

The Cunningham Courier

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(620) 298-2659

October 12, 2023
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photo by Barb Schultz

Approved Minutes from the BOE September Meetings

The West Kingman County Board of Education special Revenue Neutral Rate meeting was called to order at 6:41 p.m. on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, by President Brent Miller.

President, Brent Miller; Vice-President, Bjorn Halderson; Members, Scott DeWeese, Brent Hansen, Travis Thimesch, Vicki Oldham, and Megan Green; Superintendent, Dr. Kelly Arnberger; Principal, Cody Dunlap; Clerk, Stacy Webster; and Guests, Roberta Kobbe and Abby Bock.

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

President Brent Miller welcomed the guests.

Dr. Arnberger reviewed the proposed Budget mill rates compared to the Revenue Neutral rate presented by the county and last year's rates.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Travis Thimesch, to approve resolution 2024-014 exceeding the revenue neutral rate. Roll call votes were as follows: Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Bjorn Halderson, seconded by Travis Thimesch, to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

The West Kingman County Board of Education budget hearing was called to order at 6:50 p.m. on Wednesday September 13, 2023, by President Brent Miller.

President, Brent Miller; Vice-President, Bjorn Halderson; Members, Scott DeWeese, Brent Hansen, Travis Thimesch, Vicki Oldham, and Megan Green; Superintendent, Dr. Kelly Arnberger; Principal, Cody Dunlap; Clerk, Stacy Webster; and Guests, Roberta Kobbe, Abby Bock, Taylor Schultz, Maranda Lohrke, and Jack Ruckle.

President Brent Miller welcomed the guests.

Motion made by Vicki Oldham, seconded by Megan Green to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Guest Shawna Sterneker arrived to the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

Discussion was held regarding the proposed 2023-2024 budget.

Motion made by Travis Thimesch, seconded by Brent Hansen, to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

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

7:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 13, 2023, by President Brent Miller.

President, Brent Miller; Vice-President, Bjorn Halderson; Members, Scott DeWeese, Brent Hansen, Travis Thimesch, Vicki Oldham, and Megan Green; Superintendent, Dr. Kelly Arnberger; Principal, Cody Dunlap; Clerk, Stacy Webster; and Guests, Roberta Kobbe, Abby Bock, Taylor Schultz, Maranda Lohrke, and Jack Ruckle, Shawna Sterneker, Topaz Krehbiel, Cindi Panek, Christine Struck, Carolyn Rousseau, Colleen Wance and Lynn Hageman.

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

President Brent Miller welcomed the guests then turned the meeting over to Cody Dunlap. Cody recognized guest Colleen Wance as the SCK-SEC Para educator of the year. Colleen shared a few words about why she loves education and appreciation for her co-workers. A break was called for from 7:10 p.m. to 7:20 p.m. for the board to enjoy treats and individual words of congratulations to Colleen.

Guests Topaz Krehbiel, Cindi Panek, Christine Struck, Carolyn Rousseau, Colleen Wance and Lynn Hageman left the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Motion made by Brent Hansen, seconded by Bjorn Halderson, to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2023 regular meeting. Motion carried 7-0

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

Dr. Arnberger discussed with the board plans for creating our open enrollment policy, bus routes, and Play space learning opportunities. He shared information about a USDA farm grant opportunity. He also asked the board for direction on student activity passes that patrons had asked about.

Principal Dunlap discussed gate fees and calendar items, including games, conferences, and Homecoming. He shared that technical difficulties have aims web assessments still being worked on. He directed the board to check out the staff pages on our district website of teachers who have begun

implementing the lesson plan template. Lastly he shared that picture day is coming up and we are using a new company this year.

Member Scott DeWeese reported that the FY22 audit is complete and FY23 is in progress. He also shared that the approved para pay increase has helped with retention and that the Haskins facility continues to be a challenge.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Travis Thimesch, to go into executive session with the board and Administration at 8:16 p.m. to discuss personnel performance matters under the KOMA non-elected personnel exception and return to the board room at 8:26 p.m. YMotion carried 7-0

President Miller declared the meeting in open session at 8:26 p.m.

Members of the board were allowed a tour of the construction site, prior to the meeting, seeing first-hand the progress being made.

Superintendent Arnberger reviewed the needs assessment tool with the board for final approval.

Motion made by Vicki Oldham, seconded by Megan Green, to adopt the 2023-2024 budget. Motion carried 7-0

Superintendent Arnberger shared a proposal from ESSDACK for strategic planning of the future of our students. Discussion followed.

Motion made by Scott DeWeese, seconded by Brent Hansen to accept the strategic planning proposal from ESSDACK. Motion carried 7-0

Motion made by Bjorn Halderson, seconded by Vicki Oldham, to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m. Motion carried 7-0

Sampler Quilt Class Work on Display at CPL

This is the second installment of three about a special group display that will be featured until Oct. 29 at the Cunningham Public Library as part of the library's Comforts of Fall fundraiser. In 1981, a group of ladies from Cunningham: Lois Becker, Jeanne Theis, Jane Meyers, and Linda Kerschen, signed up for a quilting class presented by Marilyn Glenn, who was the Kingman County Extension Home Economist at that time. Bonding and fellowship were enjoyed as friendships and connections were stitched together, along with the quilts. In the coming weeks, their stories will be shared. This week, class members Lois Becker and Jeanne Theis share their memories, as told to library board member Cecile Sterneker.

Lois Becker offers a lesson in perseverance, reflecting, "I always had an interest in quilting as my mother made many, many quilts. When Marilyn

offered this sampler quilting class, I thought this would be a fun thing to do. We met in Kingman at the Activity Center each month to put together a different block or two. Marilyn provided the patterns for each of the blocks and, eventually, I got my blocks placed in the pattern I wanted. But with growing a family, work, life events, and the passage of time, I didn't complete the quilting until after retirement. With only a couple of wall hangings, I didn't do much after that, but certainly have admired the talents of the others in and around our community."

One such talented quilter is Jeanne Theis, who shares her memories with Cecile. Her story points to the importance of listening to your mother-in-law and of the value of changing with the times, all the while appreciating the past. She shares, "I've been interested in sewing since I was a little girl. I learned to sew on an old treadle machine; I enjoyed sewing doll clothes, dresses for my younger sisters, and for myself. In later years, I sewed for our children

and grandchildren. At about high school age, I got an electric machine and have upgraded several times since then.

"I had not yet been introduced to the art of quilting. However, when I was gifted with an antique quilt, a spark of interest was ignited. After I married, my mother-in-law, who did lots of quilting, helped to ignite that spark into a flame!

"I had completed a couple of quilts before the opportunity to join the 'Sampler Quilt Class' came along. It was just what I needed to refine my techniques! I have many fond memories of those months of learning, sewing, and the companionship of other women who shared my passion for quilting. Most of us hand-pieced our sampler quilts, and I have hand-quilted my quilts until the last couple of years. I have recently learned to appreciate the art of machine quilting.

"My desire to do garment sewing has waned. Now, my focus is mostly piecing quilts. All of our children and grandchildren have at least one quilt that I have pieced and hand-quilted.

I have quilts for most of the great-grandchildren and soon, will have one for all of them."

Next week: The series concludes with quilters and CPL board members, Linda Kerschen and Jane Meyers.

-compiled and submitted by various good folks at the Cunningham Public Library



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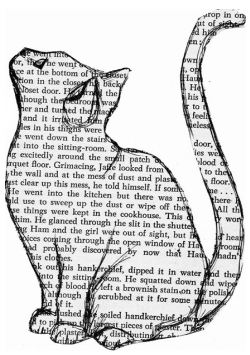
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750 West D Avenue Kingman, Kansas 67068

Jody Berry, PA-C, CWS

Bethany Sowers, BSN, RN





Meanderings

Hey, all! Notice Beth Blasi has a column at the bottom of the page. She is still happily and thankfully meandering about her life after a battle with breast cancer. I know many of our readers will be happy to hear from her.

Did you catch the news story last week about the cost of postage going up AGAIN?!? The Governors of the U.S. Postal Service have not yet approved the postage hike. If they do, the postage increase will take place on January 21, 2024.

First class postage will go up to 68 cents. Sheesh. If it is voted into effect, I will have to raise the cost of our subscrip-

tions again. This does not please me. I know I have a good product, but I also know many of us have difficulty making ends meet....

If this goes through, I'll be raising the rates \$3.00 per year. The cost would then be \$48.00 for in-state and \$53.00 for out-of-state mailings. Please plan! Three dollars isn't much, but some folks will decide the paper isn't worth those additional \$3.00. I, personally think it is; we have a very nice paper for a small community.

I don't know how I can avoid a price increase at this time IF those rates go up.. I've not raised prices through the last two postage increases, but this third one... I don't think I can absorb any more and still make ends meet. I just raised them less than a year and a half ago... So frustrating.

Are they trying to put small businesses out of business? They maybe need to put someone else in charge of our postal service.

I have been contemplating adding another

couple of pages to the paper after the first of the year. Can't see that is going to happen now. Not without more advertisers and a few more paying subscribers. Those who read on-line, feel free to send in a couple of bucks at any time to help keep the paper available to everyone.

I need new spectacles! I have an appointment in a couple of weeks.... Too long for my tired old eyes. After my appointment, where they tell me I need a change in lenses, it will still take a week or more to get the new and better specs. I will have achy, tired eyes for a while, yet.

It doesn't help that I spend 10 hours or more some days a week on the computer. I wake in the mornings and all is well. After a couple of hours on the computer, I'm rubbing my eyes, putting in eye drops, resting them... just another part of aging, right?

On page 5 there is a story "What Day of the Week Were You Born?"

by Ann Moody. It is about the little nursery rhyme we all grew up with. It's an interesting idea... your personality/character traits are shaped by the day of the week you were born on.

Monday's child is fair of face

Tuesday's child is full of grace

Wednesday's child is full of woe

Thursday's child has far to go

Friday's child is loving and giving

Saturday's child works hard for his living

And the child that is born on the Sabbath day

Is bonny and blithe, and good and gay.

My folks had six children and each of us was born on a different day of the week... isn't that odd? You would think at least two of us would be born on the same day of the week. This must be the reason we are all polar opposites.... that is if there can be 6 poles....

