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The Cunningham Courier

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

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(620) 298-2659

photo by Danny Gibbs

Minutes from the November City Council Meeting

The Cunningham City Council met in a regular session on Monday, November 24, 2025, at City Hall, 119 N. Main St.

Present were Mayor, Aaron Murphy; Council Members: Tanner Newell, Tim Schultz, and Jason Ruckle; City Attorney, Greg Graffman; City Superintendent, Mesa Saltee; and City Clerk, Molly Morgan.

Guests present: Jackie Ruckle, Property Officer; Roberta Kobbe, Cunningham Courier; Bryce Murphy; Carl & Kim Balding; Ryan & Shae Napier; and CHS students, Andrew Schultz, Skyler Thimesch, and Logan Kinsler.

Mayor Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Motion by Ruckle, second by Newell, to approve the agenda. Motion carried, 3/0.

Motion by Newell, second by Ruckle, to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2025, meeting as written. Motion carried, 3/0.

Craig Woodard arrived at 6:36 p.m.

Public Comments – Carl & Kim Balding reported that there has been an increase in traffic in the alley behind their house. City Attorney Graffman informed the Governing Body and guests that alleys are public roads and cannot be blocked. It was the consensus of the

Council to order a sign notifying the public that the alley is a dead end with no through traffic.

Fire Department Report – Clerk reported that Chief Stark is working with the tech support to learn the new National Emergency Response Information System that will be replacing NFIRS (National Fire Incident Reporting System.)

CMB License Renewal – Motion by Ruckle, second by Schultz, to approve the CMB license for Cozy's LLC (2026-02.) Motion carried, 4/0.

2026 Council Meeting Schedule – Motion by Newell, second by Woodard, to approve the 2026 Council Meeting Schedule with a time change of 5:00 p.m. for the April 27, 2026 meeting due to a school concert conflict. Motion carried, 4/0.

Maintenance Report – Mesa gave the report. *KDHE will test PFAs at least one time in our area. *Fuel shut off on the community center generator at the Community Center malfunctioned. *Duke's Root Control has a 3,000 ft. minimum. Sewer lines were not showing signs of growing roots the last time Mayer Specialty Services cleaned the lines. It was the consensus of the Council to treat next year. *Mayer Specialty Services is scheduled to clean sewer lines December 3rd through the 9th. *Mesa has been looking for a reliable space heater for the locations that require them. Most electric heaters do not work for an entire season before becoming inoperable. He recommended plumbing the well houses for gas heat-

ers which would be more reliable and cost effective.

Property Officer – Moving forward with notices.

Planning & Zoning – Motion by Woodard, second by Newell, to approve a special meeting for December 4, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss a formal request to the Kingman County Planning & Zoning Commission regarding a buffer zone surrounding the City of Cunningham. Motion carried, 4/0.

Clerk Report – Molly reported that there was one bid for the Kyocera printer. Motion by Newell, second by Schultz, to approve the bid of \$101 from David Steffen for the Kyocera printer. Motion carried, 4/0.

There were no bids for the Lanier copier. It was the consensus of the Governing Body to give the Lanier Copier to the Cunningham Public Library.

Holiday Bonuses – Motion by Woodard, second by Schultz, to approve holiday bonuses of \$100 to Mesa Saltee, Jackie Ruckle, Sam Theis, and Molly Morgan. Motion carried, 4/0.

Motion by Schultz, second by Woodard, to approve the Friday after Thanksgiving as a paid holiday for full time employees. Motion carried, 4/0.

Motion by Schultz, second by Ruckle, to approve the Fire Department Meetings & Runs Report and pay the firefighters. Motion carried, 4/0.

Financial Report – Motion by Schultz, second by Woodard, to approve the financial report and pay the bills as presented. Motion carried, 4/0.

Adjournment – Motion by Woodard,

second by Newell, to adjourn. Motion carried, 4/0.

Mayor Murphy adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Minutes from the City Council Special Meeting

The Cunningham City Council met in a special session on Thursday, December 4, 2025, at City Hall, 119 N. Main St.

Present were Mayor, Aaron Murphy; Council Members, Jason Ruckle, Craig Woodard, and Tanner Newell; and City Clerk, Molly Morgan.

Guests present: Planning & Zoning Board Members, Connie Panek, Glenda Thornhill, and Tyler Beat; CHS Student, Sean Kostner; and Greg & Tammy Beat.

Mayor Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Motion by Woodard, second by Newell, to approve the agenda. Motion carried, 3/0.

Discussion and public comments on a resolution to request that Kingman County enact regulations that would limit solar energy development within 1.5 miles of the city limits of Cunningham.

Motion by Woodard, second by Newell, to approve Resolution 2025-04 as presented. Motion carried, 3/0.

Adjournment – Motion by Newell, second by Woodard, to adjourn. Motion carried, 3/0.

Mayor Murphy adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Minutes from the County Commission Meeting

Chairwoman Lyon called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. December 22, 2025, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse. Present: Julie Lyon, Chairwoman; Jack Thimesch, Commissioner; Jeff Young, Commissioner; Carol Noblit, County Clerk

Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor
Visitors: Dale Enyart; Shae Brooks, Kingman Fire Chief; Scott Strong, Strong's Insurance

Online Visitors: Caller 01; Caller 02; DH; Caller 03; Heather; AS; Lucy.

Staff: LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer; Amanda Stucky, Field Appraiser/Zoning Director; Tiffany Aumiller, Benefits Administrator; Ron Leroux, Noxious Weed Director; Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director

Chairwoman Lyon asked if there were any additions to the agenda.

Chairwoman Lyon would like to add an Executive Session.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch

moved to approve the agenda with an executive session addition. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to close the County Offices at noon on Christmas Eve. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Chairwoman Lyon asked if there was any public comment.

LaDawn Stegman let the Commissioners know that all the Pilot payments have been received and transferred to the funds.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve Resolution 2025-R19 for Rural Opportunity Zone for 2026. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Amanda Stucky, Field Appraiser/Zoning was in with an NRP update for Darren Hedley who had received an extension and the property is still not completed.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to not approve extending the NRP for Darren Hedley property at 3728 Bluff St. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Ms. Stucky discussed that the City of Cunningham had published an or-

dinance for a mile and ½ border for zoning around the City of Cunningham.

Commissioners discussed that the City of Kingman has one mile and having the City of Cunningham be one mile also to keep it uniform throughout the County.

Ms. Stucky discussed the moratorium for the solar farm and that it ends February 10th, 2026, so do we want to extend the moratorium, let it end or just not allow solar within the county.

Commissioner Thimesch discussed that he doesn't want to tell people what they can do with their property.

Commissioner Young discussed that his side of the County has more housing than the western side of the County so solar for his side of the County would not work.

Chairwoman Lyon discussed that she doesn't want to say no solar farms but setting regulations by working with the consultant they have hired to help establish regulations is in the process.

Scott Strong, Strong's Insurance was in with the 2026-2027 Premiums comparison to the 2025-2026 Premiums. The overall increase is 8.13%.

MOTION: Chairwoman Lyon moved to approve the quote with doing away with the buy down on premium and going with the Cyber company quote presented. Commissioner Young seconded

the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse was in with a department update and let the Commissioners know that the roof is completed.

Ms. Schwartz talked about immunizations and they have been busy.

Ms. Schwartz discussed that her department is needing to install a Wi-Fi boost and has received a quote from Reach IT in the amount of \$1296.00 with possible grant money to pay for the purchase.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the purchase of the Wi-Fi booster for the Health Department in the amount of \$1296.00 from Reach IT with possibly being purchased with grant funds. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Ron Leroux, Noxious Weed Director was in with chemical quotes for the purchase of chemicals in the amount of \$16,127.28 from Sims and Nutrien.

MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to approve the purchase of Chemicals from Nutrien and Sims in the amount of \$16,127.28. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

continued on page 5

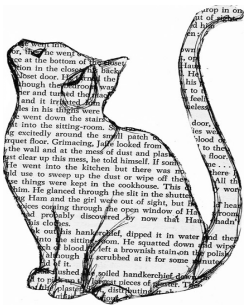
HAPPY &
HEALTHY
NEW YEAR

If improving your health is your New Year's Resolution for 2026, we're here to assist you! Whether you want to exercise, eat healthier, quit smoking, or see your doctor regularly, we can support you on your journey.

KHC Family Clinic
620-532-0295

KINGMAN
HEALTHCARE CENTER
Exceptional Care. Every Time.

Cunningham Clinic
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Meanderings

Well, apologies for the condition of this paper. I hit a bit of a health snag this week. Nothing youthfulness wouldn't fix, or even allow to happen, but it put this non-youthful lady out of commission for a couple of days. All is well, and on I go until the next old lady health episode.

I do look forward to

the days when I can just stay in bed and rest if I am ill or injured, or just lazy, and not have to worry and fuss about getting the paper done before 12:00 on Tuesday night.

I do love the paper, and enjoy putting it together, but there are some serious drawbacks to it.

I did NOT feel like meandering through a

long column this week, so I filled in the space with a second column by Jody Dyer. The first column would be an interesting one to read and the quiz, too, would be an interesting one to take to see how well you remember your civics and government classes.

I hope everyone is off to a wonderful new

year of 2026. We are more than ¼ of the way through this century. Remember Y2K? And the hoopla around that? No fiasco, no mess, just another year turning over. And just like that.. we are well on the way to the next century.

I'm ready to get this paper off to the printers. Best of 2026.

Try to find the time to read more, even if it is an extra column in this paper.

Always reading, and currently reading, "The Plague of Thieves Affair" by Bill Prozini and Marcia Muller, Roberta

Tallgrass and Tumbleweeds by Gaille Pike

Dear Readers,

Local TV weather forecasts have been hit and miss over the past week, with the emphasis on the latter. Meteorologists were right about some ridiculously wild winds and I hope all of you escaped unscathed. The roof and windows rattled here but only a wellhouse hatch blew off and tumbled down the road. Our elec-

tric co-op's substations weren't so fortunate, resulting in a county-wide power outage. When I finally made it back about on the grid I began to hear promises of a holiday heat wave. KCTV even claims our high temperatures are going to be "historic." I concede the pond's not frozen. Nor is there no sign of snow on the ground or in the air. But the Flint Hills aren't anything but chilly...yet.

But it's not too cold to take a walk and I am thankful for that, as well as my freedom and health

to do so. I enjoy my strolls and pause frequently to absorb the view: the grasses and leaves under my feet, the azure sky above, and the trees around me. Cats and chickens follow me but not another human's in sight. I find such solitude a pleasure, a luxury of space and time to consider one's thoughts. Or simply not think at all.

When I worked in the heart of Philadelphia, PA, I often took walks during my lunch hour for similar reasons I take walks now. I was able to

achieve solitude because it is true that you can be alone in a crowd. But there, the similarity ends.

I love Cityscapes no less than natural wonders but I do not find them equal or ALIKE. Another difference I cannot deny is the tension that buzzed within me during my lunch hour walks. From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. is pedestrian rush hour in cities. A particular alertness is required for noon hour sidewalk traffic. If you're not careful, you will cause multi-human pile up. I zigged

once when I should have zagged. That's a tale for another column. But I will tell you two businessmen had to return to work that day with torn trousers and I'm pretty sure there's woman still telling people her knees hurt because I "fell out of the sky."

Another difference is that my Philly lunch hour walks were not just for walking, I always had a place I needed to GO, a thing or things I needed to DO. I still have responsibilities, to-do lists longer than the hours of

the day. (Don't we all, especially at this time of year?) But rarely have I places I need go. No destination is required when I choose to walk. I simply step away.

If your holidays are more hustle and bustle than cheer, I hope you step away too. And IF a record-breaking heat wave does arrive, I'm planning to not only take a walk but also hop and skip around.

Keep your eyes on the stars and your back to the wind.



Could You Teach School in Oklahoma?

"I had a terrible education. I attended a school for emotionally disturbed teachers."

Woody Allen

Much has been said in recent years about the lack of civics education in our public schools. Students, and even teachers it seems, often exhibit a lack of understanding as to how our government and country work. An interesting news story broke recently related to this very topic, and I was intrigued. Apparently, the fine state of Oklahoma has decided to tackle this problem

head on, now requiring teachers to pass a general knowledge and civics exam before being employed and deployed in the classroom. Questions are primarily focused on civics, but included are questions regarding parental rights, biology, recent Supreme Court decisions, Constitutional freedoms, politics, and the proper role of education. Test questions are multiple choice, so most applicants could probably pass. Sorry, there are no essay questions.

For fun this week I thought I'd share some of this test with you. If you pass, you could probably teach school in Oklahoma. I passed the test but might not maintain employment if called by the Sooners for service based on my sub-standard social skills and suspect academic behavior in a former life. Here is a sampling of the exact questions from the test...

1- What are the first three words of the

Constitution?

In God We Trust
We the People
Life/Liberty/
Happiness

The United States

2- Why is freedom of religion important to America's identity?

It protects religious choice from control of government

It makes Christianity the national religion

It bans all forms of public worship

It limits religious teaching in the public square

3- What are the two parts of the U. S. Congress?

The House of Lords and the House of Commons

The Judiciary and the Senate

The Executive and the Legislature

The Senate and House of Representatives

4- How many U. S. Senators are there?

435 b. 535
100 d. 50

5- Why do some

states have more Representatives than others in Congress?

Representation is allocated by population

They cover a larger geographic area

They have held statehood for a longer period

Number is determined by Congress

6- Who signs bills into law?

The Vice President
The Chief Justice
The President
Speaker of the House

7- What is the highest court in the United States?

The Federal Court
The Court of Appeals
The District Court
The Supreme Court

8- Which of the following is explicitly listed in the Bill of Rights?

Freedom of Speech and Religion
Voting and public education
Reproductive rights & healthcare
Freedom from data collection / surveillance

9- What right does

the Second Amendment protect?

The right to hunt & fish

The right to arm the military

The right to restrict certain kinds of speech

The right to keep and bear arms

10- What is the supreme law of the United States?

Presidential Executive Orders
Laws passed by Congress
Laws passed by state legislatures

The Constitution

11- When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?

July 4, 1778
July 4, 1787
July 4, 1776
July 4, 1619

12- What was the primary reason the colonists fought the British?

To resist expansion of British Empire
To maintain slavery
To resist taxation without representation
To resist forced mili-

tary service

13- Who is called the "Father of Our Country"?

Benjamin Franklin
Abraham Lincoln
Martin Luther King, Jr.

George Washington

14- What did the Emancipation Proclamation do?

Ended Prohibition
Freed Confederate Generals
Freed slaves in the North
Ended slavery in the rebelling Confederate states

15- From whom does the United States government derive its power?

The Supreme Court
The American people
The President
The military

**If you need help, here are correct answers: 1-b, 2-a, 3-d, 4-c, 5-a, 6-c, 7-d, 8-a, 9-d, 10-d, 11-c, 12-c, 13-d, 14-d, 15-b.*

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Leaving Mr. Potato Head

"The body is a sacred garment."

Martha Graham

As I age, my concern is that I am becoming more and more like Mr. Potato Head. Not only does he have a potato

head, but he also appears to have an unhealthy potato body. I suspect he is carrying some visceral fat. I may have some too, and this can be a problem.

Visceral fat is often hidden. You can appear fit and trim, more like G.I. Joe than Mr. Potato Head, and still be carrying dangerous visceral fat. Maybe we can shed some of this stuff. I am trying to learn.

