

The Cunningham Courier

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

Email: couriernews@yahoo.com
 Website: www.cunninghamcourier.news
 (620) 298-2659

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Color guard John Fischer and Garrett Beat



We don't often see Main Street and the parade route from the starting line. .



Courier photos

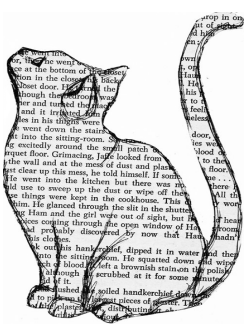
KINGMAN HEALTHCARE CENTER
SWING BED PROGRAM
 For more info, call 620-553-4192

WHAT DOES SWING BED MEAN?
 Swing Bed Services serve as a transitional phase between the hospital and home, offering patients the necessary ongoing care following an illness, injury, or surgery. Our dedicated staff provides on-site care, 24 hours a day, to support patients in achieving their recovery objectives and ensuring a safe return home.

WHY DO PATIENTS NEED SWING BED?
 Swing Bed Services can help patients who no longer need acute inpatient care, but need the following before returning home safely:

- Long-term IV antibiotics
- Wound care
- Rehabilitation after surgery
- Therapy after a stroke, accident, or injury
- Rehab or skilled care after a recent hospitalization

HEALING AND RECOVERY CLOSER TO HOME



Meanderings

I am taking the week off from writing a column. I have a nasty cold

and I am exhausted from coughing and sneezing and blowing. My ribs hurt from all the sneezing and coughing and my nose hurts from sneezing and blowing. My head is throbbing from all that activity as well. UGH!

I have a 'concept of a plan' for this column, but the energy and motivation are being coughed right out of my head. I know this issue is

rife with mistakes, but I have reached, an "I feel too crappy to care at this point" attitude. I'll be better next week and will resume writing and then.

Have a Happy Holiday Season!

Always reading, and currently reading, "The Cavalier Case" by Antonia Fraser Roberta



Heard here most are these four words:

Hello, hi, howdy, hey. Each friendly face In this small place A welcoming replay.

* To receive my separate collection of 50 funny little poems, just say so in an email to: tjfobbe@gmail.com

Tallgrass and Tumbleweeds by Gaille Pike

Dear Readers,

Living in the country one gets to see a lot of critters, both wild and domestic. Cows and horses dot the pastures along the gravel road, as do the neighborhood dogs and cats. On the wild side we have three kinds of visitors, the frequent, the rare and the never-seen. On the frequent end of the spectrum we have Canadian geese that winter on our pond that

arrive like clockwork every year, the multitude of deer foraging in the surrounding fields and windbreaks, the ubiquitous possums, raccoons, skunks, field mice and the ever-industrious squirrels.

We even have two barred owls that visit every year from June to October. They mainly hunt bugs and voles on the lawn and sometimes just hang out with our ducks and chickens. On the rarer side of things we have great herons and white egrets that stalk the edges of the pond, never looking so prehistoric.

And, of course, coyotes, who howl and bay nightly but often go unseen. That brings us to the never seen. Bobcats.

We know there are bobcats out there because we have seen their tracks, but they have remained stealthily invisible. A zoology professor at Southwestern College, Robert "Doc" Wimmer, once said that "You can live in Kansas all your life and never even SEE a bobcat." And I'm beginning to think he was right. But, sometimes, purely by accident, something pops out of the woods in broad daylight that is so

unexpected you are not quite sure at first what it is. And that happened yesterday when I looked out my back door, and about 100 yards deep into a newly cut bean field saw something heretofore alien to me.

At first I thought it was either a small dog or a big cat, but it moved differently. A sick coyote? Naw. A fox! It had to be a fox but I never saw a fox that color. They're supposed to be reddish-brown and this thing was gray and white and tan. But then it made that leap where it jumps high in the air and face plants into

the earth, hunting mice. So, yes, definitely a fox. And after a bit of research I discovered that though male foxes are almost always reddish-brown, females come in many variations.

That mystery solved, another mystery piqued my interest. I know a female fox is called a Vixen—but what do you call a male fox? I asked a few people and they hadn't a clue. But Wikipedia did. Three acceptable names for a male fox are Dog Fox, Tod and, my favorite, a Reynard. Dog Fox surely lacks imagination. Tod seems

ridiculous, but comes from the old English word "toddle," meaning fox. But Reynard seems the best fit, being the sly mischief-maker of children's literature and folklore and fable. I'd love to see that Vixen again, but I've been living here for years and that was my first sighting so I won't hold my breath. As for the bobcat...one can only hope.

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



Pocketknives and Treasure

Greg Doering, Kansas Farm Bureau

I still have my very first pocketknife, a Henckels three-bladed stockman with a red bone handle. It's safely stowed in a drawer now because its everyday utility was long ago surpassed by its sentimental value.

It was a gift from my father, as should be the case for every child's first pocketknife. But it was so long ago I can't remem-

ber if it was a birthday or Christmas present. I do know I was still young enough that opening the blades was somewhat difficult.

The clip, or the largest of the three blades, was by far the easiest to dislodge from its safe resting place. Its size compared to the smaller sheepfoot and awl blades also made it the blade of choice for an impressionable youngster who might have seen "Rambo" far too early.

Consisting of polished steel and a deeply grooved handle, this pocketknife – my pocketknife – was similar yet different from other

knives I'd briefly held to open a present on Christmas morning. My knife didn't have the patina I'd seen on my father's and grandfather's. The handles on theirs were also smoothed by years of handling.

Still, I knew my knife was more than a physical gift. It was a signal my father had trust in me to possess a dangerous object. I have no doubt I tested this trust from time to time, but I would like to point out I still have all 10 fingers. I do carry a couple scars from a misplaced blade, but those came when I definitely knew better.

After the initial eu-

phoria of becoming a pocketknife owner wore off, I did experience some disappointment. It turns out that while I could be trusted with the sharp blades, I couldn't seem to find a reason to use them regularly, but it wasn't for lack of trying. Just as someone holding a hammer begins to see nails everywhere, I used my knife to cut any loose strings on clothing, trim my nails or just whittle points on sticks.

While my first pocketknife is no longer in use, that doesn't mean I no longer have a use for a pocketknife. Rather, it's such an indispensable tool I now have several of

them. The nicer ones are strewn about the house with one on my dresser, one on the table near my recliner and another on my desk. There's at least four in my truck and two in my tacklebox, not counting the filet knife.

Some are similar to my original three-bladed knife, while others are single-blade folding knives that can be opened with the flick of a finger. There's a boot knife or two included in the accounting as well (for whittling really big sticks).

Though I've purchased and inherited some of this collection of sharp objects, I've re-

ceived the vast majority of knives as gifts.

While the first gift taught me there are limits to the uses of a pocketknife, it's true treasure has been understanding it's far better to have one and not need it than need one and not have it.

"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

Poetry From Daily Life

edited by David L. Harrison, Missouri's Poet Laureate

Poetry from Daily Life: Let your poem be imperfect and incomplete for as long as it needs

By Lauren Camp

My guest this week on Poetry from Daily Life is Lauren Camp, who lives in Sante Fe and is the New Mexico Poet Laureate. Lauren worked as a magazine editor for 12 years. She wrote wall text to accompany her artwork, and people called them poems. To learn more about the genre, she read poems on her radio show, among other self-taught approaches to understanding the form. She loves fiction but poetry is her favorite form. Lauren was Astronomer-in-Residence at Grand Canyon National Park in 2022. She wrote enough poems to make a book — and that book, "In Old Sky," was published by Grand Canyon Conservancy this spring (April 2024). Another fa-

vorite project is her Poet Laureate project — New Mexico Epic Poem Project. ~ David L. Harrison

How do you start a poem? What if there is no right way? I like to locate in a particular place, which for me, is often the high desert where I live. From there, I'm often writing toward something I want to hold onto or release. Maybe an interesting smidge of conversation, a memory, something precious or sad.

However you begin, it helps if you allow the poem to be imperfect for as long as it needs. Incomplete, even. There is no audience but you. No one to judge.

As a girl — expressive and inspired, but also without art materials or schooling — I made whatever I envisioned in my mind. I cut and pasted and wrote. No one around me had any investment in my output. No one was waiting for it.

My parents were solid on my basic needs, but clueless about how to encourage my creative spirit. They could have simplified my course, built me a clear map to becoming a poet or a visual artist. They could have gotten me into classes and groups. I see their detachment as a gift. It removed the "audience" from the equation, which meant it quieted the inner critic, that nasty voice that struts around, putting landmines of worry in our paths.

I worked on my nifty little projects in our dank basement beside the player piano while the washing machine clunked some yards away. I made what I made — for me only. And then, when I'd had enough for the day, or when I was called on to set the table for dinner, I climbed the stairs, passing my father's nook of tools that he rarely employed and hardly knew how to use. I came into our yellow kitchen and was an ordinary kid and sister again. My little world of dreaming was safe downstairs. I'd return to it tomorrow. I'd make something up and find myself again.

This is a joyful way to create. Capture some-

thing and put it down on a scrap of paper. Give up on perfection. Just write.