Jackie (child #5) was born on Monday. (She was a cutie when she was a baby, and sister Jackie is still attractive for being

an old grandma).

Mark (child #6) was born on Tuesday. (Grace as in manners, elegance, and refinement.... Maybe not. I mean he's not a country rube, and he is incredible artist, yes, without a doubt...but elegant and refined... not so much. I can't say any of us have 'grace'.)

Yvonne (child #1) was born on Wednesday. (full of woe...troubles... Yvonne was a mean, bossy, older sister.... I would say she caused me more woes than any that were bestowed upon her.)

Naola (child #3) was born on Wednesday. (Far to go, to me, always meant that there were many obstacles to overcome. BUT some sources say it means they will have a long and successful life. I can't see that Naola is any more or less successful than any of her siblings.)

Raymond (child #4) was born on Friday. (Loving and giving? HA! Jackie definitely, Raymond probably not..)

Roberta, me, (child #2) was born on Saturday. (Saturday's children may

be hard workers or they may be passionate about their work and make lasting contributions to the world.) and I can hope I have made and will continue to make lasting contributions to the world.

Mom and Dad didn't have any 'bonny and blithe, and good and gay' children. Too bad for them. One would have been nice to cheer them in their old age....

I am always reading, and currently reading, "Someone Else's Shoes" By Jojo Moyes, Roberta

"Siblings: children of the same parents, each of whom is perfectly normal until they get together." — Sam Levenson

"Got any brothers or sisters?"

"No."

"Not a real chatty gal, are ya?"

"Exactly how am I supposed to expand on not having siblings?" — Shelly Laurenston, Here Kitty, Kitty!

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.



My Breast Cancer Experience: Part 31

By Beth Blasi 2023 September has come and gone! Where did the summer go? We did take our couple week-long vacations and survived. One of those vacations was a group trip to Orange Beach, Alabama. The beach in Alabama

had great sand and the water was great but that great sand could get very hot! I thought about it too late but I'm guessing we could have cooked eggs out there! When some of our group checked into swamp tours to see alligators, they were told that even the gators were staying underwater to stay cool! On the return trip, we stopped in New Orleans. Remind us to not visit New Orleans when it is 100 degrees! At least we found an air-conditioned bar that served some icy drinks! Our cooler vacation was to the horse races in Saratoga, New York. That trip

certainly didn't make us any wealthier. We did get rained on while at the races so we were soggy and there were a few sloppy races – literally! The non-city parts of New York are really nice to visit – lush and green! Of course, from the Interstate, you see mostly trees but if you take a few back-roads you do see farms and rivers. We were able to see some of the Erie Canal system - some of the original locks are still operating – something you certainly don't see in Kansas!

Guess what? Two and a half years after my cancer diagnosis, another milestone - I am now PORTLESS!!! Perhaps I'll drift aimlessly now without a "port" (ha ha, get it? No port, drifting....) (ahem - comedian I am not lol) My port-a-cath was recently removed when I had a small skin flap under my right arm-pit removed as well (this was described as a "dog-eared deformity" left-over from my mastectomy). Maybe this was a little vain on my part, but this flap was something that just bothered me when I looked in the mirror. And, of course, if I ever wanted to be a body builder, it would just mess up the

symmetry of my physique (lol). I was under general anesthesia for this procedure and, of course, a couple pain pills. I don't know if it is age or the stuff they use, but it seemed to take a couple days before I really felt that all was right with the world. I thought I felt fine on the way home, but later that evening and the next day, I fought some nausea and just being a little tired. Guess I don't bounce back as quickly these days or maybe I'm just not busy enough to ignore it? Anyway, all seems well now and I am PORTLESS!!!

My crazy hair is trying to drive me crazy! Unfortunately, the curls that appeared when it grew back after chemotherapy have abandoned me and left me with my cowlicks and mostly straight & misbehaving hair and various textures. I'm not one to use a lot of stuff on my hair or spend a lot a time with it so it just kind of does its own thing. So, for now, I'm trying to let it grow enough to try to be some type of bob-style again – maybe get some parts long enough I can clip it back when it really doesn't want to behave. Maybe I'll even have a little extra warmth over the winter.

We made it to the fair this year and considered it a success that we were both able to walk around it all day after both of our cancer battles! However, I will say that those motorized carts look more tempting every year! The weather was great the day we went. It was the middle of the week, so it wasn't overcrowded. Of course, we got our free Dillon's ice cream, rode the Old Mill ride, signed up for a KWCH umbrella (we didn't win one), got a few freebie tote bags, saw some rabbits and chickens and geese and other fowl, saw the butter sculpture and the LARGE pumpkin and watermelon, and definitely got tired feet and legs! We opted for just hot dogs instead of Pronto Pups – I couldn't believe my hubby didn't insist on the Pronto Pup! Later, we decided we needed a Bloomin' Onion. It seems like in prior years, the Bloomin' Onion stands were everywhere! But do you think we could find one? My hubby swore he saw one so we trekked around (almost ALL around the fairgrounds again!) and finally located what had to be the ONLY booth back almost where we started but had ventured down the opposite direc-

tion! Ah, but our day was now complete as we devoured our Bloomin' Onion!

Oh yeah – last year the dermatologist found a small superficial cancer on my leg which we took care of with a cream. The checkup this year showed that that spot is now fine except for a scar. However, the dermatologist found another small cancerous spot by my left armpit. This time, I couldn't just use a cream, they wanted to do a minor procedure to "scrape and burn" so I had to go back to have that done. Guess a visit to the dermatologist will continue to be another semi-annual checkup. Did I mention that it seems our doctor appointments just seem to get more and more numerous?

We did finally purchase a UTV. I'm pretty excited to finally get a new "toy" to meander around on. I know, I know, I really need to be walking around, but the driving will be so much more fun.

Here's hoping for a little more rain and cooler weather! Get the candy ready for all the Halloween spooks! Until next time...

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Community Bulletin Board

Thursday, October 12 HS/JH Cross Country at Burrton (HOPL) *** JH VB at Central Christian *** JH FB at HOME vs. Reno County Sabres	Wednesday, October 18 Morning PreK to Pumpkin Patch *** K - 2 to Pumpkin Patch
Friday, October 13 HS FB at Burrton	Thursday, October 19 HS Scholars' Bowl at Macksville *** JH VB HOPL FInal Four at Skyline **
Saturday, October 14 HS VB HOPL Tournament at Norwich	Friday, October 20 1st Quarter ends - school early release
Monday, October 16 JH VB Pool Play *** HS Scholars' Bowl at Fairfield	Saturday, October 21 City Wide Garage Sale *** HS Cross Country Regionals ***
Tuesday, October 17 Afternoon PreK to pumpkin patch *** Lions' Club Meets	HS VB Class Div. II Sub-state

The Community Calendar is sponsored by



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

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.
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Saturday: 10:00 - 2:00
Closed on Sundays
(620) 672-3041

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



USD 332 School Board Candidates, please remember that your survey/questionnaire needs to be sent to me before October 24th. The voters and patrons of our district need to hear from you.
THANK YOU -- the editor

Upcoming Beginner-Friendly Painting Class

The Hansen Museum Continuing Education Program is pleased to welcome certified Bob Ross instructor Sandy Seamone to teach two Joy of Painting classes on October 21st and 22nd. On Saturday, October 21st, the class will paint "Sunset Creek," and on Sunday, October 22nd, "The Swan." Classes are held in the Hansen Museum Community Room, Logan, KS, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with an hour-long lunch break each day.

The Bob Ross method is designed to be a fun and simple way to paint. Sandy learned from *the happy tree guy* himself. Implementing the soft-spoken, supportive ways of her mentor, Sandy creates a classroom with a relaxing and light-hearted atmosphere. All painting supplies are provided, and no previous experience is necessary. Young and old alike will enjoy the camaraderie of these classes. Students need only bring a roll of paper towels.

Call the Museum to register or find the registration form on our website (hansenmuseum.org) under Classes & Workshops. Discounts are available for Patron and Sustaining Hansen Museum Members. This enjoyable learning opportunity is brought to you through the Hansen Museum Continuing Education Program, underwritten by the Dane G. Hansen Foundation. For more information, please call 785-689-4846.

The Museum is open weekdays 9-12 and 1-4; Saturdays 9-12 & 1-5; Sundays and holidays 1-5. We are closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. The Museum is handicap-accessible and thanks to the generosity of the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, there is never an admission fee.



4-H Year in Review

As we start a new 4-H year this month, we can reflect on all the things that we have accomplished throughout this past year.

In the month of October, we were able to accomplish many things including 4-H Promotion Week, 4-H Sunday, 48 hours of 4-H, and 4-H Achievement Celebration. For promotion week, we brought previous year's exhibits to the school and put them on a table for display. For National 4-H Sunday, our club chose to attend the Lutheran Church in Nashville. For 48 hours of 4-H, we chose our community service project with Hilltop Manor. We cleaned the outside of the windows and waved to the residents since we were unable to go inside.

There was not a lot going on in the month of November, but we had a bonfire for our meeting at the Bock's farm where we inducted our club's new officers.

During the December 4-H meeting, we had a Christmas party for our meeting. Also during the meeting, we colored nativity scenes for Hilltop Manor residents and made props for our float. We ate snacks, drank hot chocolate and played musical chairs. We also participated in the Santa Day Parade at Cunningham. We served food at the soup supper and rode our float in the parade.

For our February meeting, we had our extension agent Melissa Thimesch come in and talk about 4-H Days and leadership projects.

In March, we participated in 4-H Club Days by presenting in front of a judge either a talk or demonstration or talents that we have been working on. For our meeting this month, we had a fun meeting and chose to go to the Pratt Skating Rink where we got to skate and have ice cream bars afterward.

In May, we were able to clean stalls at the Kingman Fairgrounds as a club fundraiser.

July was a busy month for 4-H. We had a rocket launch after our club tour meeting and swam at the pool. At the fairgrounds, we helped clean and set up the tables and chairs to get ready for the fair. Our fair this year was 4 days long and each member brought in their projects to be judged. After the fair was all over, we cleaned up the fairgrounds.