Visceral fat is the most dangerous fat in our bodies. It is fat that we can't see, nestled deep inside and wrapped around our organs. Visceral fat destroys our health, turning our bodies into a breeding

ground for disease and discomfort. Visceral fat can trigger inflammation, pump out harmful chemicals, and wreck our hormones. And you don't have to be overweight to carry visceral fat. You can look fit and still have gobs of silent visceral fat lurking inside your body.

Visceral fat buildup is caused by our lifestyle. One factor is diet, not how much we eat, but what we eat. Ultra-processed foods, sugary snacks, and alcohol all spike our insulin levels and shove our bodies into fat storage mode. Lack of exercise, especially strength training, is another contributor. Stress and the resulting cortisol help your body layer on fat as well. And poor sleep is the icing on the cake for visceral fat. Restorative sleep is the foundation of good health. Lack of quality sleep raises your cortisol levels and ruins your body's ability to burn fat.

How can you tell if you are carrying visceral fat? I wanted to know this. At 6' 3" and 200 pounds, I thought I was

in relatively good shape (or maybe borderline good shape). Here are some ways to determine if you have visceral fat buildup in your body. First, check your waistline. The waistline test says that if you're over 40 inches, this is not a good sign. The height to waist ratio is a better gauge. Your waist measurement should be less than half your height. You might also consider the body shape check. If your belly is hard and round, that is visceral fat. Soft and squishy is not great, but better. This is less dangerous subcutaneous fat. Another clue are energy and cravings. If you find that you are tired and sluggish, have brain fog, and crave sugar, these are sure signs of visceral fat.

How do we beat our visceral fat? We can take practical steps to burn it off and keep it off. Here's how to do it...

Eat Smart – Do not eat less. Instead, eat smart. You can eat in a way that fosters fat burning and stops your body from storing fat. Eat more protein. Protein boosts

your metabolism, protects muscle, and keeps you feeling full. Make sure you have some protein on your plate at every meal. And cut back on ultra-processed foods. Some of the best sources of protein are eggs, meat, milk, yogurt, and cheese. Also, eat plenty of fiber, fruits and vegetables, fresh or frozen. It's okay to eat carbs, just choose whole carbs like sweet potatoes, lentils, oats, and rice. Your goal should be to eat nutrient-dense foods. And reduce your sugar consumption. It's okay to include some treats that you enjoy. If your diet is too restrictive, this won't work. Follow the 80/20 rule (80% of food for function / 20% you can eat for fun). And cut back on alcohol, drinking packs on visceral fat. When you drink your liver is too busy processing the alcohol to burn fat.

Strength Training – Start lifting weights, three times a week. Focus on building muscle. Forget about burning calories. More muscle equals a faster metabolism and

more fat burning, even at rest.

Manage Your Stress - Do whatever necessary to reduce your stress level. If you are constantly stressed, you are pumping cortisol and storing visceral fat.

Walk Every Day – Walking is one of the best ways to exercise without stressing your body. Walking will help you relax, reduce your cortisol levels, and boost your metabolism. Shoot for 8,000 – 10,000 steps a day.

Sleep – Sleep like your life depends on it. It literally does. Try to get 7-9 hours of sleep each night. Make sure your bedroom is quiet, dark, and cool. And put your phone away. No screens for 30 minutes before bed. Screen exposure messes with your circadian rhythm and suppresses the production of melatonin destroying your sleep.

Give this a try. Burn off that visceral fat, stay healthy, and leave Mr. Potato Head behind.

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Community Bulletin Board


Friday, January 2 No School *** HS BB at Canton-Galva	Thursday, January 15 JH BB at South Barber *** HS Scholars' Bowl at Burrton (HOPL)
Monday January 5 No School *** Professional Development and work day for Teachers *** HS BB vs Kiowa County at HOME	Friday, January 16 HS BB vs South Barber at HOME Saturday January 17 HS JV BB at HOME (B Team Tournament)
Tuesday, January 6 It's time to go back to school *** HS BB vs Macksville at HOME	Monday, January 19 Boys 54 Classic at Skyline *** Teacher Professional Development: No School
Wednesday, January 7 6:30 p.m. Shop Guild	Tuesday, January 20 Girls 54 Classic BB tournament at HOME
Thursday, January 8 JH BB at Attica	Wednesday, January 21 6:00 Shop Guild
Friday, January 9 HS BB at Kinsley	Thursday, January 22 JH BB vs Skyline at HOME *** Boys 54 Classic BB Tournament at Skyline
Saturday January 10 HS JV BB at HOME (B Team Tournament)	Monday, January 12 HS FV BB at HOME (B-Team Tournament) ** JH Play Auditions *** 7:00 p.m. BOE Meeting
	Friday, December 23 Girls 54 Classic BB Tournament at HOME

- WANTED -
Old Photos from our communities
Call (620) 298-2659 or email to couriernews@yahoo.com

Thank you for
Supporting
The Courier

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



2025 – Annual Christmas Lighting Contest Winners

First Place
James & Jennifer Sterba
410 N. Lincoln

Second Place
Mike & Marla McGovney
218 E. 4th

Third Place
John & Vicki Steffen
331 W. Fourth



Cozy's Pizza

115 N. Main
Cunningham, KS 67035
620-298-7000

Hours:
Tues., Wed., & Thurs. - 11:00 to 7:30
Friday and Saturday - 11:00 to 8:00
Closed Sunday and Monday

“Calendars and clocks exist to measure time, but that signifies little because we all know that an hour can seem as eternity or pass in a flash, according to how we spend it.”
— Michael Ende, Momo

Upcoming Auctions

Happy New Year
from the Hamm Auction Center

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



107 NE State Road 61,
Pratt, Kansas, 67124
620-672-6996

DAYDRINKERS CAFE INC

Cunningham KS 67035

121 E. First Street
Cunningham, Kansas
Hours:
Monday - Friday 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Closed Thursday and Sunday
(620) 589-0001



We ALWAYS need
photos for the paper!!

Kingman Historic Theatre

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

January 2 - 4
SpongeBob:
The Search for Square Pants
Rated PG

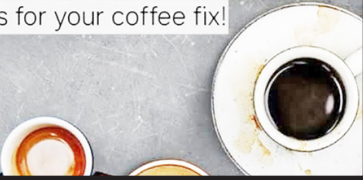
Thank YOU for supporting YOUR Kingman Historic Theatre.

Daydrinkers Cafe

***** Hours Update *****

Due to limited help right now, we will be Closing at 2:00 PM Each Day beginning January 2nd, until further notice.

Thank you so much for your understanding and continued support - it truly means the world to us. Please come see us in the mornings and early afternoons for your coffee fix!



K-STATE

Research and Extension

K-State Ag Profitability Conferences Aim to Help Farmers Navigate Tough Economy

With Kansas farmers facing rising financial pressures, Kansas State University is hosting a series of Agricultural Profitability Conferences across the state, beginning in December and continuing through early February. The conferences, “Making ‘Cents’ of a Shifting Ag Economy,” are organized by K-State’s Department of Agricultural Economics, offering insights into economic trends, farm policy, land values, and strategies to maintain profitability during challenging times. A conference will be held in Kingman on February 4, 2026, at the Kingman Expo Center (121 S. Main St., Kingman), starting at 8:30 a.m. with refreshments and concluding at 2:30 p.m. To register, contact the Kingman County Extension Office at 620-532-5131 or gschnei@ksu.edu. For more information on speakers or the conference agenda, please visit agmanager.info/profitability.

How Programming Found Worldwide Supports the U.S. Military Community

(StatePoint) When you think about the USO, you likely think about entertainment tours or airport lounges, but the organization’s scope is much wider than that.

USO programs support service members and their families stationed in the United States and overseas, as well as service members training in isolated locations or deployed to areas around the world. Each program meets a specific need to ease the isolation and loneliness of military life — during times away from loved ones, during moves and deployments, and when returning to civilian communities.

