ATTEST:

/s/ Molly Morgan, City Clerk

Public Notice

First published in The Cunningham Courier on November 23, 2023 (3t)

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

SHANE HORSCH, Plaintiff,

vs.

Case No. KM-2023-CV-300003

1990 KENWORTH SEMI TRUCK;

VIN #: 1XKEDB9XXLJ376701

and ANY AND ALL PERSONS OR ENTITIES WITH AN INTEREST IN OR TO THE ABOVE VEHICLE,

and KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, Defendants.

Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 60

NOTICE OF SUIT

STATE OF KANSAS TO:

Any and all other persons who are or may be concerned:

You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in the District Court of Kingman County, Kansas, by Shane Horsch praying for title to be quieted and given to the Plaintiff regarding a **1990 Kenworth Semi Truck, VIN #: 1XKEDB9XXLJ376701.**

You are hereby required to plead to said petition on or before January 3 2023, in said court, at the Kingman County Courthouse, Kingman, Kansas. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course on said petition.

Shane Horsch, Petitioner
Matthew W. Ricke
349 N. Main, PO Box 113
Kingman, KS 67068
(620) 532-3103
Attorney for Plaintiff

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Medicine Lodge, Kansas 67104
620-886-3222
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
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Andrew W. Piester, OD
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Effective June 1, 2022: Ads are \$6.00 per column inch. Front page ads are \$10.00 per column inch. All ads are subject to approval of this paper, which reserves the right to edit, reject, or properly classify any ad. Note: The views and opinions expressed in advertisements in The Cunningham Courier do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of the Courier or staff. Errors will be corrected when brought to my attention.
Classified Ad Rates
\$5.00 minimum charge for one-week run.
DEADLINES: 2:00 p.m. Tuesdays



Thanks for recycling
The Courier on December 11th
Recycle - Reduce - Reuse - Repurpose



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This advertising space available for \$12.00

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B-29 Museum
is open on Sundays from 2:00 to 4:00 pm
Pratt Army Airfield - 82 Curran Road
Visit them on Facebook at www.prairie-bombers.org for more information. If you would like to visit the museum at another time call 672-8321, 672-2444 or 620-797-2919 to schedule an appointment!

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

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

Advertise with the Courier!

Time to Talk Trash

Trash and recycling schedules are available at City Hall.
If you have large, bulky items for pick up (i.e. appliances or furniture) please call Nisly at 620-662-6561. They pick up bulky items once a month. This service is included in your trash bill with the city! No extra charge!
The Cunningham Burn Site is locked. A \$50.00 deposit is required to obtain a key at City Hall. Your deposit is cheerfully refunded when you return the key.

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Courier Copies

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.)

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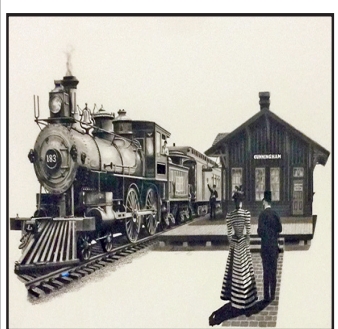


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Debby Meyer

Deborah Kay "Debby" Meyer, 72, passed away Friday, December 1, 2023 at Leisure Homestead at Stafford. She was born on August 30, 1951 in Meade to C.L. "Hap" and Anni (Hueller) Eckhoff. Deborah married Craig Allen Meyer on March 4, 1978 in Pratt. They were married for 45 years.



Debby received her Associate Degree from Pratt Community College and her Bachelors Degree from K-State in 1973. She previously worked for Fort Riley Elementary, Ticket Sales and Concessions at Barron Theater Pratt, taught 6th Grade at Cunningham, was a Bookkeeper at Jarrett's Conoco and most recently as IT Help Desk Administrator/Purchasing at Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. She enjoyed knitting, sewing, gardening and doing yard work.

She is survived by her husband, Craig; daughters, Danica Gaupp of Lenexa and Tonia Meyer of Newton; brother, Mark (Cheryl) Eckhoff of Pratt; sister, Rosalie Cates of Pratt; grandchildren, Brooklyn, Kendyl and Camden; and many nieces and nephews.

Debby is preceded in death by her parents.

A graveside service was held on Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at Greenlawn Cemetery, Pratt with Pastor Tom Walters presiding.

Memorials may be made to Alzheimer Association in care of Larrison Mortuary.

Mike Allison

Mike Allison, 64, passed away Sunday, December 3, 2023. He was born on August 30, 1959 to Richard and Jeanette (Schindler) Allison.



Mike graduated from Pratt High School in 1978. After high school he began working in the oil field, driving water truck and roughnecking. He was very proud to partner with his dad in Allison drywall business for 20 years. He then worked for Pratt Community College in the maintenance facilities department until he retired in June of 2023. He was a member of Ascension Lutheran Church, Elks Lodge of Pratt, Pratt Jaycees and Ducks Unlimited Pratt Chapter. He loved hunting, planes, rockets and enjoyed volunteering at the clubs he was involved in.