In September and October, we're raising money and selling frozen Texas Roadhouse roll dough with cinnamon butter along with free appetizer card for \$10 each dozen. Or purchase Rada Cutlery at this website <https://radafundraising.com?rfsn=7583543.7f2334> as another option. Please contact a 4-Her to purchase by October 13. These two fundraisers stay local and help our Kingman County 4-H program.

This is a great time to get started in 4-H. If anyone that is 2nd grade and older is interested in joining, please contact Marci Adams at 620-243-3733 or ask any current 4-H member to get your family started. Our first meeting this year will be a bonfire and held on October 8th at the Brandon and Abby Bock farm. Our other monthly meetings are usually held at the Cunningham Community Center on Sunday evenings. Come explore 4-H with us.

-Kendall Rogers, Reporter

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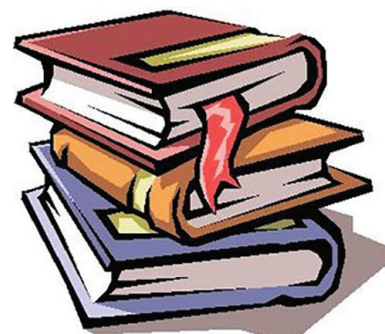
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HOW MANY: LIMIT 15 KIDS

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(620) 532-1253
<http://www.kingmantheatre.org/>
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The 2:00pm show will be Sensory Sensitive with lower volume and not as dark lighting

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YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

W. A. Bradley / William Bradley

1937 or '38

(I meant to get '38, but I'm not sure I got '38 ...it maybe '37. Don't judge, just read and enjoy)

Doug Miller, owner of the Home Owned Grocery Store and Dew Drop Inn is planning to enlarge his place of business and trade. The grocery store now occupies the eastern part of his building but will be moved to the west side in which he now has the cafe and an addition will be built on the west side of the building making his grocery department quite a little larger and more adequate to his needs. The cafe will occupy the east side of the building.

Mr. Miller believes in advertising and is building up a fine business.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Pelzl (Rose Weber) announce the birth of their second son at the Ninescah Hospital Pratt on Wednesday, October 6

1943

Oct. 8 – A B-26 Martin Marauder, a two motored medium bomber, from the Pratt Army Air Field, crashed on the Homer Wood farm, 2 ½ miles west and two miles north of Cunningham, Monday afternoon about 5:30, killing instantly its crew of five men, and bursting into flames as it crashed.

The plane was on a routine training flight from the Pratt field, and according to witnesses seemed to develop motor trouble, and crashed immediately after, and as it struck the ground caught fire, completely destroying it.

The plane fell with such force that the motors were buried 5 ½ to 6 feet in the ground, and debris from the wreckage covered an area 200 yards or more.

Work was begun last week on the remodeling and repairing of the Christian church and already much has been accomplished with a goodly number of men on hand each day to help with the work, which is under the general supervision of Carl Poland as head carpenter.

The interior of the church is undergoing a general remodeling and altering with the ceiling already having been lowered, the pulpit and choir loft lowered, and work begun on the laying of the oak flooring. The front of the church will present a more dignified appearance with the removal of the window which has been at the back of the pulpit and with the high pulpit and choir loft lowered to a natural and convenient height.

Further remodeling plans will include rewiring, new bench pews, new wallpaper and varnishing of the woodwork.

1948

October 8 – Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Don Huhman on the birth of a daughter at the Nashville Hospital Sept. 30th. The little Miss, Diana Lou, weighed 7 lbs., 3 ounces. Mrs. Huhman and daughter came home Tuesday evening.

1953

Oct. 9 – Cunningham High School's record read four wins and one loss, Thursday afternoon, when they defeated Isabel High School, 5-1, on the lo-

cal diamond. It was the first time since 1951 that Cunningham has defeated Isabel in baseball.

1963

Oct. 10 – Linda Sallee was crowned Football Queen of 1963 during the half-time of Cunningham's homecoming game with Sylvia last Friday evening.

The coronation was performed by Co-captain Jerry Strickland. The attendants to the queen were Mary Bridges and Linda Schnittker. Their escorts were Randy Sheldon and Mike Lubbers.

Sylvia won the battle of the "points-after-touch-downs" Friday night and edged out Cuningham, 20 to 19, in a Ninescah League game.

1968

Oct. 10 – The Rosa Becker family enjoyed a family dinner in the Sacred Heart Hall, Sunday, honoring Mr. and Mrs. Walter Becker of Hampton, Va.

Members of the George Gridley family enjoyed a dinner in the Lodge Hall, Sunday, honoring Mr. and Mrs. George Pederson of Richmond, Va.

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

Publisher: Charles G. Barnes

Editor: Kathleen Pakkebie

Reporter: Florine Kampling

1978

October 12- The Fire Department was called to the Lloyd Worrell home at the trailer park on the western edge of town Saturday about 5:00 p.m.

The Worrells were preparing their camping trailer for a short vacation trip when the fire started. It could have started from the refrigerator, according to Mrs. Worrell, as that is what Mr. Worrell had been working with just previously.

The camping trailer was a total loss, and as it was parked next to the trailer home, the family room was damaged severely. The remainder of the home suffered smoke and water damage, but is in surprisingly good condition.

There were no injuries in the fire and the Worrells are very grateful to their neighbors and friends and the Cunningham Fire Department for all of the assistance.

The Cunningham U.M.W. met Oct. 8 at the Cunningham Methodist Church. Mrs. Dale Sheldon welcomed the 14 members and one guest who were present. The meeting opened with Mrs. Sheldon reading a poem, "Answers".

Toys are needed for the church nursery. Each U.M.W. member is asked to bring to the next meeting either a toy or money to purchase a toy.

First Grade News – We got to celebrate our first birthday. Cindy Becker turned seven recently. Mrs. Becker brought delicious treats. We surely did enjoy them. We also had a to write birthday greetings to Ms. Beasley and Mrs. DeWeese. It's more fun to party than to write.

The cost for a one year's subscription to the Cunningham Clipper was \$6.00.

Before you start sewing school clothes, get organized. Set pu the ironing board close to the sewing machine. Keep one set of sewing tools at the machine and another set at the ironing board. Scissors, pins,

small ruler, tape measure and needles are usually sewing items you'll need in both areas.

To help organize the sewing center, consider buying a small hardware chest with drawers to store small items, a bulletin board to hang on the all in front of the sewing machine to keep the pattern sewing guide and a mug rack to hold scissors and other equipment.

Mrs. Judy Petz and Mrs. Marg Magnett honored Ms. Linda Lill with a bridal shower Thursday, Sept. 28 at the Magnett home. The table, accented in blue, the bride's colors was centered with a lovely wedding bell.

Hilltop Happenings – We want to thank Sue and Betty Kitson for donating hot peppers and pickles.

We want to thank Pat Osborn, Eunice Hellman, and Helen Harper for donating some tomatoes. Joe Trimm picked some more cabbage from the garden.

1968

The cost of The Cunningham Clipper was \$9.00 per year.

Karl Werner was appointed as the boards' representative to the Kansas Association of School Board's general assembly. Loretta Holcomb was appointed as the alternative.

Judy Pets is listed as being in good condition at Pratt Regional Medical Center Tuesday following a car accident on Friday evening just before five p.m.. She was a passenger in a car driven by Jean Depenbusch which was hit from the rear just east of Cunningham.

Depenbusch slowed down to turn into Scripsick's Amoco Service Station, where Petz was to pick up her car which had been serviced.

Millard Talley, Iola, wa the dirver of the other vehicle which was said to have skidded about 44 feet before striking the Depenbusch car. He and Mrs. Depenbusch and Jarrod Depenbusch were taken to Kingman Community Hospital where they were treated and released. The other children were examined at the scene by Rogene Jarmer.

The Cunningham High School Band will present a half-time show on Friday, October 14th. The band, under the direction of Galen Reeves, will perform after the crowning of the 1983-84 Fall Festival king an queen.

The bank has been active in other areas. It marched in the Sacred Heart Catholic Church 75h Anniversary on Oct. 8

Penni Walter, a freshman, is a member of the 1983-84 Tabor College Band. Penni, the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Walter of Cunningham performs on the clarinet.

The Lady Wildcats' Donna Adelhardt received the honor of being chosen to the Burrton Invitational Volleyball Tournament All-Tourney Team. The Burrton Tournament is highly competitive with 3A, 2A, and 1A schools participating.

Bishop Gerber of the Wichita Diocese served Mass at the Sacred Heart Anniversary celebration Saturday. Assisting were Fr. Struble, former pastor, Fr. Watson, present pastor, Fr. Robl, former pastor, and Fr. Larkin of St. Pat's, Kingman.

A COLUMN BY TOM PURCELL

We Need a Rebirth of Empathy

When I read a news piece about the passing of longtime California senator Dianne Feinstein a few weeks ago, some of the comments left at the bottom of the online article made me sad.

Feinstein suffered a very public health decline before she passed.

Anyone with the slightest sense of empathy would think "there but for the grace of God go I" — as every one of us could suffer a similar decline before our time finally comes.

Empathy is in short supply these days, however.

I don't recall the exact words, but some commenters who disagreed with her political positions wrote comments such as "good riddance." Others used derogatory terms that portrayed Feinstein not as a fellow human being but as some evil entity whose death was a good thing.

This past weekend,

as Hamas gunmen from Gaza invaded Israel, killing and assaulting hundreds of civilians, my heart ached for people like Shani Louk, a 30-year-old woman who had been attending a dance music festival when she was kidnapped and paraded through the streets semi-naked in the back of a pickup truck.

My immediate response was incredible compassion for the pain and terror this poor woman suffered before she was killed — my heart breaks for her and her family.

The immediate response from many others around the world, how-

ever, was coldhearted and purely political — that her suffering was Israel's fault because the country supposedly had this terrorist attack coming.

Not only do we live in a time in which everything is political all the time, we live in a world where people with whom we disagree are no longer seen as fellow human beings who have differing thoughts, but as evil entities that must be stopped by any means.

Why have our hearts become so much harder? One of the key reasons is the way we now receive and process information.

Dr. Helen Riess, author of "The Empathy

Effect," says empathy's decline has to do with social media.