Rocky Ground

Before we do what we have to do (the dishes, the folding of laundry), I offer to wreck you with what I know now, which is impractical new buds on the succulents, the contraptions of petals they've grown. Before we do what we need to do (the tending of worry, the garbage, the leftover grief), I remind you the midair billow of milkweed from summer's lush mouth. Before we return to deadlines and details, our humanity neatly boxed up, turn to whatever my friend Joan calls impending doom, I offer you the Firewheel's straightsunning ruby, and Snow Angel blossoms wide open as hearts. Let's watch the muzzles of insects at each flowerbell, having parted the curtains to reach what they need. This moment. That's what we have to stop heartbreak— inward brimming light, the daysounds and tulips' inverted hats. Nothing to fail at. Everything is windrivulet and small graces and paired doves with their mothering tones. Now is a matter of spirit. Without sorrow. Now is feather and branches. Seeds again in this pinethroated sphere, now where I live. (First published in "Nimrod International Journal.") To learn more about Lauren Camp, her projects and events, visit her website: www.laurencamp.com.

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Community Bulletin Board

<p>Thursday, December 19 JH BB at Stafford</p> <p>Friday, December 20 End of 2nd Quarter: School dismiss at 11:30 ** HS Girls BB vs Chaparral at HOME</p> <p>Wednesday, December 25 Merry Christmas</p> <p>Wednesday, January 1 Happy New Year</p> <p>Friday, January 3 No School: Teacher Inservice ** HS BB vs Canton-Galva at HOME</p>	<p>Monday, January 6 Back to School *** JH BB at Central Christian</p> <p>Tuesday, January 7 HS BB at Macksville</p> <p>Thursday, January 9 JH BB vs Skyline at HOME</p> <p>Friday, January 10 HS BB vs Kinsley at HOME</p> <p>Saturday, January 10 B-Team Tournament</p>
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Winners on Parade Day

Parade Winners:
Wagon and battery cars:
1st place: Tux Panek
2nd place: Vivian and Aspen Kerschen
Bikes and skateboards:
1st place: Kruze Panek
2nd place: Jonathan Ogg
3rd place: Wyatt Neywick
Trey Albers
Oakley Panek
Vehicles:
1st place: Ada Adams
2nd place: Dean Mack
3rd place: Huntleigh, Landreigh, and Craighton Newell
Costumes, Walking Entries:
1st place: Ava Neywick with Dolly
Horses:
1st place: Jr. Mertens on Header
Floats:
1st place: 4C Daycare
2nd place: Cunningham 4-H: Old Time Christmas

Other entries:
"Merry Christmas from the Country Cousins"
Amber and Amy FitzSimmons and Jack and Rose Smith
Greg Kerschen pulling Nevill Built 53 ft. ground load stock trailer, manufactured in Kingman County SCTelcom pickup driven by Robert Hall
Trucks and fire engines:
Zach Strohl, Hope and Copeland Huffman
Harold, Dalton and Clara Stark
Max Wegerer, Becket Miller, Rose Vierthaler
Tyler, Krystal, Kinlee Beat with Santa
Winners of raffle drawings:
Lions Club hams: Robert Hampton, Lauren Ward, Pam Liebl, Shirley Granander
Alter Society: Kinsley Warren won the quilt; Jackie Vierthaler won the gift basket; Shirley Raney won the table runner
P.S. Creations: Jett Preisser
Darren Parker's high school painting was won by Vicki Steffen



The Community Calendar is sponsored by




nvalleybank.com Member FDIC

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

Christmas Holiday hours at The Ninnescah Valley Bank:
We will close at 12:00 noon on December 24, and open for regular hours on December 26.

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

Minutes from November BOE Meeting

The West Kingman County Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 13, 2024 by President Brent Miller.

President, Brent Miller; Vice-President, Bjorn Halderson; Members, Vicki Oldham, Megan Green, Jason Osner and Abby Bock; Superintendent, Dr. Kelly Arnberger; Principal, Cody Dunlap; Clerk, Stacy Webster and guests Julia Hageman, Ada Adams, Nate Sterneker, Bailey Hansard, Wylan Betzen, and Shawna Sterneker.

Motion made by Abby Bock, seconded by Vicki Oldham to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

President Miller welcomed the guests to the meeting then turned it over to Principal Dunlap. Principal Dunlap gave special recognition and thanks Bailey Hansard for her work in the Ag Department and with the FFA program. He then turned it over to Bailey to share with the board highlights from the recent FFA trip to National Convention.

Member Travis Thimesch arrived to the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Superintendent Arnberger requested a break at 7:19 p.m. until 7:24 p.m.

Motion made by Travis Thimesch, seconded by Megan Green, to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2024 regular meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Travis Thimesch, seconded by Abby Bock,

to approve the payment of bills and the financial reports as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Superintendent Arnberger asked for direction and feedback from the board regarding a request from the Cunningham UMC. They are asking for the school to donate 20 of the old laptops that are for sale to them. Consensus was to ok it. Dr. Arnberger also discussed upcoming bids and projects including GS Carpet from Star Lumber, Decker Electric for Gym & Stage wiring. He gave updates on meetings with the wellness committee, Coop Pre-K director, and Christmas craft fair representative. He has upcoming meetings with KARE for small schools and S & P Global for our Bond rating. Lastly he opened a discussion about the future of football and shared a survey that will go out to families.

Principal Dunlap reported on current and upcoming activities, parent teacher conference attendance and a proposal for ELA curriculum adoption.

Member Bjorn Halderson reported that he was not able to attend the meeting but reports show that they discussed new personnel, policy updates and audit updates.

Superintendent Arnberger gave the board an update on the construction project landscaping and parking lines.

Dr. Arnberger presented an updated Strategic Goal Statement.

Motion made by Jason Osner, seconded by Vicki Oldham, to approve the Strategic Goal Statement as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

President Miller called for a break at 8:40p.m. until 8:45 p.m.

Guests Julia Hageman, Ada Adams, Nate Sterneker, Wylan Betzen, and Shawna Sterneker left the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Motion made by Travis Thimesch, seconded by Bjorn Halderson, to go into executive session for 30 minutes at 8:45 p.m. to discuss personnel for the non-elected exception under KOMA and return to the board room at 9:15 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Principal Dunlap was called into the Executive Session at 8:59 p.m.

Superintendent Arnberger was called into the Executive Session at 9:12 p.m.

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

Motion made by Vicki Oldham, seconded by Abby Bock, to go into executive session with the board and Administration for 15 minutes at 9:15 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 Miller declared the meeting in open session at 9:30 p.m.

Motion made by Travis Thimesch, seconded by Megan Green, to go into executive session with the board and Administration for 15 minutes at 9:30 p.m. to discuss personnel for the non-elected exception under KOMA and return to the board room at 9:45 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

President Miller declared the meeting in open session at 9:45 p.m.

Motion made by Vicki Oldham, seconded by Abby Bock, to go into executive session with the board and Administration for 10 minutes at 9:45 p.m. to discuss personnel for the non-elected exception under KOMA and return to the board room at 9:55 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

President Miller declared the meeting in open session at 9:55 p.m. Motion made by Megan Green, seconded by Jason Osner, to go into executive session with the board and Administration for 10 minutes at 9:55 p.m. to discuss personnel for the non-elected exception under KOMA and return to the board room at 10:05 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

President Miller declared the meeting in open session at 9:55 p.m.

Motion made by Jason Osner, to go into executive session with the board and Administration for 10 minutes at 9:55 p.m. to discuss personnel for the non-elected exception under KOMA and return to the board room at 10:05 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

President Miller declared the meeting in open session at 10:05 p.m.

Motion made by Bjorn Halderson, seconded by Vicki Oldham, to approve the part time coaching position for High School Girls basketball for Eric Meyers. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Jason Osner, seconded by Abby Bock, to approve the 6 year proposal for ELA Curriculum from SAVVAS. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Travis Thimesch, seconded Jason Osner, to adjourn the meeting at 10:08 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.



Kingman Historic Theatre
237 N. Main in Kingman
(620) 532-1253
<http://www.kingmantheatre.org/>

All Seats are \$3.00 (cash or local check only)

Showtimes:
Friday at 7:30
Sunday at 5:30

December 20 -22
Mufasa: The Lion King
Rated PG

Thank YOU for supporting YOUR Kingman Historic Theatre.

All Things Going Awry!

In 2017 we were traveling with my family from Mombasa to our home village in Kitui on Christmas eve. I hit a pothole and experienced two rim bents. (If you are wondering about speeds I was doing between 100-

Christmas. Imagine! Just imagine all that could go wrong, ruining your well-planned Christmas. Imagine queuing or lining up to get your favorite meal and drink, then, as you place your order, the cashier says, "Sorry, it is not available."

Imagine driving maybe an hour or two for an

your Mom or grandparents, then your car fails you! Imagine Kansas Weather doing Kansas things! A snowstorm hits us, and we experience a power outage! Just imagine! And more to it, that family having their loved one in the hospital! Imagine that family which is going to be without their loved one for the first time this season. Imagine catching a stomach bug or flu that morning.

I know it must feel pessimistic to have these kinds of imaginations, but you know we shouldn't

brush these imaginations away or term them as wishful. Acknowledging these is part of what makes us truly human, and could happen to anyone of us. The message of Christmas is God becoming truly human, like us, coming into our world, to experience every kind of emotion with us.

Across the world, Christmas has often been painted as a time of joy, but it can also be a poignant reminder of challenges and realities that we have faced throughout the year.

Fortunately, Scripture

offers both validation of our struggles and the assurance of God's comfort and hope. We all, as we have seen through our imaginations, are potentially able to experience things going wrong this season. Aware of this, I am writing to invite you to come and join us during our Blue Christmas service on the 21st from 7:00 pm at the Cunningham UMC, where we will create a safe space to acknowledge and process grief, sadness, and pain that some have already gone through, and perhaps oth-

ers may experience during the holiday season, and better still while at it discover the uplifting power of faith.