With more than 250 locations worldwide, including on military installations, at airports, and on board Navy ships, USO Centers offer ways for service members to connect with each other and with their families far away. These centers provide free Wi-Fi, computers, televisions and gaming equipment, and organize events and activities designed to strengthen morale. For example, through the USO Reading program, service members can record themselves reading a book for the children in their lives.

For service members and military families who are stationed or deployed in remote locations, Mobile USO vehicles travel thousands of miles to provide many of the services of a traditional, brick-and-mortar USO Center.

Examples of USO programs include:
The USO Canine Program


The USO Canine Program acknowledges the strong bond between humans and animals, and the critical role dogs play within the military community, addressing diverse mental, emotional and physical needs. Through interactions with certified therapy dogs at USO events and USO Centers, service members and their families experience the profound emotional support that only a four-legged friend can offer. The USO Canine Volunteer of the Year competition recognizes outstanding contributions from USO therapy dogs and their handlers.

USO Gaming

The USO Gaming Program allows service members to forge bonds with fellow service members, stay connected to loved ones back home and take time to recharge through the simple act of playing a video game. Many USO Centers are outfitted with top-of-the-line screens and consoles, designed specifically so that groups of service members can play games and bond together. The USO also hosts gaming tournaments like the annual USO-NFL Salute to Service Tournament, in which service members around the world compete in EA SPORTS Madden NFL video games, with the winners receiving tickets to attend the Super Bowl.

To learn more about these and other USO programs, visit <https://www.uso.org/programs>.

With military life comes many challenges. However, these programs strengthen and support service members and their families at every step of their military journey.



Catholic Churches

Sacred Heart, Cunningham
Saturday 4:00 p.m.

St. Leo
Sunday 8:30 p.m.


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

St. John, Zenda
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

St. Peter Willowdale
Saturday 5:30 p.m.

First Christian Church

Cunningham
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Jr High Youth Group 4:00 p.m. Sunday
Sr High Youth Group 7:30 p.m. Sunday
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.
Pastor Mike McGovney 620-770-9507



Lutheran Churches


First Sunday of the month service is at St. John;
third Sunday of the month service is at Trinity

<p>St. John, Nashville 620-246-5220 Sunday School & Bible Class 8:45 a.m. Worship Service 10 a.m.</p>	<p>Trinity, Medicine Lodge 620- 886-3397 Sunday School & Bible Class 8:45 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m.</p>
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Pastor vacancy until further notice.

United Methodist Church

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

Penalosa
Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Zenda Methodist Church
Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School: Children 8:30 a.m. Adults 10:00 a.m.
Pastor J L Nichols 620-243-6953

Minutes from the Kingman County Commission Meeting

(con't from front page)

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Chairwoman Lyon moved to go into Executive Session at 10:13 a.m. with Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor for non-elected personnel matters to discuss an individual employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:18 a.m. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Commissioners returned to regular session

at 10:18 a.m. with no action taken.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Chairwoman Lyon moved to go into Executive Session at 10:18 a.m. with Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor for non-elected personnel matters to discuss an individual employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act for discussion of non-elected personnel matters of non-elected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual(s) to be discussed, and will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:23 a.m. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 10:23 a.m. with no ac-

tion taken.

Tiffany Aumiller, Benefits Administrator and LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer were in for a non-elected personnel matter executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Young moved to go into Executive Session at 10:28 a.m. with Tiffany Aumiller, Benefits Administrator. LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor for non-elected personnel matters to discuss an individual employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:38 a.m. Chairwoman Lyon seconded the motion. The motion was approved

with a 3-0 vote.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 10:38 a.m. with no action taken.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve two employee status changes. Chairwoman Lyon seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Ms. Aumiller discussed the Christmas party and how employees would be paid if they did not attend.

Commissioners let Ms. Aumiller know that employees that didn't attend the Christmas Party could have the afternoon off but would have to use their time to cover it.

MOTION: Chairwoman Lyon moved to approve Resolution 2025-R20 for non-elected personnel. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the

motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

MOTION: Chairwoman Lyon moved to approve Resolution 2025-R21 for Salaried employees. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director submitted the monthly department report for Commissioner review.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk submitted the minutes for December 15, 2025, Commission meeting for review.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve December 15, 2025, Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Chairwoman discussed the iworks con-

tract for permits handled.

Commissioner Thimesch would like to table the iworks contract until budget time.

Commissioners agreed to wait until budget time.

Commissioners signed abatements.

Commissioners reviewed a contract agreement from McGowne Law Offices P.A.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the agreement with McGowne Law Offices PA. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:58 a.m. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Pratt County Commission Minutes of December 15th

The Pratt County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, December 15, 2025 at 2:00 pm in the Commissioner Room, 1st floor of the Courthouse. The following members were present: Thomas W Jones III, Rick Shriver, Morgan Trinkle, Tyson Eisenhauer, County Counselor, Cescha Hoffman, County Clerk and Mark Graber, IT Director.

Clerk/Election Request

Motion to hire InteGreen to install additional outlets in the clerk/election work room in the amount of \$2,350.00 made by Commissioner Shriver; seconded by Commissioner Trinkle, motion carried 3-0.

Economic Development Update – Heather Morgan

Sawyer Gasline Project

KCC is awaiting a call regarding the contract for Sawyer, which needs to be finalized before the end of year commission turnover.

Western Kansas Economic Development

Alliance

Heather is co-chair of the legislative committee and reported they adopted a legislative framework that essentially preserves local control and talks about economic development issues. They will be having a legislative event in January. The Department of Commerce was also in attendance and gave more information on the transparency database. Other counties are also having some concerns. The information is important to have available so the Kansas legislators know if an entity is receiving incentives at federal, state or local government and everyone would have access to that information.

PADEC Meeting Update

The final touches have been put on the housing incentive application and that will hopefully be open soon. The application focuses on development of multi-unit housing and trying to give a bit of a rebate to the developer on those units. Any interested parties can reach out to heather to get connected with the application.

Insurance Renewal Presentation

Scott Strong, Willie Jones and RJ Meyer with Strong's Insurance presented the 2026 Insurance Renewal Policy. The rates have stabilized and the county's rate remained flat this upcoming year.

Motion to approve the 2026 insurance renewal with Strong's Insurance in the amount of \$426,732.38 made by Commissioner Trinkle; seconded by Commissioner Shriver; motion carried 3-0.

Executive Session – Non-Elected Personnel

Motion to move to executive session under the Non-Elected Personnel exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to discuss employee salary for 5 minutes at 2:31 p.m. made by Commissioner Shriver; seconded by Commissioner Trinkle; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners came out of executive session at 2:35 p.m. with no action taken.

Health Department Personnel Request

Darcie Van Der Vyver requested a 6-month salary adjustment for Elida Partida.

Motion to approve Elida Partida salary adjustment \$18.50/hr to \$19.50/hour made by Commissioner

Shriver; seconded by Commissioner Trinkle; motion carried 3-0.

Road Department Road Crossing Request, Purchase Request & Department Updates

Motion to approve the road crossing for SC Telcom at NE 30th Ave. made by Commissioner Shriver; seconded by Commissioner Trinkle; motion carried 3-0.

Doug requested approval to purchase a track hoe excavator due to underutilized budget and the need for equipment for ditch and slope work. Doug presented quote from Foley Equipment in the amount of \$301,276.65. Additional needs include a trailer to haul the excavator and potential tree attachment in the future.

Motion to approve the purchase of the excavator from Foley Equipment in the amount of \$301,276.65 to come out of the 2025 Road Department Budget made by Commissioner Shriver; seconded by Commissioner Trinkle; motion carried 3-0.

Audience Comments Regarding Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP)

Kelly Estes and Ralph

Lanterman spoke in support for the NRP program. The current program is set to terminate on March 31, 2026. Existing participants will be allowed to complete the program under current terms. Commissioner Shriver noted public concern following recent joint meeting between the City and County. County Counselor, Tyson Eisenhauer, summarized findings from Attorney General opinions and correspondence related to the program's original adoption. Failure to align the program with statutory definitions presents potential legal risk. The goal is to develop a legally compliant structure that preserves economic incentives and avoids disruption to development.