A Street Roots report on her book says "many of the neurological keys to feeling empathy are missing from the exchange" when we communicate through texts, email and social media posts.

When communicating electronically, not face to face, there's no chance of paying attention to body language and facial expressions — or to make eye contact, which is a really important component of empathy.

Psychology Today cites research, published in the journal Computers in Human Behavior, that a simple lack of eye contact enables an anonymity that fosters rudeness and encourages online trolling.

Unfortunately, the era of smartphones and social media — of nasty tweets and Facebook insults — is making rudeness "our new normal."

Riess continues that without emotional cues

that we can see, we're left with only words (and images) on a screen, which leads to detachment and creates emotional indifference.

An increasing number of people treat those with whom they disagree this way — which contributes to the general decline of empathy in our civil discourse.

Though Riess says empathy is being blunted, she emphasizes to Forbes that it can be learned.

Her thinking is seconded by an interesting New York Times article that identifies specific actions we can all take to restore empathy in our own hearts.

The simple truth is that we need to stop hiding behind our electronic devices and actively engage with people face-to-face.

We need to set politics aside now and then to embrace our common humanity — and relearn how to sympathize with suffering when humans are at their worst.

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Alan Albers at 620-298-2725 or
Mike McGovney at 620-770-9503
(Volunteers Needed
at the museum)

A Column by Mike Johnson

Take This Chance

When screens go dark. When lights switch off. When sleep swallows household sounds. When your mind stops spinning. There is You. This is real life. That's where you face who you are. What you're

doing. Where you're doing it. Who you're doing it with. Why you're doing it. How do you measure up to the You you want to be? Honest evaluations, in this quiet, introspective space, can capture ideas and desires that launch exceptional course corrections. This is your chance. A rare chance. Take it.

Geneva

I brought you flowers, You brought me joy! I gave you chocolates, You gave me validation! We joined with one another in friendship, affirmation, acceptance, and the understanding of a grieving mother's heart. We shared a love for God and country, and life, and family. I came to you burdened and left in freedom. I came to you weak and left feeling ten feet tall. Dear Geneva, you made such a difference in my life and the lives of so many! Until we meet again, may I imitate you, because you imitated Jesus. Your loving friend, Karen

My son, Justin, performed a violin Christmas concert yearly for the residents of Southwind Home in Pratt for the past several years. That was Geneva's last earthly home after moving from her beautiful two story farmhouse north of Iuka. He would play many Christmas carols and always conclude with Miss Geneva's favorite hymn, Amazing Grace. Justin had the privilege of playing it one last time in her honor at her funeral last week.



Last Christmas at Southwind Home. Justin and Karen Eck with their beloved Geneva Briggeman.



What Day of the Week Were You Born?

By Anna Moody There is an old Mother Goose nursery rhyme called "Monday's Child." The author of this poem assigns characteristics to children born on specific days of the week, beginning with Monday's child being fair of face. So what does it mean if your child is born on Monday with a ruddy complexion? Or, could the author be referring to a face that reflects honesty, objectiveness or a bright disposition rather than color?

The poem continues with Tuesday's child being full of grace. What if your child turns out to be a klutz? Does that rule out your child truly being born a Tuesday's child? Perhaps the child was born at the stroke of midnight and the doctor simply chose Tuesday instead of the day on either side of Tuesday. But wait – isn't grace the gift by which all Christians through faith are saved? It doesn't matter what day of the week you are born, if you have faith and believe, you are full of grace. Wednesday's child is full of woe. We have all seen children who

cannot escape the miseries of life. From early on they seem to attract misfortune and unhappiness. What a depressing burden for parents to carry if their child was born on Wednesday. We question then, did it come about simply because they were born on Wednesday? What else determined their fate? Thursday's child has far to go. It cannot be discerned from the poem whether the author refers to distance or success or either. Is the child destined to travel the world, or climb the corporate ladder of success? The other consideration might be that neither distance

nor success was in the author's mind, but simply it was the easiest word found to rhyme with "woe." Friday's child, according to the poem, is loving and giving. How many children born on Friday actually turn out to be mean and selfish? If parents truly follow the poem and trust its predictions they lose faith in not only the poem, but ultimately the child himself. So then does the day of the week matter as much as the environment in which the child is raised? Saturday's child works hard for a living. Are all hard workers born on Saturday? Should we automatically conclude that there are no lazy people born on Saturday? Will the question of the day of the week on which you were born soon become common on a job application? Does it mean that anyone born on any other day of

the week does not work hard for a living? And finally, the child that is born on the Sabbath day is bonny and blithe, and good and gay. This child is given several attributes from which to choose. If not handsome and appealing, they could be carefree and happy, or respectable and virtuous, or homosexual and effervescent. What a variance of personality characteristics are offered to the Sunday child. Does it mean the Sunday child must possess all of these traits, or is it a multiple choice of blessing options? Perhaps moving through a week, as in this poem, is pure fantasy and meant to entertain as a bedtime story from Old Mother Goose. Perhaps it answers our search for resolution of the questions we have of the personalities of those around us, not necessarily our children. Maybe the

new pick-up line will be "What day of the week were you born?" instead of "What's your sign?" Once we are born – no matter what day of the week – other life experiences begin to influence who we become. While the day of the week is notable, it certainly cannot determine the path down which life will take us. Instead, it is a lighthearted view of yet another element of our birth. The bottom line is that no matter what day of the week we are born, God reaches out to claim us and takes our hand to lead us through a life He would have us live. He is there to help us pursue the impossible and fulfill that which He would have us become. Do we accept His extended hand of guidance, or do we reject it and attempt to do it on our own? The choice is ours.



Catholic Churches

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

St. Leo
Saturdays 4:00 p.m.

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

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

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





Lutheran Churches

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

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

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

Pastor vacancy until further notice.





Church of Christ
Penalosa
Sunday 11:00 a.m.



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





United Methodist Church
Penalosa
Worship 9:15 a.m.

Cunningham
Worship 10:45 a.m.
Pastor Mathew Ndambuki Musyoki
620-298-2090

Zenda
Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School: Children 8:30 a.m. Adults 10:00 a.m.
Pastor J L Nichols
620-491-0600

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



Giving Opportunities in our Community

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

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

Hands of Hope (contact any church)

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

Cunningham Community Center (leave donation at the bank)

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

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

Cunningham Public Library (to donate, contact Kerri Steffen)

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

Cunningham Hands of Hope, Inc.

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

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

What: Food

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

Where: 117 N Main (Old School Board Office)

Why: To provide food assistance to those in need.

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

Do you need assistance outside distribution hours?

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

JH Lady Cats vs. Skyline



Molly Morgan photos

Clockwise from above left:
Morgan Oldham
Andi Young
Keyonna Huffman
Sage Thiemsch
Katie Ogg



JH Wildcats Defeat Skyline

On Thursday, October 5, 2023 the Cunningham JH football team wrapped up the league portion of their schedule with a convincing 48-0 win over league rival Skyline. The Wildcats built 34-0 lead after one quarter, and led 42-0 at halftime, before they ended the game via the 45-point mercy rule late in the third quarter. Cole Hageman scored the game's first touchdown on a 25 yard run just over a minute into the first quarter, John Paul Kerschen ran in the 2-point conversion to give the Wildcats an 8-0 lead. On their next offensive possession, JP Kerschen scored on an 11 yard run,

Tyler Osner would convert the PAT to make the score 16-0. The Wildcat defense would score a safety on Skyline's next possession to make the score 18-0. On the ensuing free-kick JP Kerschen would return the kick 40 yards for a touchdown, Wesly Preisser would run in the PAT extending the lead to 26-0. After a Skyline turnover on the kickoff, Colton Rohlman would score a touchdown on a 15 yard run, Preisser would again add the PAT to bring the first quarter score to 34-0. Midway through the second quarter Andrew Kerschen would score on a 4 yard run, he would also run in the PAT to make the halftime score 42-0. Then with 2:28

left in the third quarter, Andrew Kerschen would again score from 4 yards out to end the game with a 48-0 score. The win put the Wildcats record at 6-0, giving them back to back league championships and their 5th league championship in the past 6 years.

by Coach Bart Ricke



Tyler Osner



Cole Hageman and Brody Bock



Andrew Kerschen,
Cole Gridley, and Weston Rogers



Colton Rohlman

Molly Morgan photos

Molly Morgan photos



Wildcat Cross Country Runners Place

Congratulations to Ada Adams who placed 17th in the varsity girls 5K race earning her another medal (25:42).

Jack Harden placed 25th in the varsity 5K boys with the time of 19:32.

Sean Kostner was 26th in the JV boys race with the time 25:29.

Will Halderson placed 8th in the 2 mile (13:32) and Myles Thimesch placed 14th (15:12)

Ethan Kostner placed 20th in the mile (12:29).

The Cunningham Wildcat runners will compete in their league meet next Thursday.



This photo of the Wildcat cheer squad was sent in by Debbie Sulenes, cheer sponsor.

Pictured left to right:
Bella Thimesch
Nora Huff
Elizabeth Paris
Maranda Lohrke
Brianna Dittmer

Lady Wildcats vs. Central Christian



Emily Ogg



Maranda Lohrke



Ellie McGuire



Rylee Miller



6-Man Wildcat Football vs LeRoy



Luke McGuire causes fumble.



Trent Schnittker and Jack Ruckle



Layne Green and Kolin Fischer



Trent Schnittker, Luke Albers, and Luke McGuire

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

Wildcat Nibbles for the Newspaper

Hello everyone in Wildcat land! Thank you for your interest and support of your local school! The progress on the first phase of construction looks so much different than when we started school almost two months ago. Now that the brick work is completed on the building and the windows are placed, the continued progress is not as visible. I hope you enjoy the pictures taken by The Cunningham Courier as the pictures demonstrate how much has been done and how much still remains.

Inside the building

the plumbing is being completed. They should test lines late next week. Permanent electric power connected to the new building will also be completed next week. The tile and grout in the bathrooms is being placed. The cabinets and other permanent classroom accessories are being installed. Soon, the flooring (carpet and tile) in the hallway and classrooms will begin. The pictures do a much better job of demonstrating the progress than I can in these words.