He is survived by his mother; brother, Todd (Sasha) Allison of Belvidere, KS; and nephew's, Levi (Adrienne) Allison of Downs, KS and Dakota (Emily) Allison of Lewis, KS; and 4 grand-nieces and 1 grand-nephew.

Mike is preceded in death by his father.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, December 7, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt. A graveside service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, December 8, 2023 at Greenlawn Cemetery, Pratt with Pastor Matthew Schultz presiding.

Memorials may be made to Pratt Food Bank or Albert McFall Memorial Cancer Fund in care of Larrison Mortuary.

A Note of Thanks



The Kingman Area Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the following for making our Kingman Christmas Parade Day a success:

- 360 Total Fitness Center
- Arts & Crafts Fair Vendors
- Brandon Ritche
- Citizens Bank of Kansas
- City of Kingman Street Crew, Line Crew,
- Gregg Thimesch, Greg Graffman & Staff
- Corey Goering & Family
- Cox Communications
- Dixon's Hardware
- Emily Fairchild
- Grady Keimig
- Kale Pickett
- KANZA Bank
- Kingman Carnegie Library
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- Kingman County Attorney's Office
- Kingman County Carnival Board
- Kingman County Sheriff's Department
- Kingman Elementary School
- Kingman FBLA & FCCLA
- Kingman Healthcare Center
- Kingman Historic Theater
- Kingman Leader-Courier
- Kingman Lions Club
- Kingman Methodist Church
- Kingman Park Board
- Kingman Police Department
- Newberry Family Motors
- Nextlink Internet
- St. Patrick's Catholic School & Choir
- Sweet T's Bakery & Pie Shop
- The Cunningham Courier
- The Travel Junkie
- Whispering Willow 4-H Club

A Note of Thanks



Thank you to Harold Stark, Keith Strohl, Zach Strohl, Kevin Wegerer, Max Wegerer, and Matt Woods of the Cunningham Fire Department for the recent assistance when my truck caught fire.

An additional thank you to Dale Ratcliff and Emily Huelskamp for being good neighbors and helping as well.

-John Huffman

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

Unusual Art Exhibit at Sterling College

The latest art exhibition at the Sterling College Art Center Gallery does not feature watercolor or oil painting or even photography. Instead, the show will feature a variety of cartoon characters as well as video game imagery and even music album artwork. The exhibit features the work of Thomas Giebler, art faculty member from Fort Hays State University. The show will open this Friday, December 1 with an Artist Talk and Reception from 6:00 to 8:00 at the Gallery, 306 W. Washington, Sterling.

Giebler said, "My art is bright, energetic, and story-centric. In any piece I create, I always focus on creating worlds and the character(s) that occupy them. My goal as an artist is to challenge people to think more joyfully about the world around them—it can be a pretty whimsical, beautiful place with the right perspective."

Giebler's exhibit is entitled "In A Small Sea" and includes everything from traditional painting, fabric arts, augmented reality experiences, to animation. Giebler says he enjoys exploring a wide range of mediums with his work and sees an opportunity for specific storytelling in each of them. "Regardless of medium, each piece aims to take you on a journey to another world," he said.

Giebler has had an interest in the arts from a young age and said, "I was practically born with a pencil in my hand. What drove me to the graphic arts in general was being introduced to the world of digital painting. My parents—my biggest supporters—bought me a Wacom drawing tablet when I was in middle school. I quickly watched every tutorial I could find and explored the medium on my own. This opened so many doors at the intersection of art and technology; an intersection I find myself always at. The beautiful thing about the graphic arts is that it is always evolving alongside technology. Keeping up with it not only keeps me challenged but also lets me see the artistic side of things with a fresh perspective every time."

Giebler describes his process, saying, "My creative process is anything but linear. It always starts with a spark of inspiration, whether it be a film I just watched or seeing a piece of gum stuck to a pigeon's foot. I then start to explore a myriad of possible story directions mentally before pencil hits paper. Once the idea is there, regardless of medium, the process usually goes pretty quick. I leave the process as organic as possible in the early stages to leave room for surprises and discovery. By working in this intentionally imperfect state, I minimize the fear of failure and allow myself room for exploration. Finally, once I'm happy with where things are heading, I put a final polish on everything. When the art can speak for itself, my job is done."

Giebler's Artist Talk on Friday night will explore the significance of storytelling in art and the importance of leaving room for exploration and discovery. The exhibit will be on display weekdays from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm through January 15. The exhibit and the Artist Talk and Reception are all open to the public free of charge.

Upcoming Auctions

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Kingman County 4-H Ambassadors

Chili and Bingo Night

Sunday, December 10

5:30-7:30

VFW Hall, Main Street Kingman

Adults \$10 for All You Can Eat Chili and 1 Bingo Card

Kids 12 and under \$5 for All you Can Eat Chili and 1 Bingo Card

Extra Bingo Cards \$2 each

Proceeds from this event go to:

Kingman County Humane Society



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