Pratt Area Chamber Annual Gala Event Invite

Commissioners were unsure of availability

Executive Session – Attorney-Client

Motion to move to executive session under the Attorney-Client exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to discuss hospital leases for 10 minutes at 3:36 p.m. made by Commissioner Jones; seconded by Commissioner Shriver;

motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners came out of executive session at 3:48 pm with no action take.

Executive Session – Attorney-Client

Motion to move to executive session under the Attorney-Client exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to discuss hospital leases for 10 minutes at 3:48 p.m. made by Commissioner Shriver; seconded by Commissioner Trinkle; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners came out of executive session at 3:56 pm with no action taken.

Consideration of the County Holiday Schedule

Motion to close county offices at noon on Christmas Eve made by Commissioner Trinkle; seconded by Commissioner Jones; motion carried 3-0.

The Commissioners unanimously approved the minutes of the December 8, 2025 meeting.

The Commissioners unanimously approved the vouchers for December 15.

Commissioners adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

Pratt County Commission Minutes of December 22nd

The Pratt County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, December 22, 2025, at 2:00 pm in the Commissioner Room, 1st floor of the Courthouse. The following members were present: Thomas W Jones III, Rick Shriver, Morgan Trinkle, Tyson Eisenhauer, County Counselor, Tricia Clark, Deputy County Clerk and Mark Graber, IT Director.

Economic Development Update – Heather Morgan

Kansas Gas contract has been received. Sawyer will have to call a special meeting to approve the contract. Heather will send the papers to KSS. She states that they still need to negotiate with the state to send how it will be funded.

Heather states she has been busy this last week on phone with people regarding neighborhood revitalization. Heather states the Kansas City Chiefs coming to Kansas will be a great thing for economic development.

Appraiser Personnel Request

Motion to give Jerrilynn King a \$.50 raise going from \$16.00 to \$16.50 made by Commissioner Trinkle; seconded by Commissioner Shriver; motion carried 3-0.

Communications Department Update

Shaphan came in to update the Commissioners. Shaphan states he completed all the free classes he could take. He stated that he started another class but did have to pay for it. He has had a lot of training and has a good grasp on the Kenwood handhelds as well as the Motorola pagers on the programming side. Shaphan stated that he

has completed 6 online classes and 2 in person classes for Emergency Management. He stated he has another in person class in January.

ROZ Resolution

Motion to approve ROZ Resolution 12-22-2025 made by Commissioner Trinkle; seconded by Commissioner Shriver; motion carried 3-0.

Executive Session – Non-Elected Personnel

Motion to move to executive session under the Non-Elected Personnel exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to discuss raises for 10 minutes at 2:06 p.m. made by Commissioner Shriver; seconded by Commissioner Trinkle; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners came out of executive session at 2:16 p.m. with no action taken.

Executive Session – Attorney-Client

Motion to move to executive session under the

Attorney-Client exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to discuss LEC agreement for 30 minutes at 2:25 p.m. made by Commissioner Trinkle; seconded by Commissioner Shriver; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners came out of executive session at 2:41 pm with no action taken

LEC Agreement

Motion to sign the LEC agreement made by Commissioner Shriver; seconded by Commissioner Trinkle; motion carried 3-0.

Executive Session – Attorney-Client

Motion to move to executive session under the Attorney-Client exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to discuss PRMC leases with Jack Galle for 30 minutes at 2:43 p.m. made by Commissioner Shriver; seconded by Commissioner Trinkle; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners came

out of executive session at 3:14 p.m. with no action taken.

Audience Comments Regarding Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP)

Ralph Lanterman and Kenny Roberts spoke in support of the current NRP program. Ralph wants the program to go countywide. Kenny states that his concern is currently you can get the program, but when you are ready to do another phase there won't be a program to do that. The county and city are working together on a plan.

Executive Session – Attorney-Client

Motion to move to executive session under the Attorney-Client exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to discuss Neighborhood Revitalization for 20 minutes at 3:30 p.m. made by Commissioner Shriver; seconded by Commissioner Trinkle; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners came out of executive session at 3:50 pm with no action taken.

Executive Session – Attorney-Client

Motion to move to executive session under the Attorney-Client exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to discuss Tax Foreclosures for 10 minutes at 3:51 p.m. made by Commissioner Shriver; seconded by Commissioner Trinkle; motion carried 3-0.

Commissioners came out of executive session at 3:57 pm with no action taken

Commissioners unanimously approved the minutes for the December 15, 2025, meeting.

Approval of Vouchers

Commissioners unanimously approved the vouchers for December 22, 2025.

Meeting adjourned a 4:07 p.m.

The West Riley Restores Heirlooms and Creates Western Charm in Dexter

A mother-daughter team joins forces to open a brick-and-mortar and custom upholstery business in small-town Kansas



The art of renovation comes from a love for tradition. In a world of instant gratification, big box stores and online shopping, some of that love has been diminished, but it's not gone when there are people like Rose Ann and Kendra Riley stepping up to fill a common void — fixing what isn't broken. Together, the mom and daughter team are fixing what was once loved with a fresh coat of upholstery so it can be loved longer.



Building a brick-and-mortar brick by brick

The West Riley in Dexter is a nod to Rose Ann and Kendra's last name with a tie-in for the type of products they sell that appeal to the western lifestyle — think Pendleton, leather, bison print — anything that reflects the blend of heritage and rugged charm. They also offer custom reupholstery services on well-loved furniture looking for an update.

Even the building where the mother-daughter team work was refurbished to encourage a rustic, western-type feel with touches from yesteryears.

"It was a labor of love to get the building to where we wanted it," Rose Ann says. "We rebuilt the front wall, brick by brick. The old rafters weren't in good shape, so we figured out a way to hide those away. My dad was an electrician, so I grew up with that and could help some with that aspect."

The backdrop of the checkout counter is the original ceiling from the hardware store in town, which no longer exists, but is still represented in Dexter with its use in The West Riley.

The spirit of Kansas community support in Dexter

The spirit of The West Riley is rooted in Rose Ann and Kendra's upbringing. Rose Ann grew up in Winfield, just 20 miles from Dexter, and ever since she can remember, she's sewn, making her the seamstress who works to refurbish pieces of furniture customers bring her.

"It's been a joke ever since I can remember that I was born with a needle in one hand and a power tool in the other," Rose Ann says. "At just 3 or 4 years old, I remember making doll clothes. I made a shirt for my husband before we were married, and in April, it will be 48 years together. He still has that shirt. With a dad and grandfathers involved in woodworking and electrical, that's where the power tool comes in."

"Mom is the fabric guru," Kendra says. "She's been manipulating fabrics her entire life. She knows which way they stretch; she knows how they're going to ravel. She knows more about fabrics than she could ever teach me."

Kendra went to school in Dexter, a testament to the town's dedication to supporting its community to keep its school at the heart of life, despite a population of only around 200. When she graduated, Kendra moved to Manhattan to attend Kansas State University, then Oklahoma State for a master's degree, then back to Manhattan to work at Kansas Department of Agriculture in the Animal Health division. Twenty

years later, moving back home close to Dexter to work on the farm with her dad and on eclectic furniture pieces with her mom, was an opportunity she didn't want to pass on.

"I grew up on a hog farm," Kendra says. "And we always had sheep. My granddad got the first sheep on our place in 1939. We sold the last of the sheep last summer, so this will be the first summer we won't have sheep at our farm in 85 years. We still run cattle, so I help my dad with our herd."

The ranch work is the No. 1 priority for the Riley family. The West Riley isn't necessarily second fiddle, but it is only open on the second Saturday of each month. That's not to say Rose Ann and Kendra aren't working tirelessly on custom pieces they've commissioned — their working space is at their respective homes, where Kendra refurbishes the bones of the pieces and Rose Ann finishes with upholstery.