The LORD is close to the brokenhearted; he saves those whose spirits are crushed. (Psalm 34:18 CEB).

Pastor Mathew Musyoki

Cunningham and Penalosa United Methodist Churches, Kansas



Nashville - St John Lutheran Church
Holiday Schedule
Children's Christmas Program - Sunday, Dec 22, 7:00 pm
Christmas Eve Service - Tuesday, Dec 24, 5:00 pm
New Year's Eve Service - Tuesday, Dec 31, 6:00 pm



Blue Christmas/Longest Night Service December 21st

The people of Penalosa and Cunningham United Methodist Churches invite you to a "Blue Christmas" or Longest Night Service of Remembrance and Hope on Sat., Dec. 21st, at 7:00 p.m. The service will be held at Cunningham UMC. Any sampling of Christmas songs tells you that "It's the most wonderful time of the year," full of joy, happiness, and cheer. But, what if you're not feeling it this year? For many, the season is one of pain, loss, and sadness. Perhaps you're feeling something in between.

Please join us as we share scripture, prayer, music, and candlelight. We'll remember those who aren't with us this Christmas. We'll share hope. Come as you are.

Happy Birthday, Baby Jesus

By Hannah Gaudette

We changed schools four times - in two years. When my mom was satisfied that her ex-boyfriend, Jody, couldn't find us, she said we'd settle down.

Up and down the east coast we went, until Mom finally went to court and changed her name. Then she packed me and my brother up one more time, and settled us into a little town in West Virginia. When we rode her rattling pick-up through endless acres of farmland, I couldn't catch the name of the town - their paint-chipped sign had fallen over.

My little brother whis-

pered in my ear that night in the dirty motel, "I don't like it here."

Tommy only talked to me. He'd started talking late, and Jody poked fun at him for stuttering, so he stopped speaking. He didn't stutter anymore. Maybe that was because he only whispered.

In our new home - a one-story cereal box of a rental - Mom said she was determined to get help for Tommy.

"He doesn't need it," I told her angrily. "He talks."

Mom shook her head. "He doesn't talk, Beth." "He talks to me."

I don't think she was listening to her eleven-year-old, much less her seven-year-old when he whispered in my ear, "I

don't want to go to the doctor."

I tried to talk Mom out of it, but she brushed me off. Doctor told her Tommy was mentally disturbed. Not just because he didn't talk, but because he started whining and panicking in the clinic.

That night, he whispered, "I want to talk to God."

I didn't know what he meant. He wouldn't explain.

Mom made us start school in the middle of school year. I thought maybe since Christmas was coming, the kids would be nicer to Tommy. But they weren't. Neither were the teachers. They'd call on him with questions, then send him to the principal when

he wouldn't answer.

Two big boys started picking on him. When I caught them trying to stuff Tommy in his locker, I laid them out flat in ten seconds.

Then I got sent to the principal. And suspended for two days.

Mom took Tommy to a psychologist. She had to drive over an hour to find one, since there was no such thing in our sleepy little town. I don't know what the shrink told her about Tommy, but she came home in tears, and my little brother stopped talking.

Stopped whispering.

Wouldn't say a word. I spent every evening begging Tommy to say something. Then cried myself to sleep. I raged at Mom for doing this to him. But I knew it was Jody who did this to him. And every other bully who'd judged him.

I longed to hear my brother's whisper, his tiny voice that assured

me I wasn't alone in the world - I had him. And he had me.

Christmas crept up on us, the uselessly sentimental holiday finding us without a tree, without presents, without money.

Mom said the town church was putting on a Christmas Eve dinner. Free food. She bundled us up and we headed over there - on foot, because the truck had finally given up.

My stomach churned at the sight of the crowds piling into the little white building. I turned, expecting to see Tommy ready to bolt.

Instead, his blue eyes were locked on the nativity scene. Plastic figures, leaning over and poorly lit, had captivated his attention. He strayed away from Mom and me, his course set on the manger.

I followed him. "Tommy? What are you doing?"

He stopped next to the weathered, plastic Baby

Jesus, and knelt down, reaching his mittened hand to touch the doll's hand.

Words - words - spoken as clear as the night air came out of Tommy's mouth. "Happy birthday, Baby Jesus."

The breath abandoned my lungs. Mom grabbed my shoulder, shock morphing her expression.

We stood in frozen, teary awe in front of the church, and I recalled my brother's cryptic whisper, "I want to talk to God."

In a moment, Tommy returned to us, a small smile on his lips. "I like it here."

In the weeks that followed, the church became his safe place. For a while, he would only speak inside the building or in the driveway. Gradually, he felt safe to use his voice everywhere.

Tommy told me later he'd started talking because, no matter who had judged him in his young life, God wouldn't.

God wouldn't judge him.



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.

Free Groceries at the Cunningham Methodist Church
2 to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays

Holiday Hours:
December 24: 1:00 - 3:00
December 31: 1:00 - 3:00

Catholic Churches

Sacred Heart, Cunningham
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

St. John, Zenda
Saturday 5:30 p.m.

St. Leo
Saturday 4:00 p.m.

St. Peter Willowdale
Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Father Daryl Befort 316-706-1627 620-246-5370



Lutheran Churches

St. John, Nashville
620-246-5220
Sunday School & Bible Class 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Trinity, Medicine Lodge
620-886-3397
Sunday School & Bible Class 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service 8:30 a.m.

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.
Pastor Mathew Ndambuki Musyoki 620-298-2090

Cunningham
Worship 10:45 a.m.



Zenda Methodist Church

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

Pastor J L Nichols 620-243-6953

YEARS AGO IN
The Cunningham Clipper
W. A. Bradley / William Bradley

1929

Dec. 13, 1929 - A meeting of Cunningham business men and progressive citizens of the community was held in the Director's Room at the First National Bank, Monday, where it was decided to hold a Cunningham Community Christmas Program this year for the first time.

Committees were chosen to plan the program. William Cooley is Chairman of the program. Members of the sacking committee are Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Leiter, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne DeLair, Henry Gibbens, Dr. D. E. Thompson, Wiley Doty, Leo Zrubek, Albert Sterneker, and Rev. and Mrs. Olin Boyd. Purchasing Committee members are Wiley Doty and Henry Pelzl. Frank Doty and Charles Lakin are members of the Lighting Committee, and Charles Franks is in charge of the Traffic Committee. Tree Committee members are Wiley Doty, John Shelman, and Albert Sterneker.

Rev. John Groom, Rev. John Debes, and Rev. Boyd are members on the Entertainment Committee, and members of the Sick Committee are Charles Cooley, John Laff, and Mason Wetherall. Members of the Financial Committee are John Shelman, William Cooley, Henry Pelzl, and Tom Millsap. Saturday, December 24, has been chosen for the date of this first big Christmas celebration by the Cunningham community, so let's all attend and make it a swell day.

1934

Dec. 14, 1934 - A group of men arrived here this week from the Santa Fe Railroad's Water Department at Wellington, and have begun tearing down the old steel water tank near the railroad depot. The big tank was erected here when the railroad was first built through Cunningham in 1889, and was certainly an old landmark. The big windmill, used to fill the tank, was taken down a year or so ago.

1939

Dec. 15, 1939 - The fifth well to be drilled on the Elbert Maxedon farm, northwest of town, came in this week. It has been given a potential of 460 barrels of oil per day.

1949

Dec. 16, 1949 - Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stark announce the birth of a son, Tuesday, December 13.

Christmas lights across the streets were installed this week, and a Christmas tree from the Loren Cooley farm was re-planted in front of the City Building and decorated with lights. Quite a history is connected with this evergreen tree which will commemorate the memory of the late William Cooley, who instigated the first Cunningham Community Christmas Program about twenty-five years ago, and which has been an annual affair ever since that time.

Mr. Cooley brought an evergreen tree to this community from his boyhood home in Ohio. It was only a few inches long, and he carried it in his suitcase. The sapling was planted on his farm northeast of town, where it has continued to thrive and grow into the beautiful tree that it is now.

1954

Dec. 16, 1954 - Several Christmas programs during the next week will herald the approaching holiday season. Thursday (tonight) evening, the High School Mixed Chorus, under the direction of Music Supervisor Frank Moses, will present a Christmas Program in the High School Auditorium, starting at eight o'clock.

The First Baptist Church's Children's Department will present a Christmas program at the church Sunday evening at seven-thirty o'clock.

And, on Sunday evening at seven-thirty o'clock, the combined choirs of the Christian and Methodist churches will present the Christmas Cantata,

"The Christmas Vision," at the latter church... Mrs. W. F. Ramsdale will direct the cantata, and Jeanne Seacat will be the accompanist. The Christian Church will present their Christmas Program next Wednesday evening at seven-thirty o'clock in the church. The program, under the direction of Mrs. Roy Greenlee, will consist of two parts - the first part, a Nativity, will be presented by the older children. Soloists will be Donna Renner, Norma Rose, La Dean Cooley, Lin Lewis, and Kay Wilson, and a trio selection by Ricky Rathbun, Larry Shaffer, and Donald Hoagland. The second portion of the program will be Santa's Work Shop, given by the little folks. Soloists will be David Amick, Sue Graves, Marlene Cooley, and Mary Ann Crosley. You are cordially invited to attend.

1959

Dec. 17, 1959 - Santa Claus lost his pants during the parade on Santa Claus Day here last Saturday. Oh, I didn't mean the real Santa, of course, but Margene Millsap's dog Santa Claus, which wiggled his way out of the pants to his Santa Claus suit right in front of the judge's stand. "Dog Santa" was quickly made presentable again and trotted on his way.

