

The Cunningham Courier

\$1.50

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(620) 298-2659

October 19, 2023
Volume 33 Number 42
USPS 006-101



photo by Josh Theis

Minutes from Kingman County Commission

Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. October 2, 2023, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse. Present: Jerry Henning, Chairman; Patrick Elpers, Commissioner; Jack Thimesch, Commissioner; Carol Noblit, County Clerk

Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor
Visitors: Bob Morris, Kingman Leader-Courier; Larry Landwehr; Mr. Enyart; Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director; Julie Lyon
Online Visitors: Caller 01, Tracy Winsor

Staff: LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer; Jamie Smith, County Treasurer; Amber Hartley, County Appraiser; Macay Ewy, Emergency Management; Sheriff Wood and Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director.

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

Chairman would like to have an attorney-client executive session with the County Counselor.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the agenda with an attorney-client executive session. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning asked if there was any public comment.

Larry Landwehr discussed that he attended the City of Kingman meeting last Thursday and the tone was better.

Chairman Henning thanked Bob Morris for his opinion in the paper.

Chairman Henning asked Mr. Morris what his thought was on the moving of the award winning EMS Director to the City Clerk position.

Mr. Morris discussed that it is an appointed position and not an elected position.

Commissioner Thimesch thanked Mr. Morris for his opinion that he puts in the paper.

The Commissioners discussed that they have never said they would change the way EMS is run or let any employee go if they were to take over the EMS.

Amber Hartley, County Appraiser was in to discuss the GIS system and that it needs some updating.

Ms. Hartley presented a quote from SAM Surveying and Mapping, LLC for KS Topology Clean-up/Ag reports at a price of \$6,875.00.

Commissioners would like the County Counselor to review the contract before approving.

Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director was in with an update for the County Commissioners on things that she has been working on and what has been done.

Ms. Schrag asked the Commissioners if they will still continue the improvement program in 2024.

Chairman Henning said he would like to continue but the application would have to be approved by the County for the County share.

Commissioner Elpers asked the status of a processing plant in Norwich.

Ms. Schrag said there are some grants available for meat processing plants.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk and Tonja Stamm, Courthouse Maintenance were in to discuss some things being done around the courthouse.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Elpers moved to go into executive session with Carol Noblit, County Clerk, Tonja Stamm, Maintenance and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 9:25 a.m. to discuss an individual employee evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act for discussion of non-elected personnel matters of nonelected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual to be discussed, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:40 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

County Clerk submitted the September 25, 2023, Commission meet-

ing minutes for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the September 25, 2023, Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Macay Ewy, Emergency Manager and Sheriff Wood were in to let the Commissioners know that the tower installation is finished.

Mr. Ewy discussed the reception that the tower has improved for around the county services.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session with Sheriff Wood and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 10:05 a.m. to discuss pending administrative proceedings pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:15 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to session at 10:15 a.m. with no decision made.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session with Sheriff Wood and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 10:15 a.m. to discuss pending administrative proceedings pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they 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.

Commissioners returned to session at 10:20 a.m. with no decision made.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session with Macay Ewy, Emergency Manager at 10:25 a.m. to discuss an individual employee evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:40 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded

the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 10:40 a.m. with no decision made.

Jamie Smith, County Treasurer was in to discuss banking and possibly changing banks because fees are high and interest is low.

Commissioners said to make sure to include all banks inside the County when looking.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve Resolution 2023-R16, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS WITHDRAWING FROM THE KANSAS COUNTY ASSOCIATION MULTILINE POOL. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in with an update on 607, 361 and SW 70 St, Hot Mix Projects.

Mr. Arensdorf gave an update on Bridge Replacement of FF.7-6.0 on old 54 Hwy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session with Sheriff Wood and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 11:25 a.m. to discuss pending administrative proceedings pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 11:40 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners return to open session at 11:40 a.m. with no decision made.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:43 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Census Survey: Nearly 250,000 Kansans without Health Coverage

~ Kansas Rate of Uninsured Per Capita Surpasses U.S. Rate for Second Year ~

TOPEKA – The U.S. Census Bureau recently released its American Community Survey 1-year estimates,

indicating nearly 250,000 Kansans lack health insurance. The survey reflects data collected in 2022 to assess health insurance coverage rates across Kansas and the United States.

For the second consecutive year, Kansas' uninsured rate for working-age adults surpassed the national rate. Kansas' rate was 12.5% compared to the U.S. at 11.3%.

Governor Kelly announced yesterday that her top priority for this coming legislative session is Medicaid

expansion by kicking off her "Healthy Workers, Healthy Economy" tour. Medicaid expansion would give thousands of working Kansans access to affordable health care.

"While 40 other states have expanded Medicaid, Kansas continues to lag behind the nation in health care coverage because the legislative has yet to accept the federal funding – which Kansans have already paid for through taxes – needed to get more workers insured," Governor Laura Kelly said.

"That's unacceptable. Kansans should call their legislator and urge them to expand Medicaid this upcoming legislative session."

Prior to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act by other states, the rate of Kansans with health care coverage was better than the nation. Since the Legislature hasn't expanded Medicaid, the rate of uninsured Kansans has trended closer to or exceeded the national uninsured rate.

MEDICARE VERSUS MEDICARE ADVANTAGE

KNOW THE FACTS

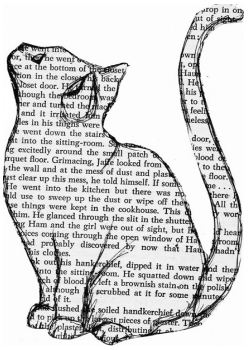


IT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW THE DIFFERENCE. WE CAN HELP!

PUBLIC MEETINGS

MONDAY OCTOBER 23 AT 5:30PM KINGMAN EXPO CENTER
THURSDAY OCTOBER 26 AT 1:00PM KINGMAN SENIOR CENTER
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 1 AT 2:00PM KINGMAN EXPO CENTER


KINGMAN
HEALTHCARE CENTER
Exceptional Care. Every Time.



Meanderings

Is anyone else tired of flies? Nasty little creatures, those buzzing annoyances.

Major Rant: You know what I have a hard time understanding? Extreme wealth. Not just people who are wealthy, but EXTREME wealth. Elon Musk extreme wealth (net worth \$250 billion); Jeff Bezos extreme wealth (\$80 billion net worth); Warren Buffet extreme wealth (\$42 billion net worth). And the list goes on. How is that the richest 442 people in the United States own more than 1/2 the rest of the population?

How do they have all this money and yet we have people in this country living in the streets and parks and alleyways? How is it they can have all this wealth and many of the people who work hard for their companies don't make a living wage?

Let's take a look at the Walton (Walmart) siblings. Jim, Rob, and Alice. In 2017 their net worth was about 40 - 42 billion dollars EACH. Then came the tax cuts enacted during the Trump administration. This allowed these al-

ready obscenely wealthy people to increase their net worth by about 60-65%. In September of 2023, a mere 5 1/2 years later, their net worth is 65 to 70 billion dollars EACH. YET... many people in who work for their companies are on government assistance: Medicaid, WIC, food stamps, etc. There are more Walmart employees on government assistance than another company. McDonald's is close behind.

How is this allowed to happen? I don't understand the need for all that wealth. Maybe to buy politicians to make tax cuts and create subsidies for your company so that you can get richer?

Notable companies with a large number of employees on federal aid include Amazon, Kroger, Dollar General, and other food service and retail giants.

People only want free assistance from the government so they don't have work? Many of us think this is true in all cases. But guess what? About 70% of the 21 million federal aid beneficiaries worked full time as stated in a report by the Government Accountability Office. So these people are working fulltime for billionaires and living off of the subsidies provided by taxpayers like you and me. What is with that? I really want to curse the more I think about it.

I am sure these working people would love to save money for a house or a car or well, any-

thing. But if they can't even live on the wages they are getting, how can they even begin to save for the future? Meanwhile one of the owners of the company they work hard for, lives in a multi-million dollar home on Park Avenue in New York City. The Walton 'kids' never had to work a day in their lives. Their wealth was inherited. They pay people to do everything for them: cook, clean, bank, invest, run errands. They do not work for their money, and they can't even pay the people who earn them this money enough to live on. Well, if they aren't going to pay them a living wage, then by all means, tax them to the heavens.

I saw a video clip of Representative Katie Porter from California grilling the CEO of Wells Fargo. Katie Porter is a fierce advocate for the working class. The clip is two or three years old, but worth watching. She asked the man if Wells Fargo was profitable. He 'believed' so. She told him that Wells Fargo profits were about 20 billion a year. In the clip she also tells the man that according to a recent study 1/3 of bank tellers in America require public assistance as they do not earn a living wage. She told him the study also said that American taxpayers fork out \$900,000,000 a year just to help subsidize bank tellers. But get this... this man makes a salary of \$31,000,000 a year.

Why is this allowed to happen? I know that capitalism is supposed to be good .. but come on. This is not good. Not at all. I get so upset about this. I don't understand how people cannot see how totally wrong and skewed this is.

We are so quick to judge low-income people based on the few facts we know about them, yet we don't use these same judgements when assessing a billionaire's worth. "They shouldn't have kids until they have money to afford them." Well, you know what? Kids happen. Job losses happen. Emergencies happen. There are any number of reasons people have kids but don't have money. Get over it.

"If they can't afford insulin they need to get a job that pays better benefits. She shouldn't have been a custodian. She should have gone to school -- then she could probably afford insurance." What is with that? It is a very wrong world when we have to have a job just to provide ourselves and our loved one with medical care. Does anyone else think this is way off base?

People working in retail have beautiful nails or high dollar haircuts? Well, maybe, just maybe they have press on nails that cost a few bucks. Or they work at a salon part time because they can't afford to live on the skimpy wages they earn working for billionaires who don't give a flying rat's pa-

tootie where the money from their filet mignon comes from. Or maybe their sister is a stylist and does her nails for free. Or maybe their husbands have a good job and they are working retail for something to do while he's away on his job as a truck driver or salesman.

Everyone who works deserves to earn a living wage and they deserve to experience the dignity that comes with owning their own home or being able to buy groceries for their family. Tax the obscenely rich. Or make them pay living wages. I'm tired of propping up their ill-gotten wealth with my tax dollars.