I know we are all wondering when we will be able to begin school in the new building. I would like to share a few dates with you. Please

note, the projected date for occupancy could change due to unforeseen circumstances.....these are our best estimates based on the current rate of progress:

November 11 and 12 Open House - Tour the current high school one last time before deconstruction. The building will be open for touring Saturday from 4:00 - 6:00 PM. The building will be open on Sunday from noon - 2:00 PM. Please note the high school students will be performing the play, "Pyros of the Caribbean" Saturday night and we would love for all of you to tour the building and then take in the performance by our students.

November 20 and 21 Pack and Move to the new school building. We are developing the logistics for packing and moving to the new building; what will go into the new building from the old, what will be set aside to make available to the community and when, and what will need to be disposed of permanently.

November 27 First day of learning in the new building.

Again, these are anticipated dates subject to change. The big date that is not set is when will the old high school be deconstructed? It is highly likely to happen between December 4 and 19. We will establish a date for the deconstruction that

will allow for those in the community who wish to view the process to have the opportunity. The date is dependent on three things: 1. Can we conduct school in the new building? 2. How long will it take to remove the necessary items before the building can be safely deconstructed? And 3. How long will it take to safely shut off all utilities and remove any asbestos contained in the old building? As soon as the district and construction company can answer the three questions, a date will be set and immediately announced through our various communication platforms and the Courier.

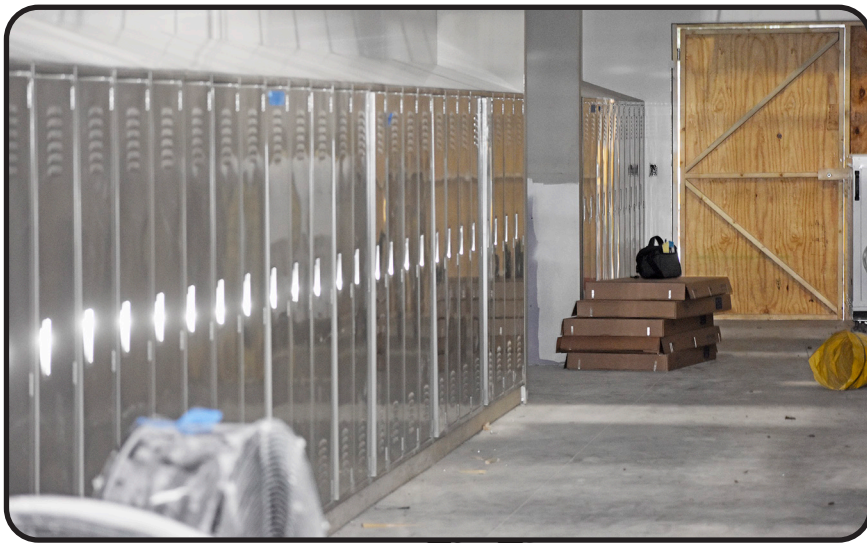
This is a very exciting

time in Cunningham and there will be many questions and details that will be addressed in the coming weeks. Should you have any questions about the construction process and anything else related to education at USD 332, please feel free to call or stop by the office. We are always happy to answer any questions or just have a conversation about the amazing school and community. On behalf of all who work to serve the children at our school, thank you for your continued support. None of this happens without your support.

-Dr. Kelly Amberger



Science Lab



Gymnasium



Classroom Addition

This year's enrollment on September 20th.

- Pre K - 25
- K - 15
- 1 - 14
- 2 - 15
- 3 - 11
- 4 - 17
- 5 - 22
- 6 - 19
- 7 - 16
- 8 - 21
- 9 - 15
- 10 - 13
- 11 - 16
- 12 - 12
- Total 231



2022-2023: 228
2021-2022: 230





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Working To Make a Life

Jackie Mundt, Pratt County farmer and rancher

Fall harvest is in full swing on our central Kansas farm.

Do you live to work or work to live? This question of mindset and philosophy has been a source of intergenerational tension for a while now. Baby boomers see working hard to provide for their families and millennials work to support a great life outside their working hours. In the end both groups are working to make a living.

In my world, neither of these is correct; work takes on many forms in my life — a career where my living is earned, jobs completed around the farm that keep the place running and time spent on community activities. They are work in function but don't merely represent earnings to provide for a family or the pride in a job well done. These things are my work and my life.

For weeks our house has been in fall harvest mode which means non-stop action. Someone is likely driving a combine or grain cart, fueling or shuttling vehicles, farming to prep the soil, running a drill and sometimes all of these are happening at once. Our house feels like a rest

stop where meals are eaten, and the shorter days mean leaving and coming home in the dark. We exercise communication and teamwork as we put the needs of the farm over our own comfort. It's chaotic, exciting and exhausting.

Life off the farm doesn't stop for harvest. Recently we helped run our local Oktoberfest to raise money for community philanthropy. One of the best things about this event is the group of 16 people who serve on the planning committee to make it happen. This group of working professionals and business owners is made up of parents to small children (including three sets of twins), leaders in churches or serving

on community and civic boards, and we even have some pursuing advanced degrees. Everyone on the committee is stepping away from busy lives; we are making sacrifices and working because we take ownership in making our community a great place to live.

My "real job" is fairly exciting this time of year, too. Most of the cooperatives employees are focused on harvest and helping our members get wheat in the ground. My focus is on planting a different type of seeds. The start of the school year provides lots of opportunities for me to give tours of our facilities and classroom presentations about the value of cooperatives, working at the cooperative and making

the decision to live rural by choice.

Farmers are often recognized for their work ethic which might be because to farmers work is more than just doing a job, it is our life. We aren't paid by hours or jobs done; we spend months investing time, energy and resources not knowing how much or even if it will all pay off in the end.

This is the work-life philosophy that underlies my life. Much of what I do has little instant gratification or payoff. I have to have faith that my time, effort and skills will yield something great in the future.

They say that if you love what you do you will never work a day in your life. I see it slightly dif-

ferently, if you love what you do, you gladly work hard to make things happen. When you fill your life with work that you love or do it for people you love it becomes so much easier.

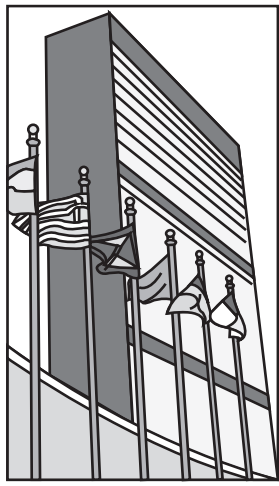
The question shouldn't be living to work or working to live? It should be are you working to make a living or a life?

"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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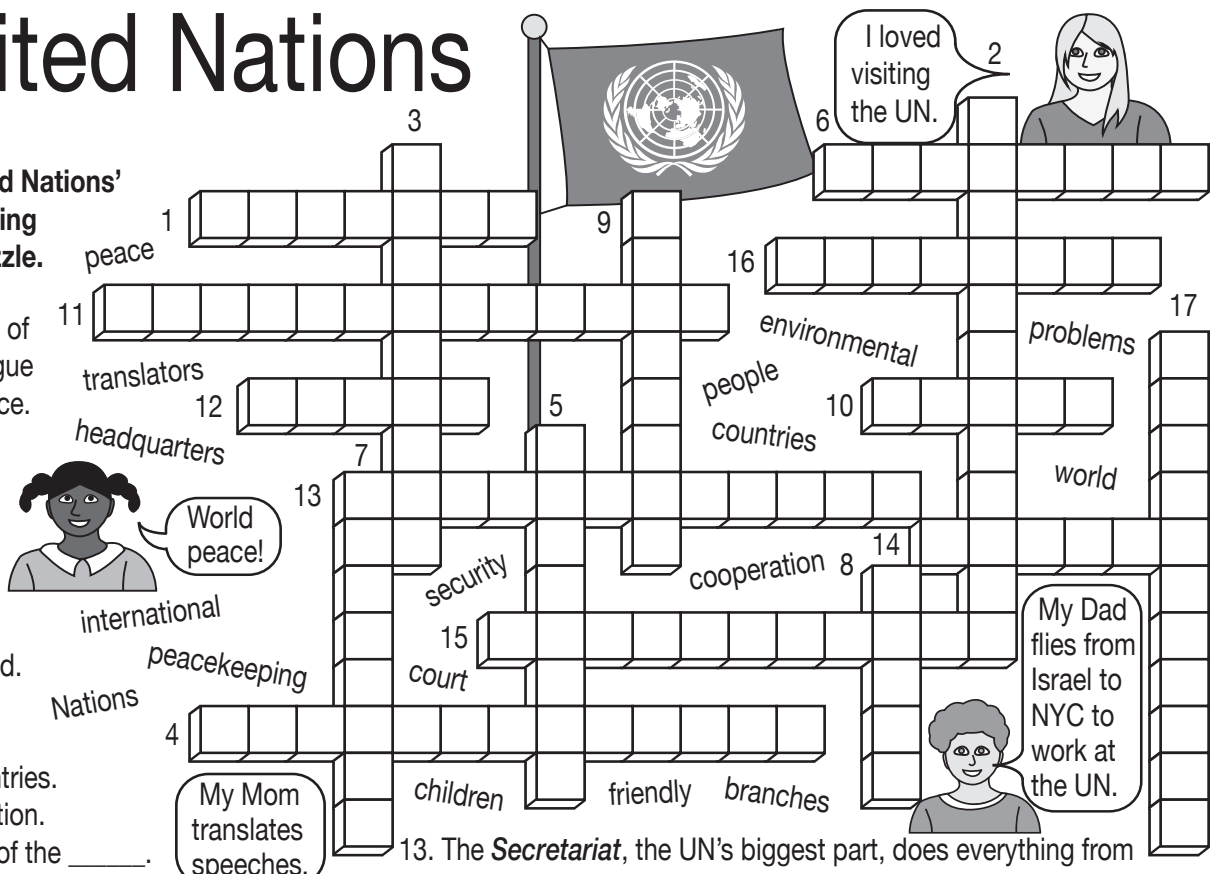


The United Nations



Learn about the United Nations' history and work by reading the clues to fill in the puzzle.