The Cunningham Wildcats lost their second game in a row last Friday night, dropping a 52-36 decision to the Greensburg Rangers in the local gym.

Bobby Meyers with 12 points and Duane Wegerer with 11 paced the Wildcat scoring attack.

The Cunningham Rural High School Choir, under the direction of Music Supervisor Ronald Burgess, will present the Christmas Cantata, "Good Tidings of Joy," by Forest G. Walter, Sunday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock in the high school gym.

The choir is composed of 52 selected members this year. Soloists in the cantata are Sopranos Sherry Baber, LaDean Cooley, and Karen Theis; Altos Retha Archibald, Elaine Sallee, and Karen Wilson; Tenors Marvin Ewing; Basses Larry Huslig, and Keith Shelman. Mary Leiter is the choir accompanist.

1964

Dec. 17, 1964 - A large crowd gave Santa Claus a royal welcome last Saturday afternoon when he made his annual visit to Cunningham. The parade, as nice a one as ever, was hampered by the chilly windy weather which shortened the entry list. Despite the weather conditions, the parade drew 35 entries, not including five floats which carried 25 participants. A sixth float, constructed by the High School Kayette Club, didn't make the parade as the gusty wind blew the float apart as it was being pulled from the high school vocational building to be lined up in the parade.

Aboard the winning float, entered by the Cunningham 4-H Club, were Mike Oller, George Kampling, George Hageman, Kathy McCune, Sheryl Dunn, and Gary Sterneker. On the CYO float, in second place, were Richard Bridges, Billy Ogden, Gail Hageman, Vicki Spade, Suzy Lindemann, and Mike Spade. Aboard the grade school float, which placed third, were Curtis Shelman, Debby Crick, Karen Chase, Johnny Huffman, Steven Long, Scotty Elliott, Greg DeWeese, and John Steffen.

On the Christian float were Agnes Cunningham, Iva Dyche, George Gridley, Sophia Gridley, and Lowell Gridley. No one was on the Methodist Church float, and Shirley Lubbers and Shirley Nieces were to have been aboard the ill-fated Kayette Club float.

The Cunningham Wildcats chalked up Wins No. 3 and 4 against no losses during the past week with easy victories over Fairfield, 78 to 48, and Preston, 66 to 47...Offensive "gun" for Cunningham was Gerry Schnittker, who canned 22 points - 10 of them free throws. Elmer Adelhardt scored 17 points, and Jim Cain came up with 14. In Tuesday night's game here against Preston, the Wildcats didn't begin to pull away until they caught their "third quarter breath."

Cunningham could improve their 15-8 first quarter lead by only 2 points at half-time, 29-20, but ripped off a 20-point splurge during the third quarter while Preston could muster only 8 points to virtually "ice" away the game.

Gerry Schnittker paced the Cunningham scoring with 25 points; Jim Cain racked up 16 points, 10 of them counting during the "Big" third quarter, and Ronald Murphey came up with 12 points.

PFC John Alley received his honorable discharge from the United States Army, Nov. 27, at New York City. He had been stationed at Fishbach, Germany. He returned last week to the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Alley.

1969

Dec. 18, 1969 - Take a beautiful December day, add a fine parade and program, sack up a good treat of candy and peanuts, embellish with Santa Claus, and invite a large crowd of people, and you have one of the best Cunningham Santa Claus Days in its 41-year-old history.

That's just what happened at Cunningham's 41st annual Santa Claus Day last Saturday. We had a beautiful day. First Lieut. Randy Sheldon and Second Lieut. Charles Dafforn left Travis Air Force Base, Calif., Monday for Saigon and Army duty in Vietnam. The boys were on the same flight but are assigned to different units.

The Cunningham High School Choral Department, under the direction of Miss Joyce Rogers, will present the program, "Joy and Meaning of Christmas," in the school gymnasium this evening (Thursday) at 7:30 o'clock.

Last Friday night the Cunningham Wildcats dropped a 43-36 decision to the Eagles at Norwich... Eddie Panek paced the Cunningham scoring with 13 points; Marvin Oller had 4; Mike Cunningham 7; Mike Schrant 9; Gene Albers 1; and Curtis Kitson, 2.

In Tuesday night's game at Isabel, the Wildcats got off to a bad start, with only three points in the first period as the Vikings put in 14. Schrant led the Wildcat scoring with 12 points; Panek had 4; Albers 9; Cunningham 11; and Kitson and Oller 4 apiece. Isabel won the game 56-44.

The Nashville-Zenda Thunderbirds lost to the Tornados by a 57-52 score in a game played at Hardtner last Friday night. Randy Goetz recorded his third straight over-20-points game as he paced the N-Z scoring with 26; Eddie Vierthaler had 10; Steve Adelhardt 13; Steve Goetz 1, and Mark Danahy 2.

In the "Battle of the T-Birds" at Pratt Tuesday night, Skyline edged Nashville-Zenda, 67-60. With the score 63-60 with 20 seconds to play, Skyline put the game away with four free throws. Randy Goetz continued his over-20-points scoring for the fourth straight game with 24; Adelhardt had 13; Vierthaler 12; Steve Hensiek 6; and Danahy 5.

YEARS AGO IN
The Cunningham Clipper
Publisher: Charles G. Barnes
Editor: Rex Zimmerman
Reporter: Marie Ann Mantooth

1974

December 19, 1974 -- Bob and Marge Sterneker of rural Cunningham returned home this week from Hawaii, where they have enjoying an all-expense paid vacation for winning a contest sponsored by DeKalb Seed Company for their dealers. The Sternekers reported that they enjoyed the trip very much.

Despite the cloudy cold weather, Santa Claus Day on Saturday, December 14, was well attended. Everyone enjoyed the various activities. Marvin Cox of Kingman was Master of Ceremonies.

Senior Citizens that red in various cars in the parade were Amy McClellan, Flora Patton, Anna Steffen, Inez Lash, Ori Anderson (from Pratt) Myrtle Dostal, Roy Dafforn, Alvia Johnson, Jon and Dora Schnittker, M. and Mrs. Bob Underwood, Anna Ebenkamp, Glen and Esther Cooley. Also asked to ride in the parade but unable to do so because of illness or other reasons were Mrs. Alice Fischer, Ed Miller, and Hap Skusa.

Veterans participating in the honor guard were Jack Crick, Dennis Raney, Ernest Bishop, A. G. Ross, and Mike Scripsick.

YEARS AGO IN
The Cunningham Clipper
Publisher: Charles G. Barnes
Editor: Scott Newton
Reporter: Florine Kampling

1979

December 20, 1979 - Over twenty-three years ago the Cunningham Community Club was disbanded and the Lions Club fomed. Since that time one of the big events of each year has been is Christmas party for their wives.

Decked out in their best, the club entertains in an interesting place each year. This year was no exception as all but three members met at the Lynn FitzSimmons country home.

The highlight of the evening was the appearance of Leo Zrubek dressed as Santa Claus. For the three charter members he as found colorful tee shirst. Receiving them were Jeff Dafforn, Evan Thornhill and Jack Meyers.

Peggy and Kevin Halderson, Cunningham, announce the arrival of a son, Bjorn Oliver. He was born December 13, weighing 8lbs 4 oz.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Roy Halderson and Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Cain.

Great grandparents are Mr. Elmer Halderson, R. H.H. Wyer, and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wetherall.

1984

December 20, 1984 - Ed Park, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Park of Cunningham, enlisted in the Air Force's Delayed Enlistment Program today, according to Sargeant James Gillam, Air Force Recruiter in Wichita.

Edwin will graduate from Cunningham High School in 1985. Upon graduation from the Air Force's six week basic training course near San Antonio, Texas, he is scheduled to receive technical training schools.

Additional winners of gift certificates included in treat sacks at the Christmas parade were Jason Osner, a jar of hand cream, courtesy of Debbie Beat, Mary Kay consultant; Chrisite Kerschen, a carton of bulbs from B. & H. Electric; Bob Kerschen ne hour of free labor at Steve's Shop; Christmas Norrish, five dollars worth of gas from Thornhill's Kerr-McGee Station and Jason Zimmerman a bible from the Ladies Auxiliary and members of Carter-Luce American Legion Post.

The first fall semester commencement program to be printed at Kansas State University in 25 years lists names of 1, 041 students who expect to complete requirements for degrees in December. Individuals listed in the program by county and home town are Christopher Meyers, P.O. Box 145, Cunningham, Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering; Robert W. Fischer, Nashville, Bachelor of Science in Agriculture; and Moira A. Vanlandingham, Spivey, Bachelor of Science in Agriculture.

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JH Wildcats Whops Norwich Eagles

The Norwich vs Cunningham rivalry is a long and exciting one. There have been many close games throughout the years. There have also been many tournament championships on the line in quite a few. Last week's matchup was not one of those games. The Wildcats had to tap the brakes in the first quarter as they were on the verge of running up the score early. They scored a whopping 18 points in a quarter. As a result they pulled off the press early and walked the ball up the court for over three quarters.

We worked on passing for the perfect shot and played 13 guys in 3

or 4 quarters. The boys handled it well and shifted goals. Eleven different Cats scored as they shared and sometimes overshaded the ball on offense. Despite being in a packed-in zone, the defense was too much for the visiting Eagles to get anything going. The Junior High Boys are now 5-0 on the season.