Rant over. For now.

Always reading, and currently reading, "A Really Awesome Mess" by Trish Cook and Brendan Halpin, Roberta

"The Seven Social Sins are: Wealth without work. Pleasure without conscience. Knowledge without character. Commerce without morality. Science without humanity. Worship without sacrifice. Politics without principle.

From a sermon given by Frederick Lewis Donaldson in Westminster Abbey, London, on March 20, 1925." - Frederick Lewis Donaldson

"Books are the treasured wealth of the world and the fit inheritance of generations and nations." - Henry David Thoreau, Walden

"Seek not greater wealth, but simpler pleasure; not higher fortune, but deeper felicity." - Mahatma Ghandi



Tallgrass and Tumbleweeds by Gaille Pike

Dear Readers, No matter what tricks life is throwing at me, I find treats are far more bountiful this time of year. That's partly because I know so many October babies and birthday celebrations keep me partying all 31 days. But more than cake and candy corn, I feel spoiled by all the joy I feel when pumpkins are around. I understand that

some folks may not enjoy pumpkin pie and I agree that the "pumpkin spice" craze gets out of hand, but PUMPKINS are just plain fun.

I don't remember buying pumpkins as a child. We always grew our own. In a practice that dates back at least a hundred years, we grew pumpkins with corn. I don't recall noticing the vines wind their way through the stalks or noticing when they bloomed. Nor did I pay attention when their fruit swelled under their thick

broad leaves until those dark green orbs morphed into harvest ready, eye catching, gleaming-in-the-sun orange.

The pumpkins my brothers and I chose for our Jack O' Lanterns would be set aside. We lined the rest up along our front porch and walk and Mom would give them away to neighbors or anyone else who stopped by. Though there aren't many trees in Western Kansas, we did have a couple in our yard and what a pretty scene it made when they dropped their

leaves. When raked, the pile wasn't big enough for my brothers to jump in but it was big enough for me. And I remember a time when they took me by the arms and legs and threw me in it.

In my mind's eye, I see us. They are laughing as they swing me one-two-three before they fling me. I am giggling as I sail aloft and glide on a gust. And I know I'm inventing memory now as I land and look up into my brothers eyes, their smiling faces framing the sky before they

all reach for me, lifting me laughing out of that pile. I suspect I begged to be thrown again but what I remember next is sitting with the pumpkins, mirthfully out of breath, watching my brothers set the leaves on fire.

Perhaps this is why I get giddy every time I see pumpkins—because they take me back to a moment my brothers and I got boisterously silly together. It's not that I don't have other shining sibling memories. Of course I do. But our age range spanned a

decade (and of course, I was a girl) so we were rarely interested in the same games. In hindsight, my brothers probably weren't playing with me that afternoon. It's more likely they'd been told to watch me while they raked and disposed of the leaves. Yet I am hard pressed to remember feeling more loved. Or us having more fun together.

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

Insight

Fall Traditions

by Greg Doering Fall harvest is in full swing on our central Kansas farm. Despite the smattering of golden tri-

angles fluttering in my yard, there's still plenty of green leaves shimmering from the cottonwoods in my neighborhood. Normally by mid-October these giant trees have shed the majority of their leaves and the ones left have turned a pale yellow. Of course, aside from narrowly missing our first

frost, there haven't been too many days that have felt like fall recently.

Soon enough though, the cottonwoods and other trees will turn color and drop their leaves. I'll have to get out the rake to clean up the yard and dust off the ladder to unclog gutters. Despite its late appearance, fall is coming and so is the work it brings.

This realization hit me recently because another fall tradition managed to sneak up on me: local elections. Somehow advance voting starts this week. It seems like the candidate filing deadline was just yesterday, but Election Day on Nov. 7 is almost here.

I know these local contests that determine who will serve on school boards and fill city council seats don't garner the attention of state and federal elections. Despite the

lack of a spotlight, these races are more important to your daily life than any other elected position.

Local officials decide what roads get built and fixed, how money is spent for schools, what types of buildings can be built (and where they can be built) and how to support local businesses and incentivize growth.

The reason most of these decisions are made at the local level is because you know your community better than anyone else. That's why it's vital need to pay attention to who is running and give your support to candidates who understand the challenges facing your community.

Voting in any election is a crucial part of upholding your civic duty, but casting a ballot is the easy part. Your primary job is to identify the candidates who can

best represent your beliefs. Sometimes it's not difficult to find those candidates, while in some races you have to do your research.

Either way, those who volunteer for these unpaid positions deserve our gratitude. They're signing up for the thankless job of spending their evenings making decisions for the entire community, often with few people in the audience, which is why your civic duty doesn't end on Election Day.

You don't have to attend every meeting, but if you run into a school board member at the grocery store or see your city commissioner in church every Sunday, it's good to have a short talk with them about what's happening in your community. It's OK to voice your opinion on current events and politely point

out areas where you may disagree. You may not change their mind after one talk, but it might help them better understand your point of view.

Like raking leaves and cleaning gutters, there's plenty of traditions to tend to as we enter the heart of fall. Be sure you add casting a ballot to the list sometime between now and Nov. 7. Afterall, regardless of who wins, they'll surely be making decisions that affect you.

"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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The Cunningham Courier (USPS 006-101) 320 Stadium Street, Cunningham, Kansas 67035 620-298-2659 © 2018 Periodicals Postage Paid at Cunningham, Kansas 67035 Postmaster: Send address changes to The Cunningham Courier 320 Stadium Street, Cunningham, KS 67035 Published Weekly Roberta L. Kobbe Editor & Publisher Subscription Rates: \$45.00 per year in Kansas \$50.00 per year out of state 320 Stadium Street, Cunningham, Kansas 67035 E-Mail: couriernews@yahoo.com

Community Bulletin Board

Thursday, October 19 HS Scholars' Bowl at Macksville *** JH VB HOPL FInal Four at Skyline ** HS FB vs South Cloud County at HOME	Tuesday, October 24 ESSDACK Career Expo Wednesday, October 25 ESSDACK Career Expo *** School Picture Retakes *** 7:00 Book Club at CPL
Friday, October 20 1st Quarter ends - school early release	Thursday, October 26 HS FB 6-Man bracket play
Saturday, October 21 City Wide Garage Sale *** HS Cross Country Regionals *** HS VB Class Div. II Sub-state	Friday, October 27 HS VB State Play at Emporia
Monday, October 23 7:00 p.m. Fall Music Program	Monday, October 28 HS cross country State Meet at Wamego *** HS VB State Play at Emporia

Mark Your Calendars:
City-Wide Garage Sale Day will be
October 21




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

Wreath Making Workshop
With Deana Chinn
Saturday Dec. 2 from 2pm - 5pm



LOCATION: CHINN SHED - 621 COUNTRY CLUB RD PRATT, KS
COST: \$40 INCLUDES ALL SUPPLIES. PLEASE BRING GLOVES, WIRE CUTTERS AND PRUNING SHEARS IF YOU ARE ABLE.
CLASS LIMIT: 12
AGES: 15+
SNACKS PROVIDED

To Register call (620) 933-2787
or online at www.vernonfilleyartmuseum.org



The Community Calendar is sponsored by



nvalleybank.com Member FDIC
101 E. First Street
Cunningham, KS
620-298-2511

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!

PRATT AREA QUILT GUILD'S
QUILT SHOW
October 28, 2023
10 am - 2 pm

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
100 N. JACKSON, PRATT KS 67124
\$5 ADMISSION FEE



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



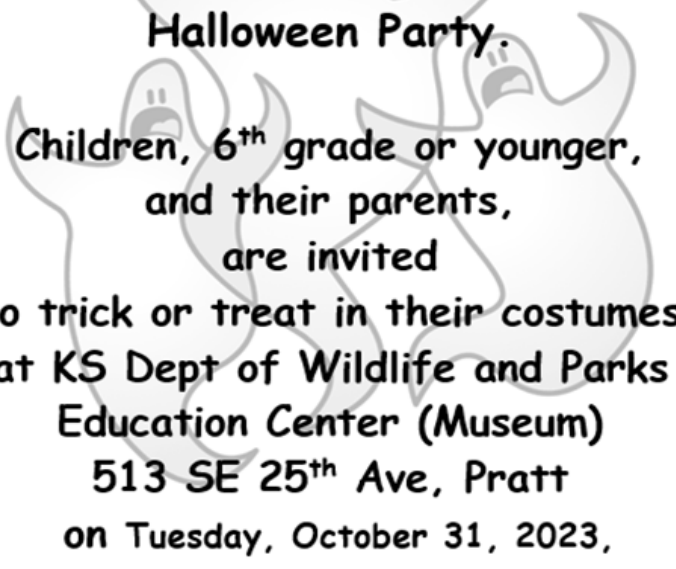



Kingman Carnegie Library
Mon. & Tues. 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Wed. : 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Thurs. : 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Fri. : 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Sat. : 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
620-532-3061

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

KS Dept of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) invites you to their 20th annual "wild" Halloween Party.

Children, 6th grade or younger, and their parents, are invited to trick or treat in their costumes at KS Dept of Wildlife and Parks Education Center (Museum) 513 SE 25th Ave, Pratt on Tuesday, October 31, 2023, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

KDWP is located two miles east of Pratt on Hwy 54 and one mile south on SE 25th Ave or south on Hwy 281 (Main Street) and 2½ miles east on Lake Road.

"There is no such thing as 'Just a cat.'"
— Robert A. Heinlein

"A grandmother pretends she doesn't know who you are on Halloween."
— Erma Bombeck

"On ol' Halloween Night
These monsters join the living
If they had it their way
They'd stay until Thanksgiving"
— Casey Browning,
Ol' Halloween Night

Kingman Historic Theatre
237 N. Main in Kingman
(620) 532-1253
<http://www.kingmantheatre.org/>
All Seats \$3.00
(cash or local check only)
Showtimes:
Friday and Saturday at 7:30
Sunday at 5:30
The 2:00pm show will be Sensory Sensitive with lower volume and not as dark lighting

October 20 - 22
Hocus Pocus
(1993 version)
Rated: PG

Thank YOU for supporting YOUR Kingman Historic Theatre.