- After World War I, a group of countries formed the League of _____ to keep the peace.
- After World War II, 51 countries formed the United Nations (UN). Its _____ is in New York City.
- Among these member _____ were: Canada, France, China, Egypt, the U.S. and more.
- Today, the UN has 193 countries working together, making it the largest _____ organization in the world.
- The UN has four main goals: **First** – to promote peace and _____ across the world.
- Second** – to help keep things _____ between countries.
- Third** – to solve worldwide _____ through cooperation.
- Fourth** – to be a group that can unify the countries of the _____.
- The UN **General Assembly** (all member nations) makes big decisions; smaller _____ keep it running smoothly.
- The **Security Council** decides where there are threats to _____ around the world and tries to settle disputes without violence.
- The **Economic and Social Council** makes decisions about _____ and money problems around the world. They help people to keep their rights.
- The **International _____ of Justice** settles disagreements.



The World Listens

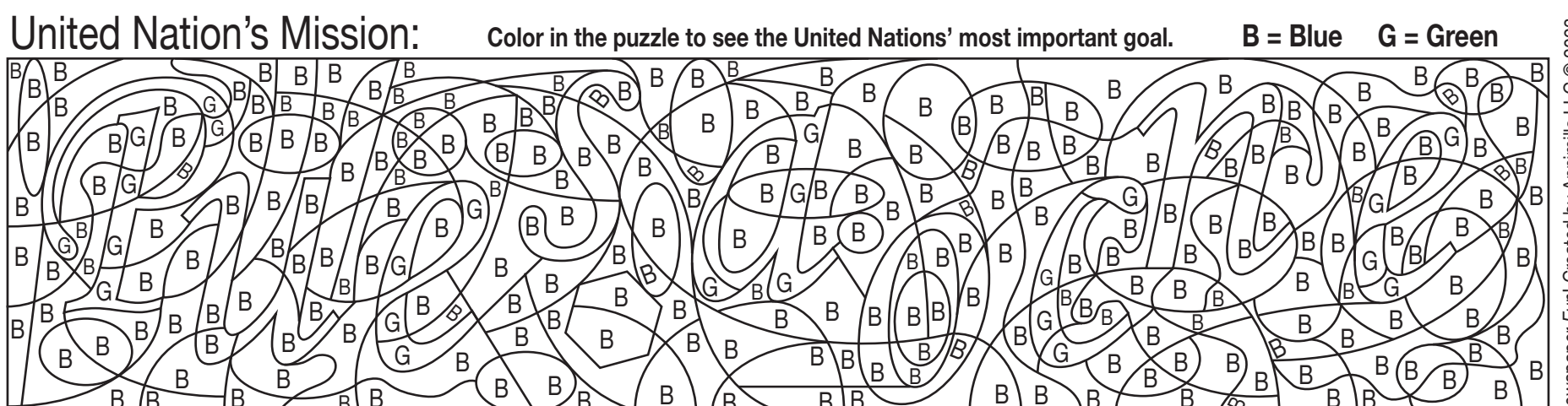
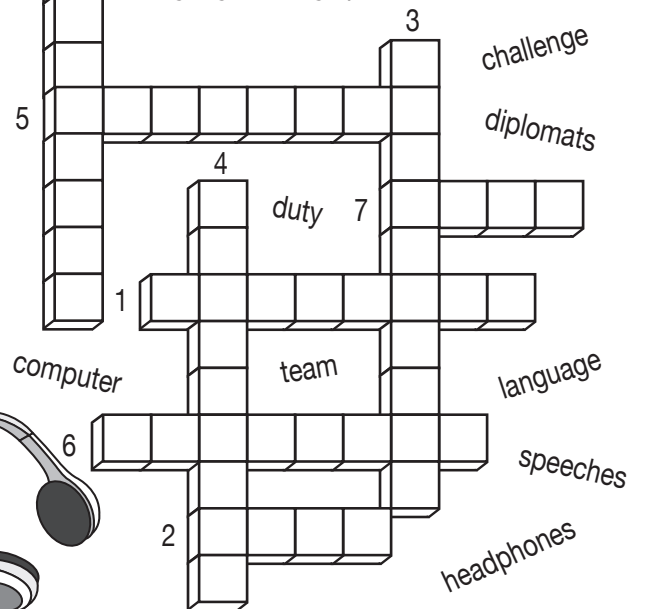
- Scotland
- France
- India
- China
- Egypt
- Kenya
- Spain
- Portugal
- A. Swahili
- B. Hindi
- C. Arabic
- D. Portuguese
- E. Gaelic
- F. Spanish
- G. French
- H. Mandarin



- _____ at the United Nations are usually given in one of six languages: English, Spanish, French, Russian, Arabic or Chinese.
- Each of the six official languages has a _____ of two interpreters working together.
- Interpreters wear _____ to listen closely to speeches.
- Interpreters work in special booths where they share the speeches with _____ in the General Assembly.

- Interpreters who work for the United Nations need to know their native _____ and at least two others.
- A _____ system is often used to help translate day-to-day communications.
- Some interpreters do their _____ in foreign countries around the world.
- Getting each and every word right can be a _____ for an interpreter, but their work helps the UN get closer to its goal of world peace.

Here are two puzzles for you! In the first one, match the name of each country with one of the languages spoken there. Then, read the clues that explain how people from all over the world can understand all of the different languages being spoken at the UN.



(Answers on page 10)

Guys & Dolls Leaps to Life Through Dance

While many regard the Broadway musical *Guys and Dolls* to be “the perfect musical” with its incredibly funny book, vivid characters, and warm-hearted romance, it simply won’t come alive without the energy and excitement of choreography and staging that literally leaps off the stage. To achieve that goal, Sterling College Music Theatre has once again enlisted New York City-based choreographer Travis Nesbitt. *Guys and Dolls* will be presented over four performances October 12 through 15 in Culbertson Auditorium.

A fable about Broadway, *Guys and Dolls* is based on Damon Runyon’s rough-and-tumble stories of New York City circa 1950. Frank Loesser’s dynamic score features song favorites such as “Luck be a Lady,” “Sit Down You’re Rockin’ the Boat,” “I’ve Never Been in Love Before,” and the title song.

This is Nesbitt’s seventh show in five years at Sterling. He has worked with this year’s senior class in five different shows. “I have seen 100% growth in the students here at Sterling,” Nesbitt said. “They are

super comfortable with the way I work now and trust me to throw them material that makes them look awesome.”

In order to stage a show at Sterling, Nesbitt comes for a quick visit – sometimes as little as 1.5 days to stage everything. The time is spent in intensive 3-to-5-hour rehearsals. “It’s a very quick in and out, then I hand off to Rachel.” Dance Captain/co-choreographer senior student Rachel Thomson continues working and honing his numbers while staging some of her own.

Thomson said, “After working with Travis for 3.5 years I’ve learned how to retain choreography at a quick pace which will give me the ability to clean it once he is gone. I am pleased how much I have grown as a dancer since starting with Travis. He has been such a great mentor to me and has challenged me as a dancer show after show.”

“We are blessed to have Travis work with us,” Thomson added. Nesbitt connected with Sterling College Music Theatre through Sterling music faculty member Marisa Callan, who is serving as both the music director and stage director for *Guys and Dolls*. The two grew up together in Norco, California. They both had music teacher parents and often played opposite one

another in school productions and share a love of bringing music theatre to life.

Nesbitt said, “I have been loving my time at Sterling. Marisa and I work really well together and having the opportunity to creatively explore so many diverse projects is really a gift. I definitely feel like I have grown as choreographer in the five years I have worked at Sterling.”

Thomson adds, “The quality of SC’s musicals has increased a tremendous amount through the last few years. The work ethic of the students has only gotten better, which leads to cleaner and more entertaining shows. I’m very proud of my peers and the work that we’ve accomplished over the years.”

In addition to their regular evening rehearsals, Thomson schedules specific dance-only rehearsals for 7:00 am leading up to production. In these early morning rehearsals, students rehearse one or two songs only for an hour or so. This gives them time to work on the material more in depth and to “polish” the numbers before production week.

“Since *Guys and Dolls* is a golden age musical, the challenge was to make the show feel exciting and current without having the movement

feel too contemporary like *Legally Blonde*. The students have adapted to the style quite well,” said Nesbitt.

The choreography in *Guys and Dolls* is integrated into the storytelling. “Runyonland” opens the show and is actually a dance piece. There is no singing in the number, just staging and dancing. In it the many Damon Runyon characters crisscross through Times Square and are introduced to the audience. Nesbitt has also staged “The Crapshooters’ Ballet” which opens Act Two of the show and features the leaping, dancing gamblers anticipating the “big game” and leads into one of the best-known songs from the show “Luck, Be A Lady.”

In addition to being Dance Captain, Thomson is also choreographing the Hot Box nightclub numbers in the show. “My vision with these numbers is to stay as true to the style and value of the original *Guys and Dolls* - fun, flirty, and energetic. Luckily, I get to choreograph some of my best friends, so these numbers have been a blast!”

Performances of Sterling College Music Theatre’s production of *Guys and Dolls* will be Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, October 12, 13, and 14 at 7:30 pm and

at 2:00 pm on Sunday, October 15 in Culbertson Auditorium on the college campus. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and \$10.00 for students and are available online at sterling.edu/arts or at the door before each performance.



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on Wed., from 8:00 - 12:00
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Patches

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Patches
Male Rex, Mini
4 pounds
6 months +
\$40.00

Patches has been at the shelter since September 30, 2023.

Huck

Sponsored by Baker Accounting



Male Retriever, Labrador / Retriever, Chocolate Labrador
25 pounds +
6 months +
\$250.00

Huck has been at the shelter since July 13, 2023.

Huck is good with cats and other dogs. He is a people friendly dog.

Adorable Chocolate Lab Puppy! Comes complete with all the craziness associated with Lab puppies. Craziness expected to last about 3 years, followed by several more years of general goofiness. And a lifetime of love and loyalty.

Rusty

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Male Domestic Shorthair
10 pounds +
3 years +
\$40

Rusty has been at the shelter since July 10, 2023

Rusty is a big, lovable kitty who easily makes friends with other animals. He likes to cuddle with his human or sleep at night with a stuffed animal. He loves to take catnaps on the back of the sofa, dreaming of catching birds.