Brody Halderson led the team in rebounds with 4. Liam followed with 3. Liam led the team in steals with 5. Landon Green and Carson Strohl both had 2. Six different Cats had one assist each. We had more assists than turnovers!

By Coach McGuire

Wildcat Scorers

Liam McGuire	12
Carson Strohl	6
Brody Halderson	6
Colton Rohlman	6
Caden Johnson	4
Casyn Miller	2
Grady Smyth	2
Landon Green	2
Cooper Neufeld	2
Landen Hageman	2
John Paul Kerschen	2



Score	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Cunningham	18	8	8	12	46
Norwich	2	6	0	2	10

Jr. High Girls Fall to Norwich

On Thursday, December 12, 2024 the Cunningham Jr. High Lady Wildcats played host to the Norwich Lady Eagles in Heart of the Plains action and came up short in 10-19 lost.

The Lady Cats trailed 6-9 at the half but Norwich was able to outscore them 8-2 in the third quarter to take a 17-8 lead.

Norwich and Cunningham each scored 2 points in the fourth to bring the final score to 10-19. On a night when the defense played pretty well, the shots were just

not falling.

The loss dropped the Lady Cats record to 3-2 on the season 0-2 in the HOPL. Scoring for the A-team Lady Cats: Sage Thimesch 2, Mackley Glenn 1, Alyssa Osner 3, Leah Rogers 4. The B-teamers were unable to make baskets as well as the would fall 8-24. Leah Rogers scored all 8 points for the B-team.

-Coach Bart Ricke



USD 332 Staff Spotlight: Anthony Mills and Rebeca Kraft, Classified Staff

STAFF SPOTLIGHT
Anthony Mills

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT USD 332?
"Teaching the students."

ABOUT ME

experience: 2

family: N/A

pets: None

hobbies: Read, Draw

FAVORITES

food: Salad

place: not sure

book: The Bible

subject: English

STAFF SPOTLIGHT
Rebeca Kraft

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT USD 332?
"I enjoy working with the kids in the community where I live."

ABOUT ME

experience: 7 years

family: Tyler, Tyson

pets: Daisy, B.C

hobbies: Being w/ family/Going to lake

FAVORITES

food: Sushi

place: Home

book: Lonesome Dove

subject: Art

submitted by Cody Dunlap

True Blue® KSHSAA Scholarship Application Process

For the fourth year, the KSHSAA and Capitol Federal Foundation® will award True Blue Scholarships intended to support Kansas High School graduates in postsecondary efforts. This one-time scholarship is for students graduating during the 2024-25 school year. These funds will be made payable to a two-year or four-year accredited college, university or technical school in the name of the selected student. Awards are non-renewable, one-time scholarships in the amount of \$2,000 provided for a student in each activity administered by the KSHSAA. You may contact the KSHSAA at kshsaa@kshsaa.org or 785-273-5329 with any questions.

Eligibility

Students must be seniors attending and graduating from a member school of the Kansas State High School Activities Association during the 2024-25 school year and have rostered in the chosen activity their senior year. They must be considered as students in good standing as confirmed by their building principal. Students must enroll and attend a post-secondary institution of their choice as a full-time student within two years of graduation. Applicants must be in their final semester of high school. If you are a Division I bound athlete, please check with your institution about eligibility for this scholarship before applying.

Selection Criteria

The student will be selected based upon an assessment of the following components:

Community Service (30%)

- Length of service in school
- Length of service in the community
- Variety of service in school
- Variety of service in community

Academic achievement (30%)

- Cumulative GPA through 7 semesters
- Standardized test scores
- Academic awards from school or others
- College Prep/Honors level classes

Breadth of school activity participation (20%)

- Number of full seasons/years in each activity
- Number of KSHSAA sponsored activities
- Number of other school sponsored activities

Activity achievement (20%)

- Varsity level participation
- Varsity letters earned
- All-league honors
- All-state honors

Application Process

All components of the application must be submitted digitally by 11:00 p.m. on March 3, 2025. Failure to complete submission by designated deadline will make the student ineligible for the scholarship.

Scholarships will be awarded in categories noted online. Even though the student may participate in multiple activities, they may only apply for one category award (one application per student).

category award (one application per student).

The student shall submit a scholarship application which reflects school activity participation; this component is reviewed by a school or district administrator.

The student shall complete an essay of no more than 500 words in response to the following prompt: "How participation in school activities has helped me become a better citizen."

The student shall submit one reference letter reflective of community service completed by the student during their high school career.

The student shall submit an official seven-semester high school transcript.

The student and parent shall provide appropriate release to the selection committee to review the application materials and to approve using the name and image in local and social media if the student is selected as a scholarship winner.

Applications may be submitted during the open application period of December 16, 2025, to March 3, 2025.

True Blue KSHSAA Scholarship Categories for all KSHSAA Activities

- 34 total scholarships, payable to post-secondary institution
- \$2,000 one-time award, non-renewable

Get the application on line at:
<https://www.kshsaa.org/General/ScholarshipInformation.cfm>

*"This is insanity!"
"No, this is scholarship!"
— Brandon Sanderson,
Words of Radiance*

*"All your scholarship would be in vain if at the same time you do not build your character and attain mastery over your thoughts and your actions."
— Mahatma Gandhi*

Cunningham Wildcats Win Falcon Classic



Back row: Assistant Coach Bart Ricke, Jack Harden, Blake Swope, Nate Sternker, Logan Kinsler, Brody Bock, Trent Schnittker, Coach Larry Eisenhauer
Front row: Stephen Kerschen, Kendall Rogers, Dagim Reed, Luke Albers, Will Wegerer



Coach Eisenhauer with his team.

Molly Morgan photos



Right: Luke Albers and Will Wegerer were selected All Tournament players



CHS Lady Wildcats at the Falcon Classic



Macy Neufeld



Morgan Oldham



Emily Ogg



Ava Bock

Molly Morgan photos



Grace Hageman



Rylee Miller



Kyra Morgan



Kingman County Sheriff's Report



Sunday, December 8

Traffic Stops	6
Civil Paper Service	1
Traffic Complaint	16000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
Disabled Vehicle	13000 Blk W Hwy 54, Cunningham
Disabled Vehicle	13000 E Hwy 42, Norwich
Non-Injury Accident	8000 Blk SE 20 St, Murdock
Traffic Complaint	1000 Blk W Burns Ave, Norwich
Miscellaneous	120 N Spruce St, Kingman
Miscellaneous	13000 Blk SE 40 Ave, Rago
Miscellaneous	1200 Blk SW 90 St, Kingman

Monday, December 9

Traffic Stops	12
Civil Paper Service	2
Animal Complaint	800 Blk N Chariton St, Kingman
Unlock Vehicle	1300 E D Ave, Kingman
Transport Prisoner Court	130 N Spruce St, Kingman
Animal Complaint	11000 Blk NE 10 St, Murdock
Damage to Property	3100 Blk SE 70 St, Kingman
Disabled Vehicle	1600 Blk S Main St, Kingman
Miscellaneous	4300 Blk E Hwy 42, Rago
Domestic	300 Blk W C Ave, Kingman
Miscellaneous	100 Blk W A Ave, Kingman
Non-Injury Accident	9000 Blk W Hwy 54, Cunningham

Tuesday, December 10

Damage to Property	3100 Blk SE 140 Ave, Cheney
Traffic Complaint	1000 Blk W D Ave, Kingman
Suspicious Activity	11000 Blk W Hwy 54, Cunningham
Animal Complaint	SW 140 T & SW 180 Ave, Nashville
Check Welfare	300 Blk W C Ave, Kingman
Medical	200 Blk W Washington Ave, Kingman
911 Accidental Dial	1000 Blk W Copeland Ave, Kingman
Miscellaneous	300 Blk E A Ave, Kingman

Wednesday, December 11

Traffic Stops	4
Traffic Complaint	N Spruce St & E D Ave, Kingman

Transport Inmate	120 N Spruce St, Kingman
Animal Complaint	W Hwy 42 & SW 190 Ave, Nashville
Alarm	30 SE 160 Ave, Cheney
Follow Up	3100 Blk SE 140 Ave, Cheney
Miscellaneous	120 N Spruce St, Kingman
Harassment	100 Blk E 3rd St, Cunningham
Animal Complaint	7500 Blk SW 10 Ave, Kingman
Disabled Vehicle	SW 20 St & SW 170 Ave, Cunningham
Miscellaneous	17000 Blk NW 40 St, Cunningham
Traffic Complaint	N Berry Ave & NE 60 St, Kingman
Medical	15000 Blk NE 50 St, Cheney

Thursday, December 12

Traffic Stop	1
Theft	7500 Blk SW 10 Ave, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	10000 W Hwy 54, Cunningham

Friday, December 13

Non-Injury Accident	E Hwy 42 & SE 80 Ave, Rago
Miscellaneous	200 Blk S Main St, Kingman
911 Accidental Dial	SW 40 St & SW 90 Ave, Kingman
911 Accidental Dial	100 Blk N Henderson St, Cunningham
Traffic Complaint	13000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
Theft	800 Blk E A Ave, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	NE 10 St & NE 120 Ave, Murdock
Traffic Complaint	NE 50 St & NE 150 Ave, Cheney
Traffic Complaint	1000 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman
Follow Up	500 Blk W H Ave, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	200 Blk E Don Lock Dr, Kingman
Disturbance	1800 Blk N Sidney St, Kingman

Saturday, December 15

Traffic Stops	5
Civil Paper Service	2
Miscellaneous	120 N Spruce St, Kingman
Follow Up	400 Blk W Kansas Ave, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	12000 E Hwy 54, Cheney
Miscellaneous	600 Blk W C Ave, Kingman
Non-Injury Accident	3400 Blk NW 110 Ave, Cunningham



Eligibility for Social Security Spouse's Benefits

Social Security helps you secure today and tomorrow with financial benefits, information, and tools that support you through life's journey. If you don't have enough Social Security credits to get benefits on your own record, you may be able to receive benefits as a spouse. Your spouse must be receiving benefits for you to get benefits

on their record. If your spouse does not receive retirement or disability, you'll have to wait to apply on your spouse's record.