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

W. A. Bradley / William Bradley

1943

Oct. 15 – Work on the Helium plant west of town is progressing at a more rapid pace now and daily takes on more of the shape of a vital war industry, although probably several months more will be necessary to complete the plant.

In the plant proper two large collecting tanks are being erected, a water tower erected, several long engine sheds being built, and a cooling tower in the process of being built, in addition to the warehouses and offices first built. A guard tower has been built in the northeastern corner of the plant site, and the pipeline tying the Skelly Gasoline Plant to the Helium plant has been laid.

Fifteen of the 50 company houses are practically completed. These houses are 5 and 6 room, of prefabricated material, and are being covered on the outside with gray asbestos shingles.

Oct. 22, 1943 – Clipper Suspends Publication Until Hitler's and Hirohito's Funeral Services – With this issue the Clipper suspends publication for the duration and it is with deep regret that we are forced to do so. But Sunday night will find our son, Bill, on his way to Fort Leavenworth for an induction examination into the armed forces, and circumstances over which we have no control make the closing of our shop imperative.

...In closing down for the duration as other newspapers, over the state and country, have been forced to do, we are protected by a state law, passed in the last session of the State Legislature, by which we do not lose our legal status in closing and may resume publication within six months after cessation of hostilities without loss of legal standing.

... We will bid a fond farewell to all, hoping that the time may be short until we will again be greeting you from the columns of the Clipper after Victory is ours.

Mrs. W. A. Bradley, Editor

1948

Oct. 15, 1948 – Miss Dorothy Steffen, bride-elect of Clair McElwain, was feted with a kitchen shower Wednesday evening at the home of Mrs. Bill Bradley. Virginia Bradley assisted.

A head-on collision, between a 1938 Dodge, driven by Mrs. Horace Nichol of near Cairo, and a 1948 Ford station wagon, a block west of Main Street on U.S. 54 in Cunningham, Tuesday afternoon, resulted in injuries to both car's occupants, and considerable damage to both automobiles.

Oct. 22, 1948 – Best Buy in Bikes. Schwinn-built Bicycles for boys and girls now on display at the Fee Hardware Company.

J. F. Schump
Real Estate
Farm Loans
and Insurance
Phone 2
Cunningham, Kansas

1953

Oct. 16, 1953 – A group of young people enjoyed a skating party last Thursday at Penalosa. The party honored Private Ralph Bayer who was home on furlough.

Oct. 23, 1953 – With the cooperation of the Community Men's Club, the Ninety-Niners, an organization of women airplane flyers of Wichita, have painted a huge air marker on the roof of the Cunningham Rural High School building. The name "Cunningham" has been painted in bright yellow letters ten feet high across the entire length of the building.

The Senior Class at Cunningham Rural High School will hold their annual Halloween Carnival and Box Supper next Thursday evening, October 29, in the High School Auditorium.

1958

Oct. 16, – It was "Good Neighbor Day" at the Ray Amick farm, Tuesday.

A group of neighbors, equipped with tractors and drills, gathered at the Amick farm and put in Mr. Amick's wheat crop. Mr. Amick is recovering from a phlebotic leg condition.

Eight tractors and drills made short work of the 154 acres, completing the sowing in about six hours.

Oct. 23, 1958 – Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne Elliott of Pratt, announce the birth of a son, Wednesday, October 22, at the Pratt County Hospital.

He weighed seven pounds, four ounces, and has been named Scott Wayne.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Seth Whitmore of Cunningham, and paternal grandfather is Harrison Elliot of Preston.

1963

Oct. 17 – Elmer Childress of Wichita, well known gospel singer appearing daily on KARD-TV (Channel 3), will present an evening's program of gospel songs and religious hymns in the Cunningham Rural High School Gym tonight (Thursday), beginning at 7:30 o'clock.

A barn on the Gaylen Barker farm west of Cairo, containing some 3,000 bales of hay, was struck by lightning and destroyed by fire.

Oct. 24, 1963 – Fairfield crushed Cunningham by a 66 to 6 score in a Ninnescah League football game here last Friday night.

William S. (Pat) Grier, 68, farmer, grain dealer, and stockman, died at his home in Cairo, Monday, following a brief illness.

1968

Oct. 17, 1968 – One of the larger land transactions in this area was closed the last week. Sold was the Clem Penka Ranch of 1,280 acres, just northeast of Cairo. Purchasers of the land and the 150 head of Penka Angus cows were Mr. and Mrs. Keith Cornelius of Custer City, Okla.

Oct. 24, 1968 – The Nashville-Zenda High School Band and the Nashville Grade School Band, under the direction of Eddy Emerson, will participate in the parade and homecoming activities at Northwestern State Teachers College in Alva, Okla., Saturday.

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

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

1978

October 19 – Saturday was a long but exciting day for the Cunningham Volleyball team as the first part of our season's dreams came true. We won the title of League champs by defeating three teams. There were eight teams playing Saturday in the league tournament at Skyline. -Coach Diana Ross

Dr. William R. Kimel, dean of engineering at the University of Missouri, Columbia, will discuss "Perceptions of an Engineer Visiting the People's Republic of China" at a public colloquium Friday, October 26, at 3:30 p.m. in Room 212 of the K-State Union.

Kimel, former head of the KSU department of nuclear engineering is president of the American Nuclear Society. Kimel has been engineering dean at MU for the past 10 years.

The Cunningham native went to China this past May as a member of an ANS delegation under a cultural exchange program.

Kimel's talk is sponsored by the student branch of the American Nuclear Society at K-State.

Krohler Antique gold velvet divan extra long, excellent condition. \$185.

A miscellaneous bridal shower was held for Sandy Adelhardt, bride-elect of Kent Scripsick on Monday evening, October 14th at the United Methodist Church.

1983

October 20, 1983 – Doug Hageman has been named the Hutchinson News Eight-Man Player of the Week by the newspaper after Friday night's game with South Haven. With both teams being undefeated, Hageman led the way to an 18-8 win. Cunningham remained undefeated and ranked number two in eight man division II.

Hageman ran 237 on 32 carries and scored two touchdowns. He scored on runs of 27 and 28 yard runs. Coach Warren Meireis is impressed with Dough's ability, he plays tailback on offense, linebacker on defense, returns punts and returns kickoffs. He had four tackles and 10 assists Friday night.

Wednesday, October 26 beginning at 6:30 p.m. the U.F.O. of the United Methodist Church will be out collecting donations door to door for UNICEF. The United Childrens Fund is used to help buy food and clothing for those children who are less fortunate than some of us throughout the world.

A donation of any amount will be greatly appreciated. The local U.F.O. group has performed this service for many years.

Thursday Mrs. Mark Osner and Mrs. Hala Laas of Salina visited with Mrs. Iva Dyche. Mr. Laas left for Frankfort, Germany to join her husband who is in the military service there.

The Cunningham High School juniors took the PSAT NMQT test October 17.

The purpose of the test is to prepare the juniors to take the SAT tests when they become seniors. PSAT is an acronym for Preliminary Scholastic Achievement Test. NMQT is an acronym for National Merit Qualifying Test. This test qualifies the juniors for merit scholarships.



Celebrating 88 Years of Social Security

For 88 years, Social Security has provided income protection to millions of retirees, people with disabilities, dependents, and families that lose a wage earner. This year, we will administer more than \$1.3 trillion

in benefits and payments to more than 70 million beneficiaries. In addition, we issue millions of Social Security numbers each year, maintain wage records, and more. We are proud to serve the American people every day.

To better serve you, we have prioritized our online customer experience. Our website SSA.gov makes it easier for you to find what you need. More than 180 million people visit our website every year. Whether

providing service in person or online, our goal is help you understand what you may qualify for and transition you to an application process.

We have also worked to make sure our programs, particularly Supplemental Security Income (SSI), remains accessible to the people who need it most. Last year, we launched an online tool that allows you or your representative to request an appointment to file for SSI and protect your filing date. A Social Security employee will

then schedule a full interview. Find more information about SSI at www.ssa.gov/ssi/.

We remain committed to helping maintain the well-being and protection of the people we serve. We strive to ensure that every person who is eligible for or receives benefits gets them timely and accurately. That is how we help you secure today and tomorrow.

Please share this information with your friends and loved ones who may need it.

Comfortably Dumb by Bruce Quast



"This wouldn't be any kind of a record, would it?"

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FitzSimmons Insurance Agency, Inc. is an independent insurance agency and an equal opportunity provider

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

A Column by Mike Johnson

Hit By a Tornado

Focus has power. In 2012, a small tornado hit our hobby farm & ripped off the granary roof. The roof flew 30 feet high, smashing into

a tree outside our bedroom window. A loose 2x4 punctured the house like a dart.

A harmless board, intensified by extreme focus, became a missile capable of blasting through walls.

The same power exists inside our mind. What we focus upon expands. What we ignore shrinks. How we use this focus

determines the quality of our life.

Our focus is a great slave but a horrible master. It works both ways. Focus on good and we feel great. Focus on bad and we feel miserable.

The quality of our life is too important to leave this focus on auto-pilot.

The good news is that with practice, we can harness our focus to achieve uncommon results.

All it takes is awareness. Vigilant, constant, awareness.

Want to know how you're doing?

Look at your life. Your aware and unaware focus created it all.



Lessons and Carols

Sacred Scripture, Community Choir, Community small ensembles, Vocal solos, Instrumental ensembles, Instrumental solos.

Lessons and Carols service Sunday, December 17th Sacred Heart Catholic Church 3:00 pm

Contact Eric Kerschen for more information. erickerschen@usd332.com
Community rehearsals on Sunday 3:00 pm at Sacred Heart Church beginning on November 5th

Droplets to the Four Winds

By Tracy Nunes

I looked up from my book at the sound of her uncontrolled delight; a moment caught in time. Droplets of water spread out toward the four winds, held forever in suspended animation. Her face overflowed with the joy of a puddle, mud and all. The world around was inconsequential, its cacophony silent. That moment, the sound and feel of her tiny pink boots slapping the water were all that mattered.