The World Listens

1 SPEECHES
2 TEAM
3 LANGUAGES
4 COMPUTER
5 DUTY
6 SPEECHES
7 DUTY
8 SPEECHES
9 COMPUTER
10 TEAM
11 SPEECHES
12 COMPUTER
13 TEAM
14 SPEECHES
15 COMPUTER
16 TEAM
17 SPEECHES

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The United Nations

1 NATIONS
2 FRIENDLY
3 ENVIRONMENTAL
4 COURTS
5 PEACEKEEPING
6 CHILDREN
7 PEACE
8 TRANSLATORS
9 INTERNATIONAL
10 PEACE
11 TRANSLATORS
12 INTERNATIONAL
13 PEACE
14 TRANSLATORS
15 INTERNATIONAL
16 PEACE
17 TRANSLATORS

1. Scotland
2. France
3. India
4. China
5. Egypt
6. Kenya
7. Spain
8. Portugal

A. Swahili
B. Hindi
C. Arabic
D. Portuguese
E. Gaelic
F. Spanish
G. French
H. Mandarin

United Nation’s Mission:
Peace



Wheat Scoop: Kansas Author Explores Link Between Mennonites, Wheat and Threshing Stones

Kansas author Glenn Ediger left no threshing stone unturned as he embarked on a historical treasure hunt for the tools used by the Mennonites who settled in and around central Kansas. From his own front yard to Threshing Days in Gossel, he uncovered the unique set of events that brought some of the most innovative farmers in the world to Kansas and established hard red winter wheat as a Kansas staple. He recently shared what he learned with listeners of the "Wheat's On Your Mind" podcast.

"Probably no year holds more significance to the wheat industry in Kansas than 1874," said Aaron Harries, host of the

"Wheat's On Your Mind" podcast and Kansas Wheat vice president of research and operations. "That was the year Mennonite immigrants from Ukraine came to Kansas to escape the loss of their religious freedom."

"They came at the invitation of the state of Kansas and the Santa Fe Railroad to develop the prairie into a rich and productive agricultural economy. These groups of families brought with them Turkey Red winter wheat, and as they say, the rest is history. But there's so much more to this story."

An invitation and an escape

From the establishment of their religion, the Mennonites had a reputation for being good, industrious farmers. As a result of this reputation and their continued pursuit of religious freedom, their communities moved from their origins in the Netherlands to Prussia (what is now Poland) to develop lands for farming. Later, when religious freedoms in the country were curtailed, the Mennonites took the invitation of Catherine the Great to relocate to

western Russia (what is now Ukraine) in the late 1700s and early 1800s. That included Ediger's ancestors, who moved to Russia in 1810 and farmed there for roughly 60 years.

"They did create a fertile farming culture with a lot of innovations — what types of crops to grow and how to better preserve crops and how to influence better growth with things like fertilization and summer fallow," Ediger explained. "They really advanced that with creating and developing alternative hard winter wheats that were quite successful in that community."

Recruitment by the railroad

Around this time, Kansas was being marketed as the crown jewel for agriculture in the United States, driven by the construction of the railroad. But, the region needed more people and more commerce, so the Santa Fe railroad drove a campaign to recruit more settlers from other countries to move to Kansas, including the Mennonites. Those efforts included Carl B. Schmidt, who was an implement dealer recruited by the railroads to encourage the Mennonites to move to the United States.

"C.B. Schmidt was an implement dealer; he spoke German; and Schmidt is a common Mennonite name, even though he was not Mennonite," Ediger said. "There was competition to get the Mennonites to the United States all through the Midwest, from Canada down through Oklahoma. So Carl went to Ukraine and talked to local Mennonites and convinced them how wonderful Kansas was."

The railroad also paid for ambassadors from the Mennonites to come to tour the Central Plains, including surveying different properties. In the

end, Kansas had the most appealing set of laws (religious freedoms and the promise of not being conscripted into the military), availability of land they could afford, fertile ground and climate similar to where they were currently farming. The railroad made the deal even sweeter by building homes for early immigrants and supplying seed for the first wheat crops planted.

Planting the seed for Turkey Red wheat

And so Mennonites came to Kansas and brought with them their agricultural innovations and their hard red wheats, including hand-picked seeds packed into large jars and sacks. This Turkey Red wheat was a hardy variety, was planted in the fall and could withstand Kansas' cold and dry winters. The new wheat could take advantage of the moisture that arrives in the winter and early spring and then be harvested in early summer. While the adoption of this new class of wheat took time, its introduction revolutionized the wheat industry in Kansas, and Turkey Red wheat is now the ancestor to all hard red winter wheat varieties grown across the plains today.

"Part of that slow adoption was that the milling industry was just not ready for it; their technology was targeted towards soft wheat," Ediger said. "But over time they found out that the hard winter wheat was much better quality."

"It took many years to get the acreage developed, but it really then did become the most desirable wheat in the world. There was nothing like it at that point in time."

Perfecting agricultural practices

Along with Turkey Red wheat, the Mennonites also brought game-changing farming practices, including leaving fields fall-

low in between planting cycles, applying fertilizer to fields and using large threshing stones to separate the wheat kernels from the stalks that enveloped them. The basic process of threshing wheat is the same today as it was thousands of years ago, as Ediger explained.

"Back then, they would grab a stack of heads and beat it against a rock to thresh the wheat. And then you had to separate the chaff from the wheat," Ediger said. "That's the same process that the modern combine does technically — cut the wheat, thresh to break the grain out of the heads, and then separate the grain from the chaff."

The process is the same whether someone takes a stalk of wheat out of the field and rubs it in their hand, uses a flail to beat out the wheat kernels or has horses trot over wheat piles to remove the grain — all of which have been done around the world.

Or one can use a threshing stone. A threshing stone is a stone, usually limestone, that is rolled over the grain to thresh the kernels out. It is a big piece of stone, 30 inches long and 24 inches in diameter with seven grooves carved around it, giving the appearance of a gear, and weighing between 400 and 800 pounds. In the middle, there's a hole drilled that would go through for an axle, which would be supported by two wooden or steel beams that could come around the front so it could be hooked up to horses. The horses could go around in a circle pulling the stone over the grain.

This process takes place on a threshing floor, which would be hard-packed dirt in Kansas or Ukraine. Threshing could take a long time. The wheat would be piled up and this stone would be pulled in a circle of the pile and the grain would

fall to the bottom of the floor. People with pitchforks and rakes would keep stirring the straw, and the straw would be thrown to the outside so the grain drops to the floor and would be scooped and shoveled toward the center. Then they had to blow away the lightweight chaff to keep the grain there. Farmers would use the wind.

"On the right day, you'd take a shovel and throw the wheat and the chaff up in the air and the wind would blow the chaff and the wheat would fall to the ground," Ediger said. "That's the final step of threshing."

The threshing stone was not exclusive to Mennonites, having been used by the Romans, Chinese and Australians, but they perfected it, especially since Kansas limestone quarries — like that in Chase County — provided perfectly suited stones.

A stony Kansas treasure hunt

While useful, the threshing stones became obsolete rather quickly in Kansas due to the development of threshing machines, which were horse-powered and later steam-powered. This makes finding threshing stones in Kansas relatively difficult.

After his wife inherited a threshing stone from his family, Ediger decided to see what research had been done into their background. He discovered not much research had been conducted other than general basic knowledge, so he set off on a treasure hunt to find as many as he could in order to photograph and document them. That included going to community events, like the Threshing Days festivals in Gossel, and other places where people gathered to celebrate the threshing process.

He was surprised to find most of the stones in a four-county area of Marion, McPherson, (con't on page 12)

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

Statepoint Crossword Theme: Sweet Tooth

CROSSWORD

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55						56			57
59						60			61
62						63			64

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ACROSS

- *Bow Wow Wow's "I ___ Candy"
- Money source
- * ___'s Root Beer
- Pelvic parts
- Start of something big?
- Round openings
- RPM gauge
- Cantina cooker
- Car sound, to a toddler
- *Ninepins namesake
- Kiln for drying hops
- They had
- Division, abbr.
- Informal wear
- "Tail" on letter C
- Kamakawiwo'ole's strings
- Real estate sale agreement
- Denials
- 9 a.m. prayer
- Even, to a poet
- *Desert plant harvested for sweet syrup
- Forbidden
- Quickly or slowly, e.g.
- *Sweet ___ brew
- Breathe in
- Westernmost city in Germany
- Soldier's bed
- Mensch, alt. sp.
- Italian car brand
- *Jolly livestock raisers?
- Russia's hard liquor
- Ctrl + Z
- Consumes food

DOWN

- Clever humor
- Unfortunately, exclamation
- Actor Nolte
- Island in French Polynesia
- *Donut filler
- Checked out
- Bleats
- Rocky & Bullwinkle and Mary Kate & Ashley, pl.
- To a very great degree (2 words)
- Not bright
- Sacred choral compositions
- Roundish
- *Sweet tooth, technically
- * ___ Musketeers, spelled out
- Drops at dawn
- * ___-Frutti
- Highlander's dagger
- Sage and rosemary
- *Scoop holder
- Averse
- "Drove my chevy to the ___"
- Southeast Asian org.
- Relinquish, as in property
- Clergyman's title, abbr.
- *Single serving treat
- Embarrass

40. Arthur, to friends

- Hard feelings
- I to Greeks, pl.
- TV's "Where everybody knows your name"
- Opposite of depression
- "___ a high note"
- Same as fogey
- Inactive
- "Ant-Man" leading actor
- Not top-shelf in a bar
- Greek portico
- Radio knob, abbr.
- Farm pen

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

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

The Kingman County Commission did not meet this week. Minutes from last week will be in the paper next week.

The Kingman County Sheriff's office was short-handed this week, so the report will be forthcoming next week.

The Pratt County Commission minutes were not available at press time again this week.

KANSAS WHEAT

(con't from page 11)

Reno and Harvey counties — Mennonite turf. He discovered the threshing stone was even adopted at one time as the mascot for Bethel College. Eventually,

he compiled his learnings into the book, "Leave No Threshing Stone Unturned," which shares the history of the Mennonites and their threshing stones.