In addition, to be eligible for spouse's benefits, you must be one of the following:

- 62 years of age or older.
- Any age if you have a child who is younger than 16 in your care or has a disability and is entitled to benefits on your spouse's record.

If you wait until you reach full retirement age to receive benefits, you'll receive your full spouse's benefit amount, which is up to one-half the amount

your spouse receives. You'll also get your full spouse's benefit if you are under full retirement age, but care for a child and one of the following applies:

- The child is younger than age 16.
- The child has a disability and is entitled to benefits on your spouse's record.

If you receive retirement on your own record, we will pay that amount first. If your benefits as a spouse are higher than your own benefit, you will get a combination of benefits that equals the higher spouse's benefit.

Consider this example: Sandy is eligible

for a monthly retirement benefit of \$1,000 and a spouse's benefit of \$1,250. If she waits for Social Security until her full retirement age, she will receive her own \$1,000 retirement benefit. We will add \$250 from her spouse's benefit, for a total of \$1,250 a month. Sandy only gets an additional spouse's benefit because her own benefit is less than half her spouse's full retirement age benefit.

Want to apply for either your retirement or your spouse's benefits or both? Are you at least 61 years and 9 months old? If you answer yes to both, visit www.ssa.gov/

benefits/retirement to get started today.

Are you divorced from a marriage that lasted at least 10 years? You may be able to get

benefits on your former spouse's record. For more information, please visit our website at www.ssa.gov/planners/retire/div-spouse.html.

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									4
			2	5					1
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3									

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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.

News Breaks: One-liners by Charles Keller

A new burlesque theater just opened, and one of the girls says she learned to imitate a stripper by doing a take-off.

A mini-sized tape recorder is being sold to people who like small-talk.

A new eye hospital opened and it was a site for sore eyes.

Statepoint Crossword Theme: At the Restaurant

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13					14			15				
16					17			18				
	19				20			21	22			
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35			36					38		39		
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57	58	59	60					61		62	63	
64					65	66		67				68
69								70		71		
72								73		74		

ACROSS

- Bet's predecessor
- Ogre-like creature
- Attorney's bargain
- Old but in
- *Restaurant waiting area?
- Located near crannies?
- List of Catholic saints
- Down Under runner
- White heron
- *___ meal, or staff meal
- *Meat and fish, in Italian restaurant
- Singer/songwriter Yoko
- *What appetizers do to appetite
- *Deuce
- Like a reliable move
- Not a desktop
- "My bad!"
- Painter Chagall
- Beyond suburban
- Wisecrack
- *Nigiri, e.g.
- *Middle Eastern bread
- Of an arm bone
- That time
- Let it stand, to proofreader
- Swellings
- Chancy
- Between E and NE
- Stomach reflex
- *Fish eggs
- *Second C in CDC
- *___ d'hotel
- Not mainstream, as in art
- "To His ___ Mistress"

- Bracelet add-on
- Covers with gold
- Stiff grass bristle
- Irving of Dallas Mavericks
- Eyelid affliction
- Fairytale princess test
- Winter driving hazard
- DOWN
- Curved one
- Table extender
- Sicilian erupter
- Movie trailer, e.g.
- Perfecting, as in skill
- Toe the line
- Popular pickup
- Puppy love
- Jumping stick
- Forsaken
- Barely got by
- Spumante-producing town
- Greek god's libation
- Rumpelstiltskin's machine, pl.
- *Freshwater staple in sushi restaurant
- Idolize
- *Chef's hat
- Modified "will"
- Offer two cents
- Drawn tight
- Baby porcupines
- Commonplace
- Like Cheerios
- *Blue-___ special
- Unsubscriber's focus
- *___ de partie, or line cook
- ___ structure or ___ red

- Cujo's disease
- Ray shooter
- Foxhunter's call to hounds
- Short version
- C2H5
- Marlboros or Camels, slangily
- Army group
- Lazily
- *Complimentary dish
- Asian starling
- *Steak choice
- Great Lake
- Be in the red
- Were introduced

2	5	4	9	7	8	1	6	3
9	3	7	6	1	4	5	8	2
6	8	1	2	3	5	4	9	7
8	2	6	7	9	3	1	4	
3	1	9	4	2	6	7	5	8
7	4	5	1	8	3	9	2	6
5	9	3	8	6	7	2	4	1
1	7	8	5	4	2	6	3	9
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Letters TO THE Editor

Letter to the Editor,

Cunningham, you have something to be proud about. You have a new school building, a couple of new businesses, a yummy pizza cafe and an excellent

newspaper. It also looks like one new business and possibly a second are on the horizon.

Now comes the hard part. Keeping them!

When we lived near St. Leo, we bought most of our groceries from the St. Leo store. Wally Ford told Alan that we were one of about 6 families who regularly bought groceries from them.

When we moved to Cunningham 20 years ago, we bought our groceries from the grocery store here in town. We were told by the manager that we were one of a few families that bought our groceries here.

My point is that if we don't frequent our local businesses we will lose them. Cunningham is one of a few small towns

in Kansas that still have many local businesses and families that make a living from them.

Our school and pizza cafe are well supported by Cunningham residents. How about considering getting a haircut at the Chop Shop? Instead of driving to Pratt and Dillons or to Kingman, buy your flowers and gifts at the Rusty Rose

where you have personalized service and very unique arrangements and gifts.

Subscribe to our local newspaper or purchase gift certificates from any of these businesses and give to friends or family. Soon we will have a new coffee shop. It will need the same support. I know there are other businesses that I haven't mentioned

that also need this same support.

Let's not repeat our history and see our community businesses close because we want to save a few dollars driving 20 miles to do it. Help to save our community's businesses. It can be done with your support.

- Kathy Albers

Minutes from the Kingman County Commissioners Meeting

Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. December 9, 2024, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse. Present: Jerry Henning, Chairman; Jack Thimesch, Commissioner; Pat Elpers, Commissioner; Carol Noblit, County Clerk; Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor

Visitors: Bob Morris, Kingman Leader-Courier; Dale Enyart; Julie Lyon; Larry Landwehr and Tanner Yost, Kirkham Michael.

Online Visitors: Caller 01; User 1; User 2 and resident.

Staff: LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer; Amber Hartley, Appraiser; Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director; Tiffany Aumiller, Benefits Administrator and Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director

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

Chairman Henning would like to add an executive session for attorney-client privilege

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the agenda with the addition of an attorney-client privilege executive session. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote 3-0.

Chairman Henning asked if there was any public comment.

No comments were made.

LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer was in for evaluation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch made a motion to go into executive session at 8:36 a.m. with LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss an individual employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board Meeting room at 8:46 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was passed upon the unanimous vote of 3-0.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 8:46 a.m.

Amber Hartley, Appraiser was in for evaluation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Elpers made a motion to go into executive session at 8:48 a.m. with Amber Hartley, Appraiser and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss an individual employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board Meeting room at 8:58 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was passed upon the unanimous vote of 3-0.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 8:58 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch made a motion to go into executive session at 8:58 a.m. with Amber Hartley, Appraiser and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss an individual employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board Meeting room at 9:03 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was

passed upon the unanimous vote of 3-0.

Tiffany Aumiller, Benefits Administrator was in with a request for vacation payout for a sheriff's office employee. MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve vacation payout of 16 hours for a sheriff's office employee. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Ms. Aumiller submitted the payroll resolutions for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the pay matrix resolution for 2025-Resolution 2024-R16. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners 3-0.

Ms. Aumiller submitted Policy 11 for a wording clarification. MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the change of Policy 11 wording. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the Salary Resolution 2024-R17. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners 3-0.

Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director was in with an update.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch made a motion to go into executive session at 9:26 a.m. with Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss an individual employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return

to open session in the Board Meeting room at 9:36 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was passed upon the unanimous vote of 3-0.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:36 a.m.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk submitted the December 2, 2024, Commission meeting minutes for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve December 2, 2024, Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners 3-0.

Chairman Henning read correspondence from Kansas League of Municipalities for 2025 dues.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to not renew membership with the Kansas League of Municipalities for 2025. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners 3-0.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk submitted two Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses for Spike's Place. The licenses are for consumption on the premises and for sale in original unopened containers not on premises for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve a Cereal Malt Beverage License for Spikes Place for Consumption on the premises. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners 3-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve a Cereal Malt Beverage License for Spike's Place for sale in original unopened containers not on

premises. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners 3-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session to discuss pending administrative proceedings with Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 9:53 a.m. pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act for discussion of matters which would be deemed privileged under the attorney-client relationship, and will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:10 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners 3-0.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 10:10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session to discuss pending administrative proceedings with Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 10:10 a.m. pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act for discussion of matters which would be deemed privileged under the attorney-client relationship, and will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:20 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners 3-0.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 10:20 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session to discuss pending administrative proceedings with Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 10:20 a.m. pursuant to the exception under the Kansas

Open Meetings Act for discussion of matters which would be deemed privileged under the attorney-client relationship, and will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:25 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners 3-0.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 10:25 a.m. with no decision made.

Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director and Tanner Yost, Kirkham Michael were in with updates.

Chairman Henning discussed a CDL training company he talked with at the KAC Conference last week with Mr. Arensdorf.

Mr. Yost discussed that he talked with Oleg Alba last week and received a haul route map from him that he presented to the County Commissioners.

Mr. Yost let the Commissioners know that Mr. Alba is working on an action plan for the reconstruction.

Commissioners discussed the current haul routes with Mr. Arensdorf and Mr. Yost.

Mr. Arensdorf and Mr. Yost left the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to amend the original vacation payout for a Sheriff's office employee from 16 hours to 32 hours. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners 3-0.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:42 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners 3-0.

Minutes from the Pratt County Commission

The Pratt County commissioners met in regular session Monday, December 9, 2024, 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 con-

sultant, she gave an update on the Sawyer gas line project. The consultants have asked for more information for bidding.

She is assisting with the requests. She was asked by the city clerk at Preston to help with ARPA final reporting. She will also reach out to the city of Iuka. If anyone else needs assistance they can contact her. PADC is meeting Tuesday this week.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to recess into executive session at 2:04 p.m. for fifteen minutes to discuss non-elected personnel with Doug Freund, road/lake

in attendance.

Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones made a motion to return from executive session at 2:19 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Doug reported they are still mowing for snow control. He stated he is purchasing some rock for next year.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the minutes from December 2, 2024. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Clerk Voss presented two estimates for repairing the roof at the extension office. AR Roofing for \$18,350.00 and Melton Industries LLC for \$22,400.00. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the bid from AR Roofing for \$18,350 for the extension building roof repair to be paid out of capital improvement. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Cescha Hoffman, clerk's office, stated she would like to purchase two more FVT machines for voting. Commissioner Adams made a motion to

approve the purchase of two FVT's from Adkins election services for \$7,196.00. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the 3% raises for all employees in the sheriff's department to begin January 6, 2025. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Clerk Voss presented checks from RSVP for signatures.

Clerk Voss asked about New Year's Eve as a paid day off. Commissioner Adams made a motion to allow the employees off

for New Year's Eve with pay. Chairman Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Shriver reported on the lightning strike at the LEC. The cost of replacement was \$31,315.00. He will turn in to Strong's insurance.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the payment vouchers from December 9, 2024. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn at 2:54 p.m. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

KCHS Pets Ready for Adoption

Bella Beatrice

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Bella Beatrice is a Black Lab and Greyhound mix. She weighs about 45 pounds and is between 2 and 3 years old. She has been at the shelter since November 20 and would like to have a nice family for Christmas.

Bug

Sponsored by Baker Accounting



Little Bug is about 2 years old and is listed as "medium haired". She and her kittens have been at the shelter since August 30. She is now a kitten-less kitty with a sweet and gentle nature. This beautiful tuxedo cat does love to be petted. She'd be perfect for Christmas.

Her adoption fee is \$40.00.

"If you are a dog and your owner suggests that you wear a sweater, suggest that he wear a tail." — Fran Lebowitz



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

KCHS Donation Wish List

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



Please consider volunteering or adopting or fostering or donating to your local Animal Shelter.

New Governor's Office Website

~Information About the Kelly Administration

Can Now be Found at www.governor.ks.gov

TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly unveiled on Tuesday a new website that streamlines public access to information from the Governor's Office and highlights the Kelly administration's key priorities and achievements.

"By launching this new website, we're ensuring visitors can efficiently access the most thorough and up-to-date information," Governor Laura Kelly said. "I encourage Kansans to explore the modern site and take advantage of its features to learn more about my administration's priorities and

accomplishments."

The website has innovative features and increased information about the governor's first six years in office. The updated site streamlines access to information, allowing Kansans to quickly find the governor's policy priorities and other resources.

The homepage features an accomplishments section, showcasing statistics such as new child care slots created, committed economic development projects and capital investment into Kansas, and jobs created and retained during the Kelly administration.

While on the homepage, Kansans can also find the latest news from the Governor's Office. Contact information for executive branch agencies and the statewide flag status are available at the top of the homepage, just above a search bar.

From the navigation menu at the top, website visitors can now easily find contact information for the Governor's Office and frequently asked questions under the Contact tab. The Serving Kansans tab includes information about constituent services, the Office of Appointments, clemency and open records, and key priorities and accomplishments.

At the bottom of the homepage, Kansans will find links to Governor Kelly's social media accounts.

All information previously found on www.governor.kansas.gov can now be found at www.governor.ks.gov. To receive updates from the Governor's Office, subscribe here or by exploring the Stay Informed section on the website's homepage.

"The governor of Texas, who, when asked if the Bible should also be taught in Spanish, replied that 'if English was good enough for Jesus, then it's good enough for me'."
— Christopher Hitchens



Cozy's Pizza
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Cunningham,
KS 67035
620-298-7000

NEW Fall / Winter Hours
Mon., Tues., & Thurs. - 11:00 to 7:30
Friday and Saturday - 11:00 to 8:00
Closed Wednesday and Sunday



2025 CALENDAR

DECEMBER



Scan to pay

Help Us Make Every Day Count. Purchase our 2025 Shelter Animal Calendar & support our furry friends. Each month features a heartwarming rendition of one of our shelter pets. 100% of the proceeds will provide them with food, medical care and a safe haven

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Tax Preparation
Tax Planning
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www.baker-accounting.com
620-672-2502

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620-532-5821
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Kingman, KS 67068
620-532-3147

Rehab Services
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Kingman, KS 67068
620-532-0110

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

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Kingman Healthcare Center

Optometrists

Troy Maydew, OD
Seth Thibault, OD
Andrew W. Piester, OD
216 S. Oak
Pratt, Kansas 67124
620-672-5934
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. M - F
604 N. Walnut
Medicine Lodge, Kansas 67104
620-886-3222
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
Seth Thibault, OD
Andrew W. Piester, OD
104 West C Ave.
Kingman, KS 67068
620-532-3154
1-800-371-3154
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Friday

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see display ad on page 5

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Effective October 1, 2024: Ads are \$6.50 per column inch. Front page ads are \$11.00 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
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To reserve the
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Lauren (Murphy) Beat at
620-770-6054
murphylauren2001@gmail.com

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

Miscellaneous

STOP OVERPAYING FOR HEALTH INSURANCE! A recent study shows that a majority of people struggle to pay for health coverage. Let us show you how much you can save. Call Now for a no-obligation quote: 1-888-519-3376 You will need to have your zip code to connect to the right provider.

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CASH PAID FOR HIGH-END MEN'S SPORT WATCHES. Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. These brands only! Call for a quote: 1-866-481-0636.

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INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT? Don't Accept the insurance company's first offer. Many injured parties are entitled to cash settlements in the \$10,000's. Get a free evaluation to see what your case is really worth. 100% Free Evaluation. Call Now: 1-888-920-1883

AGING ROOF? NEW HOMEOWNER? STORM DAMAGE? You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-877-589-0093 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-877-586-6688. Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

NEED NEW WINDOWS? Drafty rooms? Chipped or damaged frames? Need outside noise reduction? New, energy efficient windows may be the answer! Call for a consultation & FREE quote today. 1-866-766-5558 You will need to have your zip code to connect to the right provider.

Help Wanted

The City of Turon is looking for a part-time or as needed sub-clerk, if interested please call 620-497-6443.

Closed for the Holiday

Beat Repair, LLC will be closing Monday, December 23rd thru Friday, December 27th to spend time with family for the Christmas Holiday! We will also be closed Wednesday January 1st for New Years!
We all at Beat Repair would like to thank all of our customers for their continued support and wish them a Happy and Safe Holiday Season!

Public Notice

First published in The Cunningham Courier on Thursday, December 19, 2024 (3t)

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS
LINDA BENNETT, Plaintiff,
vs.
2007 JEEP PATRIOT 4X4, VIN #1J8FF28W67D303843, ALIESHAHELM a/k/a ALIESHA SHEARY, and ANY AND ALL PERSONS OR ENTITIES WITH AN INTEREST IN OR TO THE ABOVE VEHICLE, and KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, Defendants.
Case No. KM 2024 CV 000022 (Petition 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 Linda Bennett praying for title to be quieted and given to the Plaintiff regarding a 2007 Jeep Patriot 4x4, VIN# 1J8FF28W67D303843.
You are hereby required to plead to said petition on or before January 29th,
2025, 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.
Linda Bennett, Petitioner
Matthew W. Ricke
Attorney at Law, LLC
349 N. Main, PO Box 113
Kingman, KS 67068
(620) 532-3103
Attorney for Plaintiff

Public Notice

First published in the Cunningham Courier, Thursday, December 5, 2024

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
ROBERT F. LEITER, Deceased.
Case No. 2024 PR 3
(Petition Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)
NOTICE OF HEARING
THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:
You are hereby notified that on November 25, 2024, a Petition was filed in this Court by Mary Leiter Swick, duly appointed, qualified and acting Executrix of the Estate of Robert F. Leiter, 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 Robert F. Leiter, deceased, and the Petitioner be released from further liability.
You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before December 23, 2024, 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.
Mary Leiter Swick, Executrix
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, December 19, 2024.