No more than two feet wide, yet for her, like walking on the vastest sea; the thrill of it caused a squeak of glee and then silly gut-laughing that took her breath away. Over and over she danced till she finally tired of the game. Breathless, spent and deeply satisfied, she wondered back to her Mom's side, looking ready for a snack and a nap. As they walked away, her Mom tucked away her phone with the photographic evidence to recall the joy in the years to come.

I returned to my mystery, a rare luxury to be reading in the park; a retreat from the demands at home.

Moments later I heard light footsteps that once again caused me to look up. The woman was a pair of decades older than

me, but seemed able bodied and had a purposeful stride. She slowed as she approached the puddle and assessed the small strip of pavement around it that separated it from the muddy grass.

Looking down at her clean, waterproof gaiters she judged the state of affairs. With a grimace, and a heavy sigh of resignation, she tip-toed around the puddle, and returned to her forward pace. The condition of her heart was confirmed by the downward curve of her lips and the tightening of her brow. Somehow, the wonder of the puddle went unseen.

I watched her walk away. My gaze returned to the puddle and then down to my new shoes and back down the path to the woman. Something arose unbidden within me; a nudge, a hard push and then a decision to be made. Though moments before my comfy bench was a reprieve from a hard world, it now seemed a mile marker toward death of the soul and spirit. The nudge triumphed over apprehension of how I would look, or if I was being sensible.

Being of sound mind and limited budget, I removed my shoes; the feel of the grass and pavement were unfamiliar on my pampered feet. A tiny stone pricked my tender flesh and I considered abandoning the silly idea

that I entertained. But, the looks on the faces of the girl and woman flashed in my mind and the nudge took over again. I gingerly stepped into the puddle and rendered a small yelp at the surprisingly cold water. I look around to see if I was being watched. I was.

A man was sitting under a cherry tree ensconced in a folding chair; his eyes peered over the top of his book but then looked away at my glance. I had a decision to make. Was it worth public humiliation?

I continued on.

I stepped from foot to foot, slowly at first, and then picked up the pace. Before long I was making respectable splashes and little - then big - hoots. One thing led to another and I abandoned myself to the thing rising within me; my spirit and His, a damp dance of joy... a moment in time.

Though mud clung to my feet and splashed on my rolled up jeans, I lingered in the wild wetness of it until I was spent, breathless and drained of the soul sludge that I brought to the park. Satisfied, I returned to my bench, picked up my shoes and book, and floated out of the park.

As I passed the man in the chair, he was looking at his shoes.



Catholic Churches

<p>Sacred Heart, Cunningham Sundays 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>St. Leo Saturdays 4:00 p.m.</p>	<p>St. John, Zenda Saturdays 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>St. Peter Willowdale Sundays 8:30 a.m.</p>
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Father Roger Lumbre
620-243-5451
620-246-5370

Lutheran Churches

<p>St. John, Nashville 620-246-5220 Sunday School & Bible Class 9:45 a.m. Worship Service 8:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Trinity, Medicine Lodge 620- 886-3397 Sunday School & Bible Class 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.</p>
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Our worship service is found on the YouTube channel at:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCrenCH12I9nmpcojCFyYLA>

Pastor vacancy until further notice.

Church of Christ

Penalosa
Sunday 11:00 a.m.

First Christian Church

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

United Methodist Church

<p>Penalosa Worship 9:15 a.m.</p>	<p>Cunningham Worship 10:45 a.m.</p>
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Pastor Mathew Ndambuki Musyoki
620-298-2090

Zenda
Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School: Children 8:30 a.m. Adults 10:00 a.m.
Pastor J L Nichols

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

Giving Opportunities in our Community

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

West Kingman County Education Foundation
Use your Dillon's Card! (to donate contact Janet DeWeese 620-298-2717)

Hands of Hope (contact any church)

Cunningham Alumni Scholarship Fund
(send checks to the West Kingman County Education Foundation)

Cunningham Community Center (leave donation at the bank)

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

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

Cunningham Public Library (to donate, contact Kerri Steffen)

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

Cunningham Hands of Hope, Inc.

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

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

What: Food

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

Where: 117 N Main (Old School Board Office)

Why: To provide food assistance to those in need.

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

Do you need assistance outside distribution hours?

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

JH Lady Cats vs. Central Christian

Molly Morgan photos



Morgan Oldham



Katie Ogg



Keyonna Huffman



Andi Young



Kourtnei Fischer



JH Wildcats vs. Reno County Sabres



The Wildcats playing a little defense



Cole Hageman

Head Coach: Bart Ricke
 Assistant Coach: Colin Little
 Manager(s): Cooper Neufeld, Jace Oldham

#	First & Last Name	Grade	Weight	Position
4	Adam Sterneker	8	129	E/B
5	Weston Rogers	8	110	E/S
10	Carson Strohl	7	107	E/S
11	Andrew Kerschen	8	115	B/S
12	Wesly Preisser	7	110	B/LB
14	Tyler Osner	8	128	E/B
15	Sevi Romine	8	144	L/L
20	Cole Hageman	8	143	B/LB
21	Liam McGuire	7	134	B/LB
24	John Paul Kerschen	7	113	E/B/S
32	Gunner Glenn	8	145	L/L
33	Caden Johnson	7	172	L/L
34	Colton Rohlman	7	132	E/B/LB
40	Jeremiah Slayden	7	134	L/L
42	Wyatt King	8	160	L/L
44	Kane Reid	7	138	L/L
50	Cole Gridley	8	170	L/L
55	Brody Bock	8	173	L/L
66	Hank Adams	8	158	L/L



Tyler Osner



Molly Morgan photos



Brody Bock

K-State Child Development Expert Encourages Youth to Visit older Adults

Children, as ‘social beings,’ benefit from interactions with previous generations
 K-State Research and Extension news service
 MANHATTAN, Kan. – It may seem that encouraging younger children to visit older folks is primarily for the benefit of the adults.
 Bradford Wiles says research does show that intergenerational connections reduces loneliness

and boosts happiness for older adults. But, he adds, the same studies indicate that spending time with older adults helps younger children develop life skills and a sense of who they are.
 “Children learn through interactions with other people. We’re social beings,” said Wiles, a child development specialist with K-State Research and Extension. “The variety of contacts children can have can teach them about themselves – what they like, what they don’t like, what other people have experienced.
 “That’s all part of growing up, particularly in early childhood.

They’re really starting to develop their understanding of other people’s beliefs, thoughts and desires. As they’re working with a variety of people – in particular, older adults – it helps them have an understanding of the passage of time, different experiences, and provides them with another adult with whom they can connect, learn and teach.”
 Wiles said younger children develop life skills by better understanding other people’s talents and perspectives. While they get some of that from interactions with parents, teachers and perhaps coaches, many of those relationships are with people of similar

ages and experiences.
 “When you add an older adult, you get a radically different perspective,” Wiles said. “Younger children are generally demonstrating different talents and different ways of engaging than they do in the more structured environments of family and school.”
 Older adults also can often offer their undivided attention that, Wiles says, reaffirms the value of the older adult to the community, as well as providing the attention that children crave more than anything.”
 “So often we know that the solution to some of the issues in early childhood is attention.

We can’t always provide that. If we’re in the middle of fixing our plumbing, we can’t stop and play ball with our kid. It’s important to recognize that as parents we can’t give our undivided attention all the time.”
 Wiles said intergenerational relationships benefits older adults by providing cognitive practice and engagement.
 “We know that social engagement, more than anything, is the most protective factor against age-related declines in cognition, thinking and mobility,” Wiles said. “So the more opportunities we can provide for children to engage with older adults, the better off

the older adults will be, and the children benefit as well.”
 Wiles encourages older adults to connect with a local preschool or K-12 school system to ask about opportunities to visit classrooms and share experiences. A national program – [Generations United](#) – is an example of opportunities available to help bring older adults and children together with structured activities.
 More information is [available online](#) from K-State Research and Extension, and at [local extension offices in Kansas](#).

Cats Take Down the Titans

The Cats took to the road on October 6th for a scenic trip to Leroy to take on the Southern Coffey County Titans, who had 6 of their 11 players suited for the evening. The game started off on a positive note with Stephen Kerschen receiving an attempted onside kick. What was supposed to be a safe kick turned into a 19-yard return deep into Titan territory. The Cats struck paydirt in just one play when Will hit

Luke Albers for a 27-yard touchdown pass. Cats up 6-0 with only a few seconds off the clock.

The defense stopped the home team on 4 downs with their back to the endzone. It took 3 plays for the Cats to score with Trent catching a 5-yard pass from Luke. Layne kicked the 2-point conversion, so the Cats enjoyed a 14 point lead. History repeated itself.

The Wildcat defense was stingy holding the Titans to no yardage to speak of. The Titans did get the punt away though,

so the Cats got the ball around mid-field. After two incomplete passes, Will connected with Luke M for a 47-yard touchdown strike. Layne nailed another PAT Kick to stretch the lead to 22-0.

On the next defensive series the Titans struggled to move the ball again. After three downs Southern Coffee could not get off a punt and the Cats took over in great field position. Skyler caught a pass from Luke for 11 yards and a few plays later Jack punched the ball in the endzone on

a 1-yard run. The extra points kick by Layne was good again. Cats up 30-0.

After the ensuing kick the Titans tried again to crack the Wildcat defense. After 2 downs of little success, Trent made it worse by sacking the QB to bring up 4th and very long. They did get the punt off, but Luke returned it 36 yards for a TD. Layne put the ball through the uprights for his fourth in a row and a 38-0 lead.

Trent got his second sack of the night when the defense took the field

again, but the Titans did move the ball a bit on the series. Eventually the Cats clamped down the defense to keep them from the endzone. It took the Wildcats 2 plays to score as Layne ripped off a 46-yard TD run. That put the lead at 44 to 0.

The defense did enough to get the offense back on the field without any real damage. The offense marched right down the field. Layne had an 11-yard run followed by Kollin with a 12-yard run. Layne finished the drive with a 9-yard TD

run and then tacked on the 2 point kick. That put the Wildcat lead at 52 to 0.

The game ended before half with the Wildcats on defense and an injured Titan. The Titans had not had much luck keeping 6 healthy players on the field. With the Cats on defense, they did not feel they could continue the game.