"A lot of people joke that we only work one day a month," Kendra says. "It just allows us the flexibility to do chores, feed our cattle and do all of that in the mornings and then my mom has a heated work room where she keeps the fabrics separate from where I work on the wood-working side of things, which is all done at my house just a mile away. In the afternoons, we can work on our client projects."

Being open the second Saturday of each month was a deliberate choice. Dexter has a community celebration on the second Saturday of July each year, which was a way to get everyone who was already there for the celebration in the brick-and-mortar storefront.

"That was the whole push," Rose Ann says. "The second Saturday of July 2019 was the grand opening, and we were here until 1 a.m. to get everything ready."

Kendra's absence from Dexter for the previous 20 years didn't hinder the community from being welcoming and offering help where the Rileys needed it.

"I had just been back for about a month at that point," Kendra says. "The community flooded in these doorways. They asked what they could do to help. I was overwhelmed because, again, I had been gone for so long. The amount of support from this community was just empowering, honestly."

Although Dexter dwellers aren't The West Riley's main clientele, Kendra says the community is 100 percent their emotional support.

Rebuilding memories to continue generations of love

The West Riley's storefront gets people in the door, but their custom upholstery side of the business is the majority of their business.

"We figure about 80 percent of our business is the custom upholstery side," Kendra says. "Most of that is people come to us with either grandma's chair they want refurbished or grandma herself comes to us with her chair that she got redone in the '80s but wants to pass down within her family."

"We bring things back to life to let them love on," Rose Ann says. "It is the love they have for the memories involved with that piece."

One local resident brought in a small rocking chair that had been in his family for five generations.

"He said, 'I want it back like I remember it,'" Rose Ann says. "His daughter would be the fifth generation to have this rocker. Those kinds of stories are why we keep doing this. I always say it's a labor of love. We love doing, we love creating.

We love bringing things back and sometimes we surprise ourselves like, wow, we did that."

Creating specialty products with a western flair

As the Rileys have learned through the years, many of their demographic prefer a western trend. The store features Pendleton blankets, pillows made from cut-up Pendleton blankets and child-sized rocking chairs with cowhide and western-themed fabrics they call their Ranch Rockers. The mini-rocking chairs are a unique product the two designed and have been popular with their clients.


We love our Ranch Rockers," Kendra says. "We had gotten a child's chair to refinish. My dad was tearing it down for us and he said we could make them ourselves. So, we tweaked the design a little bit, made the rockers longer so the chairs wouldn't tip over as easily and made our own pattern. I've looked everywhere that I can think of, and I've never seen anything like ours. My tagline for them is child-size, heirloom quality."

Kendra's passion for their handcrafted Ranch Rockers is evident in their unique design and their story. But while their creativity knows few limits, Rose Ann is quick to chime in with a playful dose of reality.

"What can we not do?" Rose Ann asks with a smirk. "Cook."

A sense of humor, a love for repurposing family heirlooms and an attitude that no job is too small or too large, the Riley mother-daughter duo are a force. They just don't prioritize cooking.

The West Riley takes custom orders through its website or Facebook page.



About the author: Born and raised in Kansas, Sheridan Wimmer has an appreciation for the state's agricultural diversity. Representing the best interests of Kansas farmers and ranchers is Sheridan's jam (or jelly, no discrimination). Great food and wine are at the top of Sheridan's sustenance list and she knows it wouldn't be here without the hard work of our farmers and ranchers.

This article courtesy of Kansas Living Magazine, a publication of Kansas Farm Bureau.



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Starting an Election Year

Glenn Brunkow, Pottawatomie County farmer and rancher

This week marks the end of 2025 and the beginning of 2026. There is no denying that 2025 has been a year we will never forget. Some of us would like to forget 2025 and others have had a good year. Yes, I am talking about the difference between those of us who raise crops and those of us who have cattle. It has been a year of extremes. However, whether

you liked it or hated it, 2025 is in the rearview mirror and 2026 is dead ahead. What will 2026 bring us? Who knows? It is an election year These elections have a lot riding on the line, and your involvement is critical for agriculture. If you are a member of Voters Organized to Elect Farm Bureau Friends (VOTE FBF), thank you and now is the time to start researching the candidates in your area so you can have an informed opinion about which candidate could help agriculture the most. If you have not yet contributed to VOTE FBF, I would encourage you to do so right now and you can make your voice

heard when the County Evaluation Committee or CEC meets and chooses candidates to support. Every member’s opinion is important when the VOTE FBF board makes its selections both for the primary and for the general election. We know that increasingly farmers and ranchers are becoming a smaller and smaller portion of the population, so it is important that we band together to have a louder voice. Agriculture is the largest industry in Kansas, and it is critical that we elect officials who understand agriculture and the importance of what we do. We need officials who are at least receptive to hear the message Kansas

Farm Bureau brings to the Capitol, both in Topeka and Washington D.C. That all starts with you being involved with the individuals we send to represent us. We must get to know them before they are elected, and it is just as important that they know who the members of Kansas Farm Bureau are too. VOTE FBF has a tremendous history of backing winners in the election. That is because the recommendations come from our county Farm Bureaus, not the top down. Each county has the opportunity to submit their recommendations, and they carry a great deal of weight

when VOTE FBF makes endorsements. Now, over the coming months, take the time to meet the candidates and understand where they stand, especially on issues affecting farming and ranching. Make sure your CEC knows how you feel and then watch for the VOTE FBF endorsed candidates both before the primary election and again before the general election. I am proud to be part of an organization that puts so much emphasis on decisions at the grassroots level. That is why candidates prize the endorsement of VOTE FBF so much, it truly is from the electors themselves. Again, I urge you

to contribute, do your homework and take part in the CEC process and help determine who we send to Topeka and D.C. As we turn the calendar and start an election year, our work isas important now as it has ever been. “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. Copyright © 2025 Kansas Farm Bureau, All rights reserved. News from Kansas Farm Bureau

Bring Wood-Fired Flavors to Your Holiday Table With These Recipes

(StatePoint) Grilling isn’t just for summer celebrations. Elevate your holiday table and wow family and friends by skipping the oven and grilling main dishes instead. To start, you need the right fuel. “The best wood helps you capture those cozy, smoky notes you’re looking for during the holidays, whether you’re grilling turkey, lamb, pork, beef or veggies,” says Levi Strayer of Bear Mountain BBQ. Delivering big, bold wood-fired flavor on any grill, Bear Mountain BBQ is helping you savor the spirit of the season. Along with the Grill Dads, they are sharing two recipes destined to become your go-to holiday dishes. First up is a Smoked and Juicy Turkey that uses a wet brine to lock in seasoning, and a dry-brine for that crispy skin everybody fights over. The real secret weapon here? Bear Mountain’s Holiday Turkey BBQ Blend pellets. These pellets bring

a clean, balanced smokiness that never overpowers the meat—just enhances it. Ingredients: For the Brine (injectable): 2 cups water 2 cups turkey or chicken stock 1/4 cup kosher salt 1/4 cup brown sugar 3 garlic cloves, smashed 1 teaspoon black peppercorns 1 bay leaf For the Turkey: 1 whole 14-pound turkey Kosher salt and black pepper (for surface seasoning) 1/2 cup unsalted butter, melted (for injecting after cooking) Directions: 1. Make the brine. In a small saucepan, combine water, stock, salt, brown sugar, garlic, peppercorns and bay leaf. Heat over medium until the salt and sugar dissolve. Remove from heat, strain out the solids, and cool completely. 2. Break down the turkey into individual cuts—2 breasts, 2 thighs, 2 drumsticks and 2 wings. Season generously with salt and pepper. Inject each cut with the cooled brine, getting good distribution along