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
BRUCE TIMMONS, Deceased.
Case No. 2024 PR 14
(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 17, 2024, a Petition was filed in this Court by Dustin Goetz, duly appointed, qualified and acting Executor of the Estate of Bruce Timmons, deceased, praying Petitioner's acts be approved; account be settled and allowed; the heirs be determined; the Will be construed and the Estate be assigned to the persons entitled

thereto; the Court find the allowances requested for attorneys' fees and expenses are reasonable and should be allowed; the costs be determined and ordered paid; the administration of the Estate be closed; upon the filing of receipts the Petitioner be finally discharged as the Executor of the Estate of Bruce Timmons, deceased, and the Petitioner be released from further liability.
You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before January 7, 2025, 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.
Dustin Goetz, Executor
Matthew W. Ricke, #20995
ATTORNEY AT LAW, LLC
349 North Main, P. O. Box 113
Kingman, KS 67068
(620) 532-3103
Attorney for Petitioner

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The Courier on December 23rd
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Marvin Wilson

Marvin LeRoy Wilson, Jr., 88, died Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024 in Wichita, Kansas.

He was born Oct. 6, 1936, in Kingman, Kansas, the son of Marvin LeRoy, Sr. and Lyndal Mae Loomis Wilson. A longtime resident of Kingman County, with time spent in South Dakota and Colorado, he was a farmer and stockman.

On Aug. 9, 1959, LeRoy married Linda Valk at Cheney Methodist Church in Cheney, Kansas. Other survivors include son Chris; daughters Susan (Rick) Ruhmann and Betsy Ellen Wilson; brother Gary; sisters Dixie (Dean) Bibbes and Sondra Russell; grandchildren Zach and Colton Smarsh, Caitlin (Andrew) Ludwick, and Maci (Matt) Fraser; and great-grandsons Barrett, Bowen and Henry Ludwick.

LeRoy, a lifelong farmer, had a deep interest in the stock market, and enjoyed Western TV shows and movies.

Funeral services were Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2024, at Cheney Methodist Church. Burial was at Fairview Cemetery, Cheney.

Memorials may be made with Cheney Methodist Church in care of Livingston Funeral Home.

Services will be streamed on the Cheney Methodist Church Facebook Page.



Joe Bailey

Joseph D. Bailey, 49, died Dec. 6, 2024 in Harper County.

He was born Jan. 30, 1975 in Kingman the son Joel Bailey and Teresa Tatro. A lifetime resident of the community, he was a self-employed and independent contract oil pumper.

Shortly after his graduation from Kingman High School he started working for Mobile Drilling on a Pulling Unit. When he received his CDL he ran the water truck for Pickrell Drilling. Being a dedicated and hard working employee, he was not long before he was promoted to a production pumper for Pickrell. When the opportunity arrived, armed with the knowledge, respect and dependability he had gained is when he started his own contract pumping.

Joe had a great love for all sports, but NASCAR and football were his favorites as well as hockey later on. He was a great fan of 1990's rock music. In both music and sports he had a vast knowledge of statistics and who's who for teams and bands of old.

He was a member of the St. John Odd Fellows Lodge #539; and the Mizph Rebekas Lodge #102.

Joe is survived by parents Joel and Cindy Bailey, and Teresa Tatro; son Christopher Franz; grandparents Gilbert Beat and Judy Schonlau; sisters Victoria (Jeff) Gray, Bethany Bailey, Nichole (Sabin) Nease, Krista Mayfield; and brother Todd Mayfield. He was preceded in death by grandparents Lola Bailey, Rosalene Beat, Thomas Schonlau, George and Adelaide Tatro; and several aunts and uncles.

A graveside service will be 10:00 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 4, 2025 at Walnut Hill Cemetery with a memorial Mass of Christian Burial to be held at 11:00 a.m., at the St. Patrick Catholic Church, Kingman also on Jan. 4, 2025.

Memorials have been suggested to the Kingman County Humane Society.



Kelly McFall

St. Louis, Missouri - Kelly Wade McFall, 75, passed away Friday, December 13, 2024, at Dolan Memory Care. He was born on April 18, 1949, in Pratt, Kansas to Harold Edward and Kathleen (Boughner) McFall. Kelly married Pauline (Thiede) McFall on December 29, 1973, in South Milwaukee, Wisconsin. They were married for 50 years.

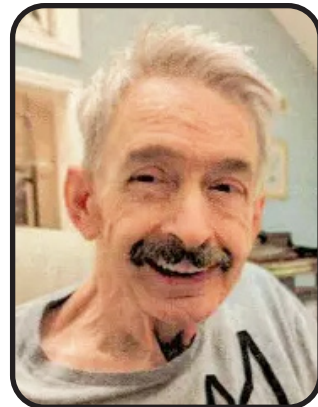
Kelly graduated from Coats/Sawyer High School. After graduation, Kelly attended Pratt Junior College and K-State before joining the United States Navy. Kelly later graduated from Wichita State University with a Bachelor Degree. He worked as an Electronic Engineer for Emerson Electric and had moved on to computer software and later in life worked for Six-Mile Regional Library in Granite City, Illinois.

He is survived by his wife, Pauline McFall; children, David (Jessica) McFall of St. Charles, Missouri, Duane (Sarah) McFall of St. Louis, Missouri and Theresa (Matt) Tooley of Louisburg, Kansas; grandchildren, Dakota, Aeris, James, Braden, Brice, Owen, Trey, Cole and Evan; brother, Alan McFall of Spring, Texas; sister, Janell Mead of Pratt, Kansas; son, Mark (Janice) Metaxas of San Francisco, California; brothers in-law, Tom, Davis, Richard and Leonard; sisters in-law, Patricia, Jackie, Sue, Kay, Gail and Roxanne; and other family members and friends.

Kelly is preceded in death by his parents; grandparents; parents in-law; aunts; uncles; brothers in-law, Steve, Bob and Don; and friends.

Funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, December 21, 2024 at Larrison Mortuary, Pratt, Kansas with Pastor Tim Bever presiding. Burial with military honors will follow at Ellenwood Cemetery, Sawyer, Kansas.

Memorials may be made to Parkinson's Association, Lewy Body Dementia Association or Dolan Memory Care - Schuetz House in care of Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt, Kansas 67124.



Cameron Stevenson

Cameron Eugene Stevenson, 97, passed away Sunday, December 15, 2024 at Kenwood Plaza in St. John. He was born on January 22, 1927 in Clay Center, Kansas to Edwin and Fannie (Dunn) Stevenson. Cameron married Norma (Fields) Stevenson on August 16, 1950 in Spring Valley, California. She preceded him in death on July 14, 2007.

Cameron joined the United States Army and served during World War II. He was previously a member of Elks. He enjoyed watching westerns and sports, specifically football.

He is survived by his son, Russell (Catherine) Stevenson of Derby; daughter in-law, Sheryl Stevenson of Pratt; grandchildren, Cameron (Courtney) Stevenson, Tyler (Ashley) Stevenson, Erin (Weston Schurz) Stevenson and Brittany (Corey) McGuire; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Cameron is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Norma; son, Jim Stevenson; granddaughter, Alisha Stevenson; and six siblings.

A Graveside service with military honors was held at 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, December 18, 2024, at Greenlawn Cemetery, Pratt.

Memorials may be made to Pratt Area Humane Society in care of Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt.



KDOT, KHP and KTA Stress the Impact of Impaired Driving During the Holidays

The holiday season often brings people together to celebrate. The Kansas Department of Transportation, Kansas Highway Patrol and Kansas Turnpike Authority remind all drivers to understand the impact of impaired driving during their celebrations.

Impaired driving is illegal and deadly. Last year from Dec. 19, 2023-Jan. 1, 2024, KDOT records indicate nine people died in Kansas crash-

es. Impairment including drugs and alcohol was involved in 19 crashes where 12 people were injured.

"We're reminded of the value of our relationships with others during each holiday season," said KDOT Transportation Secretary Calvin Reed. "Everyone should do their part to make sure they arrive at their holiday celebrations safely."

Drivers will see increased law enforcement presence on Kansas roads during the holiday season, as part of the national campaigns Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over and If you Feel Different, You Drive Different. Drive High, Get a DUI.

"During this Christmas and New

Year's holiday, law enforcement officers across the state are determined to prevent impaired driving crashes that lead to injury and fatal crashes," said KHP Superintendent Colonel Erik Smith.

The average cost of a DUI is about \$10,000 in attorney's fees, fines, court costs, lost time at work, higher insurance rates and more. Offenders can also lose their driver's licenses.

"Driving impaired is a choice," said KTA CEO Steve Hewitt. "It's essential for everyone to take responsibility, plan ahead and ensure their celebrations don't end in tragedy."

KDOT, KHP and KTA want all drivers to make traffic safety a priority throughout the

year as well as during the holidays. Before the celebrations begin, make a plan. Use a designated driver, a rideshare or a cab. If a friend is leaving a holiday celebration impaired, take the keys. If you see an impaired driver on the road, contact law enforcement.

For more information on impaired driving:

www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drunk-driving.

For the latest updates on road closures and conditions, visit KanDrive.gov, call 511

in Kansas or 866-511-5368 outside Kansas. Travelers who need assistance on the

highway can dial *47 for the KHP or *582 while on the KTA. If it's an emergency, call 911.

Free Groceries
at the

Cunningham Methodist Church
2 to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays



Holiday Hours:

December 24: 1:00 - 3:00

December 31: 1:00 - 3:00

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!

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Upcoming Auctions

Consignment Auction
Saturday, December 21, 2024 -
Hamm Auction Center 9:30am

For more information and a complete list of auctions, see our website at www.hammauction.com

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