-by Coach Lance McGuire



With district play wrapping up in a week, the Wildcats hit the road to play the Burrton Chargers. The programs are in different places right now. We are fortunate to be talented and deep with many different weapons on display Friday night.

The Chargers were only close to stopping the Cats twice the entire game. After receiving an onside kick the Cats started the game in great field position and never relinquished it. On the first drive the Wildcats logged a 5-play scoring drive. Luke had an 11-yard scramble.

Two plays later he had a 16-yard run. Then Will found Luke on a short pass that went for 16 yards and a score. Dagim hit the kick, so Cats up 8-0 in about a minute and

a half of work.

The Chargers went backwards several plays and tried an ill-fated pass on 4th down and 20. With Jack and Albers closing in on a sack their QB tried a pass that went nowhere. The pass did not go forward, so no official blew their whistle. Live ball! Dylan scooped it up and scored. Dagim connected with the two point kick. Cats up 16-0.

The Chargers went for it on 4th down the next time their offense took the field. They did not get a first down and the Cats responded by scoring on 2 plays. Luke found Will for a short pass that Will weaved his way to the endzone for a 17-yard score. 22-0. The Chargers again went for it on 4th down.

With Jack and Trent breathing down his neck,

the QB took a chance and threw a jump ball to his crossing receiver. Luke Albers jumped higher and wanted the ball more. He ripped the ball away from the receiver and then streaked to the endzone for the score. 28-0.

The Chargers tried a punt on 4th and long when they had a chance but that didn't work either. Luke returned the ball 20 yards, then Jack took over on first down running for a 14-yard TD, right through 2 would-be tacklers to get there. Dagim was good for the kick. 36-0.

The next series for the Chargers was shortened by a greedy Luke Albers who picked off the Burrton pass with one hand. Up big, the older guys handed the offense over to the younger Wildcats. They were just

as hungry as the varsity.

Layne rushed for 18 yards and then Skyler put the ball in the endzone with a 12-yard run to finish a two-play drive. 42-0. With young guys mixing in, the Cat defense was still stingy. Dylan and Andrew teamed up for a tackle. Dylan punched the ball out on the play that was recovered by Stephen, giving the Cats a short field to work with.

The boys executed a "new" play just like it was drawn up. Cole Ruckle sealed the edge, Logan Kinsler kicked out the outside defender, and Layne made a guy miss for a 5-yard score. Dagim kicked in the extra points for a 50-0 lead.

Burrton tried another series but could not find any room anywhere. On 4th down they tried an-

other punt. However, Andrew blocked the punt which was scooped up by a waiting Stephen and promptly ran into the endzone. 56-0. It took just 3 downs for Burrton to need to punt again. Kollin Fischer got control of the ball on the 27 yard line. Behind some good blocking, and some spinning moves Kollin nearly scored and was barely stopped on the 2 yard line. Layne plunged into the endzone for a 2 yard TD run. Layne then tacked on the 2 point conversion. Cats up 64-0.

After another defensive stop, Stephen started the drive with a 20-yard run. Then a little unconventionally, the Cats lined up for a field goal on 1st down. Why not? We haven't tried that yet! It didn't seem to make Dagim nervous, and he

hit a 27 yard field goal (4pts in 6-man rules). 68-0 for the new lead.

The defense was not done terrorizing the Chargers. Under pressure from Layne, the QB threw what looked to be a completion. However, Kendall Rogers decided to intercept the ball while seated on the ground. The Cats had to punt the ball for the first time of the game. The game ended with the Wildcats on defense nearly getting a safety.

On the night, the Cats scored on the ground and in the air which is how we roll. But the Wildcats went above and beyond by scoring on an interception return, punt block return, fumble return, and a field goal. Lots of fun for lots of boys from the Red and white team!

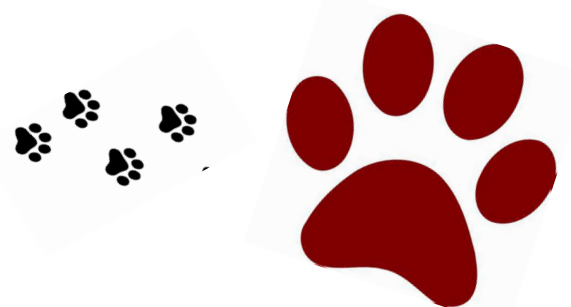
by Coach McGuire



Jack Ruckle and Trent Schnittker on defense



Luke McGuire



Dagim Reed



Layne Green



Molly Morgan photos



Head Coach: Lance McGuire			
Assistant Coach(s): Eric Kerschen			
Manager(s): Brody Halderson			
#	First & Last Name	Grade	Weight
1	Dagim Reed	11	147
3	Luke Albers	11	156
4	Luke McGuire	12	157
6	Blake Swope	10	149
10	Will Wegerer	11	135
12	Payton King	11	191
13	Dylan Halderson	10	185
15	Skyler Thimesch	10	157
20	Layne Green	9	167
22	Stephen Kerschen	9	174
23	Logan Kinsler	10	134
34	Jack Ruckle	12	200
36	Kollin Fischer	9	140
40	Kendall Rogers	10	139
44	Cole Ruckle	9	159
77	Trenton Schnittker	11	249
81	Andrew Schultz	10	201

Cross Country Competes at League Meet



Coach Ingrid Ricke, Ethan Kostner, Ada Adams, Will Halderson, Jack Harden, Myles Thimesch, Sean Kostner

To say I was proud of these runners would be an understatement! Yesterday was our league meet and they did an outstanding job competing against teams in our league and the Wheat State league. They poured their hearts out in very windy conditions. Ada Adams finished 4th in league and 11th overall earning two medals along with a personal best of 24:53.

Jack Harden finished 9th in the league and 16th overall, earning one medal with a 20:11.

Will Halderson gutted it out and earned 1st in the league and 7th overall with a 14:19.

Myles Thimesch finished 3rd in league and 9th overall.

Ethan Kostner finished 10th in league and 15th overall in the mile with a personal best of 11:55.

Sean Kostner finished 23rd in league and 43rd overall with a time of 25:23.

These Wildcat runners did a wonderful job this year and showed a lot of improvement. Congratulations to each of them. Ada and Jack will compete next week in the regional meet.

-Coach Ingrid Ricke-

Lady Wildcats in Action



Ellie McGuire



Kyra Morgan



Taylor Schultz



Macy Neufeld



Rylee Miller



Maranda Lohrke



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Governor Shares Statement on Herington Hospital Closure

Herington Hospital is now the 8th Kansas Hospital to Close Since Kansas Has Had the Option to Expand Medicaid

TOPEKA – Today, Governor Laura Kelly released the below statement in response to Herington Hospital's announcement that it is closing as of today, October 11.

"Herington Hospital has been a fixture in the Herington community for over a century. The news

of its closure is devastating to the employees losing their jobs, citizens who relied on the hospital and its clinics for essential care, and the nearby businesses the hospital supported. Our Department of Commerce Rapid Response Team has reached out to Herington leaders and will be sharing resources with employees who are now looking for work.

"This closure makes clear the absolute necessity of expanding Medicaid this upcoming legislative session. Eight hospitals have now closed since we've had the option to increase access to affordable health insurance and support our hospitals, and over half of our rural hospitals

are at risk of following suit. Kansas legislators cannot continue to turn their backs on the 78% of Kansans—their constituents—who want to expand Medicaid and save their hospitals."

Here's How Medicaid Expansion Would Support Kansas Hospitals:

Rural hospitals in states that have not adopted Medicaid expansion are six times more likely to close than rural hospitals in states with expansion.

Researchers have found that hospitals in expansion states, and particularly those in rural areas, are better off financially and are less likely to close.

58% of rural Kansas hospitals are at risk of

closing, and 28% are at immediate risk of closing.

Here's What They're Saying:

"I'm disappointed to hear about the closing of Herington Hospital. Rural hospitals play an essential role in the livelihood of small towns like Herington by creating jobs and providing necessary care. This loss is a blow to both the residents and local economy. Expanding Medicaid will help prevent other small Kansas communities from losing their hospitals in the near future. Failing to expand Medicaid is just another one of the many attacks on small Kansas communities from state government. That's why I urge the legislature to

pass Medicaid expansion in the next session."

- Dave Baker, Former Kansas State Representative, District 68, Herington and Junction City

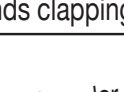
"There are many issues facing rural and urban hospitals across the country, including workforce shortages, financial challenges, stagnant reimbursement, inflation and increasing supply costs, demographic changes and regulatory barriers. These challenges are not limited to hospitals in Kansas. Hospitals in Kansas unfortunately face increased uncompensated care costs due to the lack of Medicaid expansion and a higher number of uninsured patients. In ad-

dition, many of our rural areas have an aging and decreasing population which may lead to less volume to cover needed hospital expenses."

- Chad Austin, President and CEO, Kansas Hospital Association

"Health care is critical to sustaining our rural communities, which is why it is so important to support policies such as Medicaid expansion that would make it more financially viable to operate a hospital in rural Kansas. It's tragic to see Herington Hospital close. We should do everything possible to prevent future closures. As a state, with the most financially vulnerable (cont on page 12)

A moonlit night, a band playing...



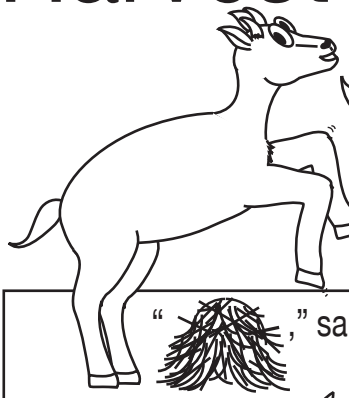
Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com

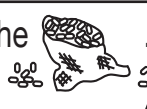
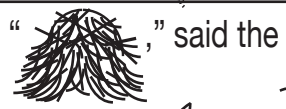
Animills LLC © 2023 V38

Kids: color stuff in!

Harvest Barn Dance



When the farm harvest is stored away, there is a bit of time left to play; "Let's have a barn dance," the donkeys bray, stacking up seats using bales of hay; "With apples and doughnuts!" the horses neigh, "And tune up your fiddles for a holiday!"