the muscle fibers. Place on a sheet pan uncovered in the fridge overnight to dry-brine. 3. Fire up your smoker with Bear Mountain’s Holiday Turkey BBQ Blend pellets. Smoke at 225 degrees F. Target these internal temperatures: Breasts: 160 degrees F Thighs/Legs: 175 degrees F Wings: 170 degrees F 4. Pull each piece as it hits its temperature. 5. Inject melted butter into each piece as soon as it comes off the smoker. Tent loosely with foil and rest for at least 20 minutes. 6. Crank your smoker or grill up to 400–450 degrees F. Return the turkey pieces skin-side up and cook until the skin is rendered, golden and crispy. 7. Arrange and serve family-style. Up next is Smoked Beef Tenderloin with Sherry Peppercorn Pan Sauce, fired up with Bear Mountain BBQ’s Gourmet BBQ Craft Blend, which brings clean heat, incredible flavor and that mahogany glow from the cherry hardwood, making every bite a celebration. Ingredients: 1 whole beef tender-

loin, tied to an even shape SPG (salt, pepper, garlic) seasoning 2 tablespoons beef tallow (or high-heat fat) 3 tablespoons butter, plus 3 tablespoons ice-cold butter rolled in flour 2 shallots, finely minced 2 cloves garlic, minced 1 cup water 1 teaspoon beef bouillon 1/2 cup dry sherry 1 cup heavy cream Fresh parsley, chopped Freshly cracked black pepper Kosher salt and flaky finishing salt Directions: 1. Let the tied tenderloin temper at room temperature for about an hour before cooking. Season generously with SPG. Set your smoker to 200 degrees F using Bear Mountain Gourmet Blend pellets and smoke the tenderloin low and slow until the internal temperature hits 120 degrees F. Remove from heat and let it rest for 20 minutes while you crank your smoker and a cast-iron pan inside to 550 degrees F. 2. Add beef tallow to the hot cast-iron pan and sear the tenderloin on all sides until you’ve

built a crust. Remove the beef and let it rest again while you make the sauce. Move the cast-iron pan to a medium burner and add the butter, shallot and garlic, cooking just until they are softened. Stir in the water, beef bouillon and sherry, then reduce the mixture by half. Lower the heat and whisk in cream, black pepper, parsley, and the ice-cold butter rolled in flour until the sauce is glossy and smooth. Taste and adjust with salt and

pepper. Slice the tenderloin, lay the pieces in the pan sauce and spoon it all together. Finish with flaky salt right before serving. This holiday season, find everything you need to smoke like a pro at https://bearmountainbbq.com. By spending the season grill-side, you can bring cozy, authentic wood-fired flavors table-side, turning all your holiday meals into cherished celebrations.

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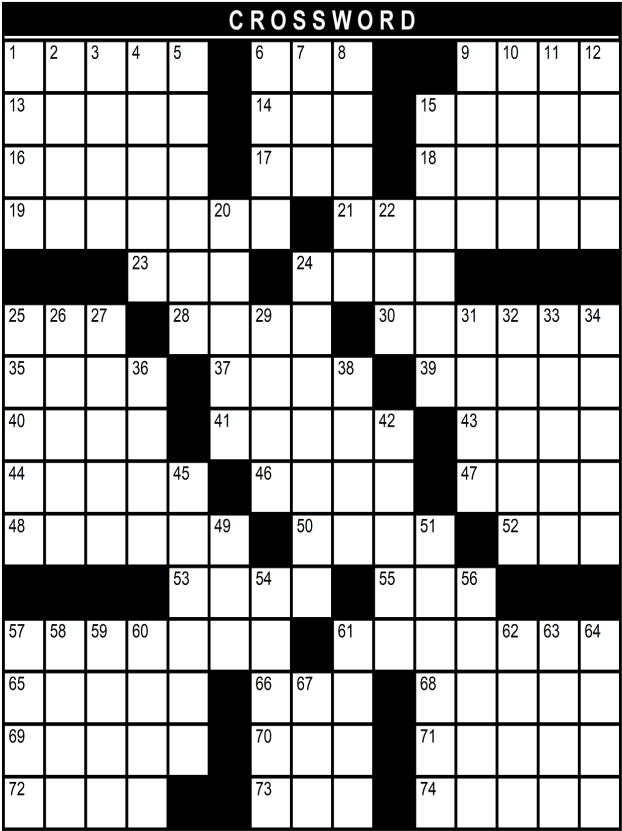
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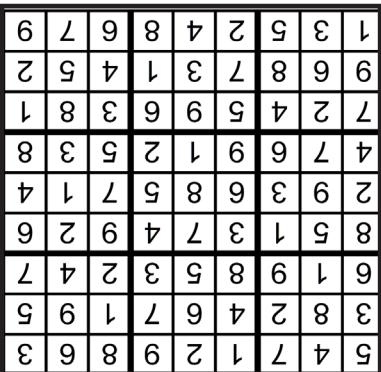
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- ACROSS
- Laura Ingalls' notebook
 - Boozer
 - Biblical pronoun
 - Sacred text, to some
 - "Fat chance!"
 - Afrikaners' ancestors
 - Cake spread
 - Chowed down
 - Clear the blackboard
 - *Barn chore
 - *John Deere, e.g.
 - Nirvana's "Come as You ____"
 - Spasm of pain
 - Broadband access overseer, acr.
 - Mark for omission
 - Recessed space
 - "____ and the Real Girl," movie
 - "Shoot!"
 - E in baseball box score
 - Oil org.
 - Intelligent
 - A mixture or medley
 - Children's respiratory disease
 - Foggy view?
 - Politicians, for short
 - In a sympathetic manner
 - Ski hill ride
 - Maiden name indicator
 - Bald eagle's nest
 - Repeated Latin dance step
 - *a.k.a. harvester
 - *Opposite of pasture
 - *Common varieties are yellow, red and white
 - Tall tale

- Smooth, in manner
 - Audience's approval
 - "____ at ease"
 - Stomach sore
 - Caribou or moose
 - Soldier's bed
 - Harsh
- DOWN
- *Separate cream from milk
 - Locus, pl.
 - Seed coat
 - Form of Japanese poetry
 - Encircle
 - Deep pile carpet
 - *Cereal grass
 - Sorority letter
 - Cleopatra's necklace
 - Thermostat option
 - Guesstimate phrase (2 words)
 - Olympic cast-out, e.g.
 - Charles Darwin's vessel
 - Must-haves
 - Ribonucleic acid, acr.
 - Fine
 - *Group of chickens
 - Birthplace of Caprese
 - Oedipus' successor
 - *Baby sheep
 - *____ rotation
 - Acrylic fiber
 - Bridal veil fabric
 - With a jagged margin
 - Gulf War missile
 - *Pasture-raised chicken's morsel
 - Vanish without this?

- Lamentation
- Japanese capital
- Rh in Rh disease
- Indiana Jones' find, e.g.
- Not a minor
- For boys and girls
- Popular fairy-tale beginning
- Stephen King's "The Green ____"
- *Male pig
- Abe Lincoln's hat material
- Tatted cloth
- Done
- Seaside bird
- UN labor grp.



YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

Publisher: Charles G. Barnes
Editor: Rex Zimmerman
Reporter: Marie Ann Mantooth

1975

December 31, 1975 – Well, we’ve made it through another year. It has been a good year for many and, for others, it hasn’t been. For the community of Cunningham as a whole, however, it has been a a very good and progressive 12 months.

Major accomplishments for the year included the start of a new nursing home for our elderly residents, curb and guttering work and, of course, the high school football team’s outstanding record and second place finish in the state.

Despite these and the many other progressive things that occurred this past year, Cunnigham has an even brighter future ahead in 1976. The comple-tion of the nursing home and the new trailer park on the west edge of town will probably mark the major physical accomplishments, but with the right attitude of community leaders and the rest of the town, any-thing is possible.