Today, threshing stones have been replaced by combines. The remaining stones are now used for yard decora-

tions, others are used for salt licks for cattle, some are even bases for lamps or flags. But their influence on the wheat industry — along with the Mennonites who still farm in central Kansas — remains as steadfast as stone.

Learn more about the history of Mennonites

and threshing stones in Kansas and other topics by exploring all episodes of the "Wheat's On Your Mind" podcast at wheat-sonyourmind.com.

Written by Julia Debes for Kansas Wheat



Kansas Water Authority Meeting in Lawrence

The Kansas Water Authority (KWA) will meet Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at KU Innovation Park located at 2029 Becker Dr., Lawrence, KS, 66047.

The meeting will begin at 9 a.m.

For additional meeting information, visit the Kansas Water Office website calendar at kwo.ks.gov or call (785) 296-3185.

The KWA is responsible for advising the Governor, Legislature and Director of the Kansas Water Office on

water policy issues. They also ensure that water policies and programs address the needs of all Kansans as well as serve as advisors of the Kansas Water Plan. The KWA was established in 1981 and consists of 13 voting members who are appointed by the Governor or Legislative leadership. State agency direc-

tors serve as ex-officio members.

If accommodations are needed for a person with disabilities, please notify the Kansas Water Office at 900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 404, Topeka, KS 66611-1249 or call (785) 296-3185 at least five working days prior to the meeting.

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New Exhibition Opening

The Hansen Museum in Logan, KS is pleased to announce the 47th Annual Birds in Art exhibition, on view from September 22, through November 5, 2023.

Organized annually since 1976 by the world-renown Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum in Wausau, Wisconsin, the juried exhibition has featured thousands of artists from around the world and is widely recognized as one of the best showcasing avian art. For the 2022 show, 570 artists submitted 946 works, with 118 selected by the three-person jury for inclusion, fifty of which made the trip to the

Hansen Museum as part of the traveling exhibition. A fully illustrated, color catalog accompanies each Birds in Art exhibition and is available upon request. This exhibit is one of the most prestigious exhibits of wildlife art in the world.

"Birds in Art" is replete with birds strutting, vocalizing, socializing, preening, and soaring. Majestic yet fragile, birds connect us with the natural world. Heralding each sunrise and gathering at dusk, these harbingers of seasonal and environmental change endlessly fascinate and inspire. The 2022 exhibition includes twenty-three Master Artists and thirty-three international artists, representing fifteen different countries.

The exhibition includes various mediums: paintings in watercolor, oil, and acrylic; sculptures in stone, wood, and bronze; drawings in graphite,

ous support of the Dane G. Hansen Foundation. For more information or if you have questions, please contact us at 785-689-4846.

Comfortably Dumb by Bruce Quast



"I know it's only September, but I could hibernate right now!"

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Seth Thibault, OD
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Pratt, Kansas 67124
620-672-5934
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Medicine Lodge, Kansas 67104
620-886-3222
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

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Andrew W. Piester, OD
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620-532-3154
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For more information see display ad on pa

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Kingman, KS 67068
Bus: 620-532-3179
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www.jonwollen.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.
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To reserve the
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contact Molly Morgan at
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Courier Copies
Do you need extra copies of The Courier, but can't catch me home, or don't want to drive clear to the edge of town?
You can purchase additional copies at Fitzsimmons Insurance there on Main Street. (You can purchase a lovely card or two or three made by Louise Armstrong while you are there.)

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Miscellaneous

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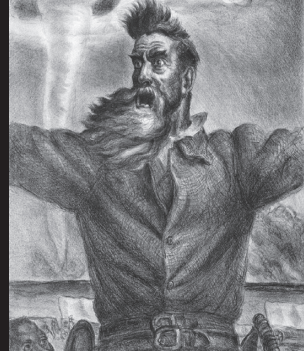
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Butch Mattal

Clarence J. "Butch" Mattal, 80, died Oct. 4, 2023 in Wichita.

He was born July 9, 1943 the son of Clarence J. "Slim" and Cecilia Lassa Mattal.

A longtime Nashville resident having also lived in Arkansas City and El Dorado, he was the retired mechanic at St. Joseph Hospital, a former owner of a RV store and owner of the Ice House at the Walnut Valley Festival.

Butch was a member of the Catholic Church in Arkansas City; and was a USAF veteran.

On April 24, 1965, he married Susan Gagnapnia; she died Dec. 1, 2018. On Aug. 9, 2021 he married Becky Bohrer Hart. Other survivors include sons Kevin Mattal and Kyle Mattal; daughter Theresa Sutton; sister Alice Spencer; step-children Laura; 4 grandchildren; 6 step-grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial was Monday with burial at the Liberty Cemetery, Nashville.

Memorials may be made with the St. Patrick Grade School, the St. Trinity High School or Nashville Senior Center, all in care of Livingston Funeral Home.



Travis Crow

Travis Lee Crow, 45, passed away Saturday, October 7, 2023. He was born on December 30, 1977, in Kingman.

Travis married Traci (Harms) Crow on June 22, 2002. They were married for 21 years.

Travis graduated from Pratt High School in 1996. He earned his Associates Degree from Pratt Community College in 1997. He worked as a journeyman lineman for IBEW Local 304.

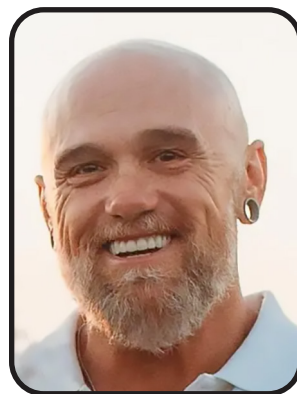
He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and IBEW Local 304 Union. Travis dedicated his life as a disciple of Christ and walked by faith and prayer. He took great pride in his family and children and greatly enjoyed hunting, fishing, reading, and journaling, and raising bees. One of Travis' best character traits was he had the unique ability to speak to anyone and everyone he crossed paths with.

He is survived by his wife, Traci; daughter, Rayden Crow; son, Kendrix Crow; parents, Cindy and Ray Hitt, siblings Matt (Mandy) Higgins, Jonathan Meyer, Raeann Hitt, Dionne Benedick and Stacy (Rachel) Glisson; grandparents, William (Wally) and Mary Ann Crow; mother-in-law, Mary Harms; sister-in-law, Julie (Bruce) Hamill; step-mother, Bunny Higgins; grandmother, Carol Higgins; and many aunts, uncles, cousins and close friends.

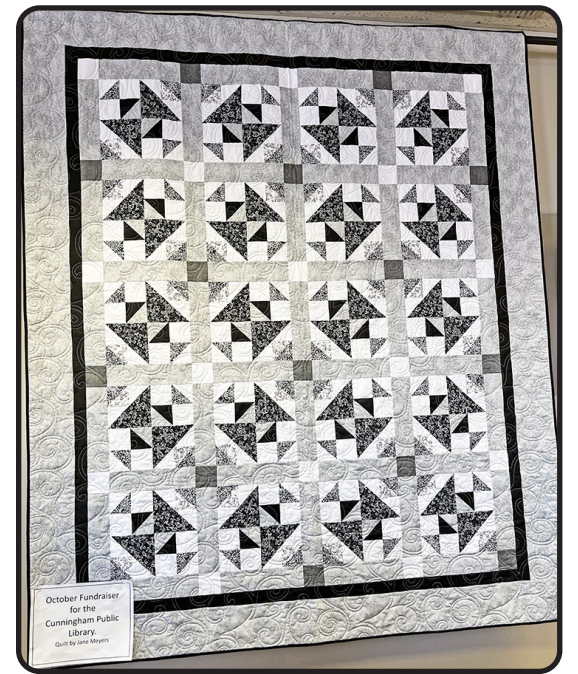
Travis is preceded in death by his grandparents, Rita and Gene Hitt; great-grandparents, Don and Mercedes Denny; and father-in-law, Dennis Harms.

Viewing will be Thursday, October 12, 2023, from 9:00 am to 5:00 p.m. at Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Rd, Pratt. Friends may sign the book Friday, October 13, 2023, from 9:00 - 5:00 p.m. at Larrison Mortuary. A Rosary will be held at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, October 14, 2023, with Mass of Christian Burial following at 10:30 a.m., both at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Pratt with Reverend Charles Atuah presiding. Inurnment will follow at Cairo Cemetery, Cairo.

Memorials may be made to Crow Children's Fund in care of Larrison Mortuary.



Don't Forget to Support Local Organizations



The above quilt titled, The Black-Tie Affair, is being auctioned by Silent Bid as part of Cunningham Public Library's upcoming October fundraiser. The quilt, created by Jane Meyers measures 65" x 75" and is on display at Ninescah Valley Bank. To submit a sealed bid, please visit the library, or call 620-298-3163. The bids will be opened on October 29th at 2:00 at the library. The highest bid wins the quilt. The fundraiser continues through the month of October with two raffles, numerous prize drawings, an Open House, and vintage quilts/antique dish displays. Proceeds from the fundraiser will go toward community programs.

Ron Cramer

William "Ron" Cramer, 84, died Oct. 7, 2023 at Wheatlands Health Care Center, Kingman.

He was born Aug. 13, 1939, in Kingman the son of Raymond Dick and Ruby McIntosh Cramer. A long-time resident of Kingman, he was a retired farmer and auto body repairman.

Ron was a veteran of the United States Army.

On Dec. 21, 1963, he married Rosemary Cramer; she died May 11, 2019. Survivors include two sons Scott Cramer and Dan Cramer; daughter Sheri Waters; four grandchildren; and 1 one great-grandchild.

Funeral services will be 10:00 am, Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2023 at the Livingston Funeral Home, Kingman. Burial will in the Cleveland Cemetery, Cleveland, Kansas.

Memorials may be made with Wheatlands Health Care Center in care of the funeral home.

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The Cunningham High School Football Team is selling raffle tickets for this T-shirt blanket featuring the team football T-shirts from the past 4 years. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5 and can be purchased from any of the football families, purchased at the home football games or can be bought by Venmo @ AmyMcGuire-YL.

The winning ticket will be drawn at the October 20th home game.

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