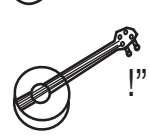


"Neigh," said the donkey

"I'll bring apples of course."



"Say," said the girl "I'll bring my old fiddle!"



What farm animals are at the old barn dance?

- I carry the farmer's pack on my back to market
- I might pull wagons or plows
- I protect the sheep from coyotes
- I lay eggs for the farmer's breakfast
- I live in a hive and make a sweet nectar for the farmer's tea
- I have hooves and horns and will chew on just about anything
- I have long ears and am known for being very swift
- I crow at sunrise to wake up the farmer
- I honk and fly in a 'V' formation
- I give the wool for warm sweaters
- I chase the mice away
- I give fresh milk to drink
- I have a bill and lots of feathers, and love to quack in the rain
- I keep foxes out of the chicken coop
- I have a flat snout and a curly tail

Only birds should dance on roofs!

May I have this dance?

Delighted!

What's a barn dance?

A barn dance is a dance in a barn. In a city, it might be held in a large room.

It is a chance to get together with friends and neighbors.

Find words on this page that rhyme with:

- play
- plow
- oat
- bat
- prance
- moose

Follow the dots to see!

Who's Dancing By Moonlight?

o w r c

I steal crops at noon, I'm crazy as a loon, I can't carry a tune, so I dance out here by the light of the moon!

When one is done practicing with the bow he can fiddle around plucking the strings!

What's Playing Up A Storm?

Follow the color key to see!

- B = Brown
- K = Black
- T = Tan
- Y = Yellow



Decorating the Barn!

Help Peak get his basket of pumpkins and gourds to the barn so he can decorate for the harvest dance!

(Answers on page 10)

Hilltop Happenings

Sorry folks, it has been an eventful few weeks and I missed column deadlines but I'm back and I thank you for understanding. It does not matter what goes on in the world, or our personal lives, we are responsible for keeping it "business as usual" here at Hilltop, and that is just what we do!

Thankful, Grateful, & Blessed

We here at Hilltop are so very grateful for Father Roger and the others that accompanied him to the Holy Land are safely home. Our prayers continue for the people of Israel.

Controlled Chaos!

Residents who have pets and are able to care for them, are welcome at Hilltop, and employees can bring their special buddies if they are friendly and well behaved (and house broken). Many residents ask about furry friends when they aren't here, and there is usually a list of residents who would love to snuggle a fur baby for a while. This last week, we had three dogs in the building, and while that sounds like it would be crazy, you often don't even know they're here. Studies have proven that pet therapy is very beneficial for residents, and our residents certainly seem happier when our four-legged friends are in the house!

One Person's Trash ...

Could be your treasure! The Cunningham City-Wide Garage Sales are Saturday, October 21, and Hilltop is on the list! Come see us!

Until next week, God Bless!



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

10 Things You May Not Know About Farmers and Ranchers

I began writing about farmers and ranchers in 2015 as an outsider-looking-in because I wanted to understand how agriculture works. Here is what I learned about them.

Family Matters

It is important to farm and ranch families that they work together as a family. It's common to find grandparents, parents, children and cousins working the farm. Although each has different roles, they know it takes all of them pulling the load together whether you're five years old or 95 years old.

Sustainability is a way of life, not a clever concept or marketing ploy.

When you meet a farmer, they self-identity where they are in the long line of farming tradition by saying, "I'm a third generation (or fourth or fifth) farmer." Most families have been farming the same piece of land since President Lincoln started the Homestead Act in 1862. They understand future generations must have good soil and water to produce crops, so sustainability is critical to family succession.

Farming is a way of life, not a career.

Unlike many children who wonder what they'll be when they grow up, many children of farm families want farming to be their destiny. I've seen five-year-old children playing with toy tractors on the living room floor discussing planting times, crop rotation and when to sell their crops.

They are highly educated.

Don't let a little barnyard on their boots fool you, farmers and ranchers are highly educated with at least a bachelor's degree if not a masters and PhD.

They care deeply about soil.

To me, it's dirt, but to a farmer, the soil underfoot is a complex system of organisms that take the seed they put in and do what they like best; grow things. If you want to see a farmer's eyes light up, ask them about the soil they have on their farm. Then prepare to enter their world of awe and admiration of the soil that grows your food.

They are experts in multiple disciplines.

I know of no other profession that requires as many varied skills as that of farming. Farmers don't wear just one hat; they wear numerous hats and excel at each of them. They are scientists,

CEOs, mechanics, global trade experts, financial experts, technology geeks and policy wonks.

They are a tight-knit community, whether it is local, national or international.

It is common for farmers to drop whatever they are doing to help a neighbor in distress. I've seen farmers fire up their combines to harvest the crops of a neighboring farmer who has cancer. I've watched a convoy of 50 trucks go from Ohio farmers to Kansas farmers whose livestock and crops were wiped out with wildfires. I know farmers with a half-million-dollar tractor who travel to Africa to help farmers who still use oxen.

They bring us hope.

Farmers and ranchers are eternal optimists. Each new seed planted, or baby calf born is a deliberate act of hope. However, Mother Nature has been particularly brutal to Midwest farmers. One day she's their best friend with rain and sunshine and the next she's their worst enemy with drought and blizzards. I have interviewed them during these times, and you see a tear trickle down their cheek at the grief of their loss, but a deep resolve to start all over again. And again. And again. I know of no profession that lives on faith and hope like farmers do.

They understand the global economy.

When I drive by a

wheat field glowing gold in the summer sun, I often sing, "Oh beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain."

However, the farmer looks at it and wonders if they're going to lose money again this year because of the trade wars. I take the grandkids by the dairy so they can moo at the cow, but the people who wake at 4 in the morning to milk those cows wonder how much longer they are going to lose money because of Canada and England changing their import policies.

They value hard work.

It is my opinion that every high school and college student should spend at least a semester working on a farm. Not only will they learn where their food comes from, they will learn how sweet sleep is that comes from physical exhaustion. Farmers start before the sun comes up and work long after it sets.

If you don't personally know a farmer or rancher, I encourage you to make friends with one. Spend time with them and you will understand why I admire them.

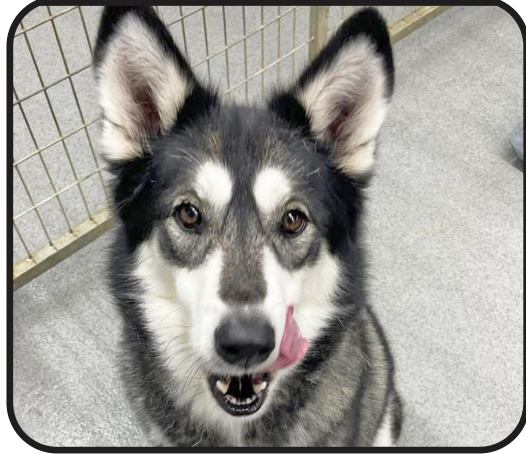
You can find one near you on our website, www.shopkansafarms.com.

Rick McNary is a leader in bringing people together to build community and reduce hunger in sustainable ways.

Kingman County Humane Society Pets Ready for Adoption

Shylo

Sponsored by Baker Accounting



Female Husky / Mixed Breed (Large)

60+ pounds

2 years +

\$180.00

Shylo has been at the shelter since July 31, 2023

Good with other dogs

People friendly

Can belt out tunes like no one else! Loves opera and showtunes.

Kinda looks like Liza Minnelli don't you think?

She's the sweetest girl- loves to relax on her dog bed.

Very clean too/ she waits til she goes outside like a good girl!

Shiloh is very smart too! She knows how to sit and loves lots of attention!

Stitch

Sponsored by Baker Accounting



Male Domestic Shorthair

4 pounds +

4 months +

\$75

Stitch has been at the shelter since July 11, 2023

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

Pratt Community College Performing Arts

ROYALD DAHL

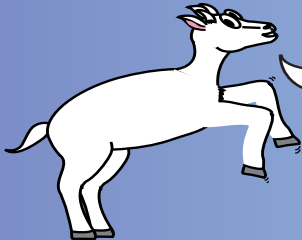
Matilda

THE MUSICAL

October 27 and 28 at 7:30pm
October 29 at 2:30pm

Admission \$5 Carpenter Auditorium

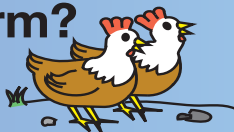
Harvest Barn Dance



When the farm harvest is stored away, there is a bit of time left to play; "Let's have a barn dance," the donkeys bray, stacking up seats using bales of hay; "With apples and doughnuts!" the horses neigh, "And tune up your fiddles for a holiday!"

What's Playing Up A Storm?

When one is done practicing with the bow he can fiddle around plucking the strings!



by Anнимills LLC © 2023



What farm animals are at the old barn dance?

I'll crow ...er... call out the dance instructions!

1 DONKEY
2 H
3 L
4 HEN
5 S
6 G
7 RABBIT
8 M
9 GOOSE
10 E
11 CAT
12 S
13 DUCK
14 E
15 PIG

Did you find words that rhyme with:

- play bray and hay
- plow cow
- oat goat
- bat cat
- prance dance
- moose goose

Kingman County Sheriff's Report

Sunday, October 1

Traffic Stop 1
 Animal Complaint 15000 Blk E Hwy 2, Norwich
 Disabled Vehicle SE 10 St & NE 70 Ave, Kingman

Monday, October 2

Traffic Stop 2
 Civil Paper Service 3
 Non-Injury Accident 13000 Blk E Hwy 2, Norwich
 Follow Up 1100 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
 Alarm 200 Blk S Main St, Norwich
 Suspicious Person 400 Blk N Joliet St, Kingman
 Follow Up 120 N Spruce, Kingman
 Disturbance 300 Blk E D Ave, Kingman
 Medical 400 Blk E A Ave, Kingman
 Trespassing 300 Blk E D Ave, Kingman
 Miscellaneous 120 N Spruce, Kingman

Tuesday, October 3

Traffic Stop 5
 Civil Paper Service 3
 Transport to DOC 120 N Spruce, Kingman
 Traffic Complaint SE 20 St & SE 120 Ave, Murdock
 Injury Accident 600 Blk S Main St, Kingman
 Non-Injury Accident 16000 E Hwy 54, Cheney
 Return of Property 120 N Spruce, Kingman
 Abandoned Vehicle 11000 E Hwy 54, Cheney
 Disabled Vehicle 6000 E Hwy 54, Kingman
 Follow Up 120 N Spruce, Kingman
 Follow Up 400 Blk E F Ave, Kingman
 Non-Injury Accident 14000 Blk W Hwy 42, Nashville
 Alarm 200 Blk N Parkway St, Norwich
 Agency Assist 15000 Blk NE 50 St, Cheney
 Mental 4000 Blk NE 150 Ave, Cheney
 Traffic Arrest 14000 W 42 Hwy, Nashville

Wednesday, October 4

Non-Injury Accident 11000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
 Traffic Complaint 13000 W Hwy 54, Cunningham
 Found Property 800 Blk NE 20 Ave, Kingman
 Suspicious Vehicle SE 100 St & SE 70 Ave, Kingman

Thursday, October 5

Theft 15000 Blk NE 10 St, Cheney
 Mental 400 Blk East A Ave, Kingman
 Transport Prisoner to Court 130 N Spruce, Kingman
 Mental Evaluation 120 N Spruce, Kingman
 Traffic Complaint 200 Blk E 1st St, Cunningham
 Traffic Complaint SW 170 Ave & S Hwy 42, Nashville
 Damage to Property W Hwy 42 & SE 40 Ave, Rago

Friday, October 6

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

“Acting responsibly is not a matter of strengthening our reason but of deepening our feelings for the welfare of others.”
 — Jostein Gaarder, Sophie's World



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

Traffic Stop 3
 Civil Paper Service 6
 Citizen Assist 1100 Blk N Main St, Kingman
 Follow Up 1200 Blk N Pine St, Kingman
 Animal Complaint 6000 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
 Found Property 4200 Blk SE 120 St, Rago
 Mental 120 North Spruce, Kingman
 Theft 120 North Spruce, Kingman
 Theft E Hwy 42 & SE 40 Ave, Rago
 911 Accidental Dial 200 Blk S Parkway St, Norwich

Saturday, October 7

Suspicious Vehicle 12000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
 Abandoned Vehicle E Hwy 54 & NE 70 Ave, Kingman
 Damage to Property Report 120 N Spruce, Kingman
 Theft 600 Blk SE 140 Ave, Norwich
 Traffic Complaint SE 80 Ave & S Hwy 14, Rago
 Miscellaneous 120 N Spruce, Kingman
 Traffic Complaint NW 80 Ave & NW 50 St, Cunningham
 Disturbance 120 N Spruce, Kingman
 Follow Up 1700 Blk NE Sunset Ln, Cheney
 Traffic Complaint 9000 E Hwy 54, Murdock
 Medical 400 Blk N Marquette, Kingman
 Disturbance 15000 Blk NE 50 St, Cheney

Sunday, October 8

Traffic Stop 2
 Civil Paper Service 1
 Follow Up 15000 Blk NE 10 St, Cheney
 Follow Up 11000 Blk NE 10 St, Murdock
 Traffic Complaint 2000 E Hwy 54, Kingman
 Trespassing SE 60 St & SE 130 Ave, Norwich
 Disabled Vehicle 8000 E Hwy 53, Murdock
 Disabled Vehicle NE 20 Ave & E Hwy 54, Kingman
 Traffic Complaint SW 90 Ave & SW 20 St, Kingman
 Burglary 16000 Blk W Hwy 42, Nashville
 Traffic Complaint 14000 Blk W Hwy 54, Cunningham
 Animal Complaint 400 Blk N Ninnescah St, Kingman
 Traffic Complaint 5000 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman

Monday, October 9

Miscellaneous 120 N Spruce, Kingman
 Miscellaneous 120 N Spruce, Kingman
 Animal Complaint SE 147 Ave & SE 135 St, Norwich

Tuesday, October 10

Traffic Stop 3
 Non-Injury Accident 11000 Blk E Hwy 42, Norwich
 Vehicle Fire 8800 Blk NE 30 St, Murdock
 Miscellaneous 700 Blk W D Ave, Kingman

Wednesday, October 11

Suspicious Person 16000 Blk W Hwy 42, Nashville
 Non-Injury Accident SE 90 St SE 70 Ave, Kingman
 Animal Complaint SW 150 St & SW 10 Ave, Spivey
 Traffic Complaint 4000 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
 Non-Injury Accident 15000 Blk S Hwy 14, Rago
 Suspicious Person 400 Blk E Leiter Ave, Cunningham

Thursday, October 12

Civil Paper Process 6
 Alarm 16000 W Hwy 42, Nashville
 Suspicious Person 100 Blk S Main St, Kingman
 Follow Up 400 Blk N Main St, Spivey
 Follow Up 300 Blk N Main St, Kingman
 Fraud 400 Blk N Main St, Spivey
 Non-Injury Accident E D Ave & N Main St, Kingman
 Non-Injury Accident 6000 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman
 Disabled Vehicle 6900 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman

Friday, October 13

Damage to Property 1800 Blk N Sidney, Kingman
 Traffic Complaint NE 50 ST & NE 160 Ave, Cheney

Saturday, October 14

Traffic Stop 3
 Civil Paper Process 4
 Follow Up 200 Blk S Parkway St, Norwich
 Animal Complaint 3000 Blk E Hwy 42, Rago
 Follow Up 200 Blk S Parkway St, Norwich
 Burglary 400 Blk W Burns Ave, Norwich
 Disturbance 2000 Blk NE 120 Ave, Murdock, Ks
 Follow Up 200 Blk S Parkway St, Norwich
 Trespassing 300 Blk E B Ave, Kingman

Statepoint Crossword Theme: HALLOWEEN

CROSSWORD

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

ACROSS

1. Down in the dumps
5. Letter-writing friend
8. Trampled
12. Hokkaido people
13. D. H. Lawrence's "___ and Lovers"
14. Near the wind, archaic
15. Mideast ruler
16. Hipbones
17. *Pumpkin, e.g.
18. *"The ___", movie
20. Jackson 5 member
21. Twinings product
22. ___ canto (singing style)
23. Appetite whetter
26. Chucking
30. Pilot's announcement, acr.
31. Short sock
34. Kuwaiti leader
35. Dapper
37. "___ the ramparts ..."
38. Origami bird
39. Popular picnic side
40. Weary walk
42. Often precedes "whiz"
43. Larry of Oracle
45. Most idle
47. Napkin holder
48. Gamy, alt. sp.
50. *What witches' brew does in 52 across
52. *"Eye of newt and toe of frog" holder
55. Shell-less gastropod, pl.
56. Siren's song, e.g.
57. A Flock of Seagulls' hit (2 words)

DOWN

1. Ovine utterance
2. Margarita fruit
3. Windows alternative in computers
4. "Europa ___" movie (1990)
5. Disease in Philip Roth's "Nemesis"
6. Licorice-like flavor
7. Future atty.'s exam
8. *Michael Jackson's spooky classic
9. Disorderly retreat
10. M lange
11. "Silent Spring" subject, acr.
13. Make ill
14. Subsequently
19. Settle a debt
22. Contrary conjunction
23. End of "incense"
24. In the least (2 words)
25. Birth-related classic
26. Group of cows
27. JPEG data
28. "To the ___," or "to a great extent"
29. Roll out the red carpet
32. *Kandy ___
33. Romanian money
36. *Stephenie Meyer's vampire

- saga
38. Relinquished
40. Spinning toy
41. Gin plus lime cordial
44. Chip dip
46. *"Monster Mash" words, e.g.
48. Tasteless and flashy
49. Gold-related
50. Spill the beans
51. Yorkshire river
52. Kin group
53. Word of mouth
54. California wine valley
55. R&R destination
58. *All Saints' Day mo.

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

B	L	U	E		P	A	L		T	R	O	D						
A	I	N	U		S	O	N	S		A	H	O	L	D				
A	M	I	R		I	L	I	A		F	R	U	I	T				
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					P	E	K	O	E		B	E	L					
C	A	N	A	P	E		H	U	R	L	I	N	G					
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A	B	E	T			N	Y	C			S	L	A	V				

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Minutes from Pratt County Commission

The Pratt County commissioners met in regular session Monday, October 2, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. in the commissioner room, 1st floor of the courthouse. The following members were present: Rick Shriver and Dwight Adams. Also, present, Lori Voss, county clerk and Mark Graber, IT director. Tyson Eisenhauer, county counselor, and Thomas W. Jones III

were absent. Heather Morgan, economic development/COVID consultant, reported the Pratt Economic Development will meet Wednesday. They will be touring the potential child care facility. They will review façade grant applications from the Chapeau and Cancun Mexican Grill. She met with the state related to the infrastructure program to local governments to match federal funds. These funds might be used for water issues. There are other unopened

grants she is keeping her eye on. She gave a Quivira impairment water update. She is reaching out to the city of Iuka this afternoon concerning ARPA reporting. Dave Dice, SWKAAA, reported on the services they provide to Pratt County. He gave a report on actual services used by Pratt County residents. He also stated they are needing volunteers to represent our county. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the minutes from

September 18, 2023, and September 25, 2023. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Jimmy White, sheriff, discussed the INA contract for cameras and security at the jail. He discussed the pay raise steps as presented. They are going to cut services to allow for the raises. Commissioner Adams stated that cuts have to be made to pay the employees raises. Commissioner Shriver asked if these raises were it, sheriff white stated for now,

but he will be back next year asking for additional raises. It was stated the sheriff salary increase is done by resolution at the beginning of the year. There was a comment on chat stating they had never been asked to mow after hours, after commissioner Adams stated Doug had asked employees to mow after regular hours for overtime and he didn't have very many sign up. There was a letter from a citizen concerning trucks not being tarped on Highway

54 and broke her windshield. She stated there should be a requirement that all loads be covered. Commissioner Shriver stated there is a law requiring it. Commissioner Shriver made a motion to approve the payment vouchers for October 2, 2023. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Adams made a motion to adjourn at 2:59 pm. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

The Four Arguments You Will Hear Against Medicaid Expansion

TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly last week launched her “Healthy Workers, Healthy Economy” tour to rally Kansans in support of Medicaid Expansion. As Governor Kelly pushes for the legislature to vote to accept federal funding that would allow thousands more working Kansans to access health insurance, here are some of the arguments people may hear against Medicaid Expansion and the context necessary to evaluate them.

Argument 1: “Medicaid expansion encourages able-bodied Kansans not to work.” Medicaid expansion enrollees are more likely to be working or looking for work than the general public, unless they are ill or have other family responsibilities. More than 80% of the working-age, able-bodied adults enrolled in Medicaid work full or part time, act as caregivers for family members, or are students. The most common jobs among adults in the coverage gap are cashier, cook, wait staff, construction laborer, housekeeper, retail salesperson, and janitor – jobs that are essential to the Kansas economy but are in industries that don't always provide health insurance.

Surveys from Ohio and Michigan found that Medicaid expansion made it easier for beneficiaries to find work. Census data shows that there are nearly 140,000 Kansans who work but do not have health insurance. **Argument 2: “Kansas can't afford Medicaid expansion.”** Research from states including Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Montana, and Virginia shows that states save money due to expansion because they spend less on incarceration and services and increase revenue. Kansas does not save money by refusing expansion – it simply gives up the opportunity to bring tax dollars back to

Kansas. Since states have had the option to expand Medicaid, Kansas has lost out on over \$6.6 billion in federal dollars that could have gone to support rural hospitals. If Medicaid is expanded, Kansas could receive an additional \$370 million in federal dollars – on top of normal expansion funds – over the next 2 years, which would cover the state's share of expansion costs for up to 8 years. **Argument 3: “Medicaid expansion will raise taxes for everyday Kansans.”** 38 out of 40 states have not increased taxes for everyday people to pay for expansion. In the two states that did increase taxes, it was approved by voters through

a ballot referendum. Arkansas was able to use savings from Medicaid Expansion to cut state income taxes. **Argument 4: “Medicaid expansion has exacerbated the mental health crisis in America.”** Expanding access to health insurance through Medicaid would also expand access to mental health services. Right now, without access to care, individuals experiencing mental health crises or struggling with substance use disorders frequently end up in emergency rooms or jails, putting a huge strain on hospitals, courts, and law enforcement. Research shows that expansion has been associated with improved

access to care and medication for people with depression, even in communities experiencing a mental health profession shortage. Medicaid Expansion is associated with the increased likelihood that people will seek treatment in a timely manner and use medications prescribed by their care provider. Governor Kelly encourages Kansans to contact their legislators and make sure they know the truth: Medicaid expansion would cut costs for Kansans, save rural hospitals, and grow our economy. It must pass this upcoming legislative session.

Governor Shares Statement on Herington Hospital Closure

(con't from page 9)

hospitals in the county, we need to come together to advance common sense policies that protect rural hospitals and ensure rural Kansans have access to health care.”

United Methodist Health Ministry Fund “There are a number of things that Kansas policymakers could do to help with the financial stability of hospitals, but one that stands out in particular is Medicaid ex-

pansion. Unfortunately, we now have more Kansans who will have to drive further or otherwise struggle to get the health care services they need because of a local hospital closure. It's time for legislators to take action

to protect Kansans, especially those in rural communities who already may struggle to access the health care they need. The longer Kansas refuses to pass expansion, the more likely we are to continue losing hospitals

and health care services.” -Lacey Kennett, Director of Communications, Alliance for a Healthy Kansas

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 Seth Thibault, OD
 Andrew W. Piester, OD
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 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
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 1-800-371-3154
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 Monday - Thursday
 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Friday

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 www.kingmantaxpro.com

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

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GREG CONRARDY

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"Cold Brew... Warm Spirits" 298-2033

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AgriPro Alfalfa Seeds
"Wheat is Our Specialty"

Cunningham Auto Service
Complete Auto Care
Call Tom or Matt
620-298-2029
cunninghamautoserviceatgmail.com


Courier Copies

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


Thanks for recycling
The Courier on October 30th
Recycle - Reduce - Reuse - Repurpose

Time to Talk Trash

The Cunningham Burn Site is locked. A \$50.00 deposit is required to obtain a key at City Hall. Your deposit is cheerfully refunded when you return the key.

Trash and recycling schedules are available at City Hall.

If you have large, bulky items for pick up (i.e. appliances or furniture) please call Nisly at 620-662-6561. They pick up bulky items once a month. This service is included in your trash bill with the city! No extra charge!

Advertising Opportunity

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

Miscellaneous

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

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

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

Advertisements are needed

This advertising space available for \$12.00

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80x120x18 \$175,900*
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*Price Includes: Delivery and installation on your level site.
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Jim Wooldridge

James L. Wooldridge passed away on Monday, October 9, 2023. He was born on December 17, 1931, to Jefferson Lee and Vera L. Wooldridge in Kingman, Kansas.



He attended grade school in Penalosa, Kansas and high school in Kingman, graduating in 1949. He attended Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas from September 1949 until January 1951 at which time he joined the U.S. Air Force during the Korean conflict. After four years of service, he returned to Southwestern College and graduated in January 1958. He was employed by First National Bank in Wichita from January 1958 to December 1989 at which time he chose early retirement (let the fun begin) as Senior Vice President, Commercial Lending Officer.

He married Geraldine Mai in September 1959 who was also employed by First National Bank having moved to Wichita from WaKenney, Kansas. They moved to Bella Vista, Arkansas, in April 1990 at his retirement from First National Bank. Jim and Geri are members of Highlands Church, a Methodist congregation – they graciously made a donation providing for Christ’s Cross in the main sanctuary during initial construction of the church.

In Wichita, Jim was active in the Y’s Men’s Club, Kiwanis Club, Midian Shrine Club, member of Albert Pike Lodge, and Scottish Rite. In Bella Vista, he was an active member of the Nomad Shrine Club and the Lakers Golf Group. He supported the Children’s Shelter, Cancer Challenge, Rally for the Cure, and other charities as a volunteer in Golf Tournaments and with financial support.

He was preceded in death by a first baby daughter in 1960; son, Jeffrey, 8 years of age in 1970; elder sister, Norma Geesling and husband, Don; and elder brother, Edward and wife, Maxine.

Jim is survived by his wife Geri, of 64 years; son, Jon, of 59 years, of Bella Vista, AR; grandson, Nicholas, of 27 years, of Lake St. Louis, Missouri; as well as several nieces and nephews.

A conservative gravesite service will be held on Saturday, October 14, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. at Hoosier Cemetery, Kingman, Kansas

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Jim’s name may be sent to St. Jude Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or the Nomad Shrine Club Transportation Fund, P.O. Box 5522, Bella Vista, Arkansas 72714.

Arrangements are under the direction of Bella Vista Funeral Home & Crematory. On-line condolences may be made at www.funeralmation.com.

Warren King

Warren Roy King, 70, passed away Sunday, October 15, 2023 at Hospice of Reno County. He was born on July 3, 1953 in Pratt to Warren Joseph and Flora (McGraw) King. Warren married Gloria Jean King on December 31, 1976. She preceded him in death on December 28, 2016.



Warren graduated from Pratt High School in 1972. He worked for Nickerson USD 309 as a Bus Driver. He was a member of Crossroads Christian Church in Hutchinson. He enjoyed working on computers, country and Christian music and driving the bus. He was a very kind, quiet and laid back man. Once a Greenback, Always a Greenback.

He is survived by his daughter, DeAnna (Ed) Roach of Wichita; step-son, Willie (Missy) Benninger of Wichita; step-daughters, Rhonda Hoefgen and Regina Benninger both of Wichita; sister, Beth (William) Lee of Arlington; 7 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; a niece; two nephews; many great-nieces and nephews; and several cousins.

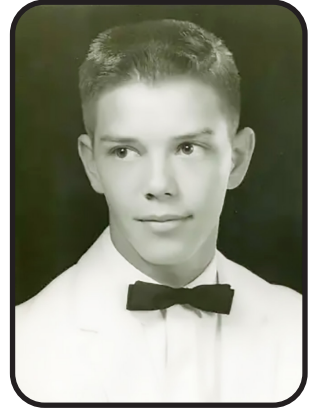
Warren is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Gloria King; brother, E.J. “Jim” King; and sister, Melanie Spurgin.

Cremation has taken place. A graveside memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, November 4, 2023 at Greenlawn Cemetery, Pratt with Pastor Matthew Spurgin presiding.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Reno County in care of Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt. Online condolences may be made at www.larrisonmortuary.com.

Delmer Bishop

Delmer Dee Bishop, 82, passed away Monday, October 16, 2023. He was born on August 14, 1941 in Pratt to Walter and Nannie (Walker) Bishop. Delmer married Bonnie (Henderson) Bishop on October 26, 1963 in Pratt. They were married for almost 60 years.



Delmer graduated from Pratt High School in 1959. He owned and operated Big D Bit Service for nearly 35 years. He enjoyed fishing, watching Kansas City Chiefs and Royals, going to the coffee shop and being the boss. He loved attending family reunions and looked forward to them.

He is survived by his wife, Bonnie of Pratt; sons, Gary (Alisa) Bishop of Jacksonville, Florida and David (Janie) Bishop of Pratt; grandchildren, Maverik Bishop of Seattle, Washington, Alexis Bishop of Salina, Holden Girard of Mission and Dane Bishop of Jacksonville, Florida; and sister in-law, Betty Bishop of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Delmer is preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Red Bishop, Rusty Bishop and Dale Bishop; and sister, Nelda Rogers.

Visitation will be Thursday, October 19, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. with family receiving friends from 5-7 at Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt. A graveside service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, October 20, 2023 at Sunset Cemetery, Cullison with Doug Bishop presiding. Everyone is welcome to join the family at Pratt Elks following the service.

Memorials may be made to Pratt County EMS or PRMC in care of Larrison Mortuary.



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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26TH AT 1:00PM – SENIOR CENTER
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST AT 2:00PM – EXPO CENTER

EXPO CENTER
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KINGMAN, KS 67068

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