A good New Years resolution might be to preserve and continue to build this progressive attitude through-out this new year and serve as an example to other communities of what can be accomplished through dedication and cooperation. – rz (Rex Zimmerman, editor).

Mr. and Mrs. Delmer Hodgkinson, Debbie, Connie and Darren, hosted a Christmas dinner Wednesday, December 24. Invited guests were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gordy and Legion of Wichita and Mrs. W. R. Singleton. Mrs. W. R. Singleton returned to Wichita with the Gordys’ where she visited until Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Alley and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Alley, Terry and Dawn, and Roger Riggs spent the weekends in Texas visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Riggs and family and Mr. and Mrs. John Alley and family.

Rhonda and Ronnie came home with them to spend a week’s visit here.

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

Publisher: Charles G. Barnes
Editor:Vickie Lohmann
Reporter: Florine Kampling

1980

December 31, 1980 - Ruth Nickel, daughter of Edna Nickel, Canton, and Tom Crawford, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Crawford, Sr., Cunningham, exchanged vows Saturday Dec. 20 at 3 p.m. at the Church of Christ, McPherson.

Ruth will continue her schooling and be employed with Farmers State Bank at Canton. Tom is employed with Moody Oil Co.

The couple will be making their home at 351 South Walnut, McPherson.

The Student Council sponsored the annual

Christmas party for the Cunningham High School on Dec. 23 beginning at 12:30 p.m. in the study hall. Those attending laughed at the antics and predica-ments of Lucille Ball in the movie, “The Fuller Brush Girl.” During the movie the spectators munched pop-corn and drank pop. Following the movie there was a general gift exchange followed by school closing for vacation at 2:30 p.m.

The Student Council showed the film to the grade school in the morning of Dec. 23 and served popcorn and soft drinks to the grade school children, also.

Arrangements for the film were engineered by Mike McGovney, Student Council president, and other Student Council members and sponsor, Lee Kerwin.

Dee Mills and Debbie were Christmas Day dinner guests of Mrs. Rose Theis and Phil.

Louise Armstrong spent from Friday until Sunday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ora DeSpain at Gate, Okla. Additional Sunday guests were Dick Adelhardt, Connie and Tash Armstrong.

Mr. and Mrs. Ora DeSpain, Gate, Okla.; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hatchett, San Jose, Calif.; and Mr. and Mrs. Norval Adams of Phoenix, Ariz., were houseguests of Louise and Connie Armstrong on Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Oller, Marvin, Melva, and Matt, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Oller and Mike, and Marlene Oller of Pratt were Christmas dinner and afternoon guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Oller and family at Partridge.

Christmas Eve dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Page were Mrs. Goldie McWilliams, Carmen, Okla.; Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Page, Hutchinson; Mr. Denis Page, St. John, and Kay Abrahamson, St. John.

Saturday guests of Mrs. LaVerna Bradley were Mr. and Mrs. Don Will and Katy of Champlin, Minn.; Mrs. Arlene Bradsley; Mr. and Mrs. Martin Williams, Derby. Additional Sunday Christmas guests were Mrs. Marta Wooten and Todd and Paula Williams and Matt Williams, all of Derby, and Mr. and Mrs. Brad Kerby, Brandon, Chad, and Jordan and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bradley, all of Wichita. Sunday afternoon callers were Betty Amick, David Amick, Monte, Michael, and Maggie.

1986

January 2, 1986 – The congregation of the Cunningham (Christian) Church decided last summer that there was a need for classrooms and restrooms in addition to the present building to the present build-ing. Plans were drawn up by Rev. Gail Peterson and construction was begun about September 1 and com-pleted about December 1, 1985.

The building is 7128 square feet and was built for approximately\$26,000 and is all paid for. It contains five classrooms, the one on the ground floor being large and will be furnished as a church parlor. The addition also includes two restrooms and a child’s restroom off the nursery.

A builder, Bob McGovney, was asked to head up the construction, Bill Pogue did the wiring and plumb-ing, and Bob Long did the heating. George Gridley

and Ed Bidwell were the church’s representatives for selections and decisions. Almost every man in the church and several women put in some time in the construction of the building. Special mention should be given to Wesley Brown and Sam Henderson who put in many hours.

Rev. Peterson and church members are thankful to God for this blessing and pray that they might ad-equately use it in the teaching of God’s word.

The Dedication Service was held December 29, 1985, with Jean Wilson, organist, providing music and Norma Golden leading the songs. Gail Peterson pre-sented the Welcome and a Prayer. Betty Amick gave the reading Bless This House; then all present joined in the song The Church In the Wildwood. Wayne Pittman gave a Dedication Challenge. The Frantz Family Singers presented Special Music.

Melvin Towne delivered the Message followed by song and the Benediction. A large crowd attended these services and toured the new building.

After months of planning, the goal of Friendship Meals for seniors in this area has been reached. Wednesday, January 8, 1986, the doors of the Cunningham Community Center will open at 10 a.m. and participants will be welcome by friends, members of the Nutrition Board and Wally Ford, manager of the local center. There will be door prizes and special music before the meal is served at 12 noon.

Cards, dominos, etc. are planned for the very near future.

The Center will open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday except for the first and third Tuesday of each month. The center is closed these days unless members vote to have pot luck meals.

Virginia May Gray, 70, died Dec. 29, 1985, at Hilltop Manor Nursing Home, Cunningham, after a long illness.

Mrs. Gray was born in Sylvia on Sept. 5, 1915. She married Clarence W. Gray on July 23, 1960. She was a retired administrator and owner of Hilltop House rest home.

Survivors include daughter, Beverly Branscom, Hutchinson; brother, Leo A. Martin, Cunningham; sisters Frances Whitman, South Hutchinson, Betty Schreibrogel, Lakin; three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

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Public Notice

(First published in the Cunningham Courier, Thursday, December 18, 2025.)

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: PATRICIA E. KOON, Deceased.

Case No. KM 2025 PR 56

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

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Leslie D. Koon, an heir of Patricia E. Koon, deceased, praying:

Descent be determined of the following described real estate, situated in Kingman County, Kansas:

Building at Spring Acres: Cabin #3 in the West Half of the Southeast Quarter (W/2 SE/4) of Section Twenty-four (24), Township Twenty-nine (29) South, Range Seven (7) West of the 6th P.M., Kingman County, Kansas.

and all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by decedent at the time of death. And that such property and all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by the decedent at the time of death be assigned pursuant to the laws of intestate succession.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before January 20, 2026 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. in the city of Kingman, in Kingman County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Leslie D. Koon
Petitioner
BY: Matthew W. Ricke
349 N. Main, PO Box 113
Kingman, KS 67068
(620) 532-3103
Attorney for Petitioner

Public Notice

(First published in the Cunningham Courier, Thursday, December 18, 2025.)

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: MARY KATHLEEN WHITMER, Deceased.

Case No. KM 2025 PR 26

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on December 15, 2025, a Petition was filed in this Court by Montie Wayne Whitmer, duly appointed, qualified and acting Executor of the Estate of Mary Kathleen Whitmer, deceased, praying Petitioner's acts be approved; account be settled and allowed; the heirs be determined; the Will be construed and the Estate be assigned to the persons entitled thereto; the Court find the allowances requested for attorneys' fees and

expenses are reasonable and should be allowed; the costs be determined and ordered paid; the administration of the Estate be closed; upon the filing of receipts the Petitioner be finally discharged as the Executor of the Estate of Mary Kathleen Whitmer, deceased, and the Petitioner be released from further liability.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before January 20, 2026, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. in the District Court, Kingman, Kingman County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Montie Wayne Whitmer, Executor
Matthew W. Ricke, #20995
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Public Notice

(First Published in The Cunningham Courier on Thursday, December 25, 2025)

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: VERNON HENNING, Deceased.

Case No. KM-2025-PR-24

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

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE
STATE OF KANSAS

ss:

COUNTY OF KINGMAN
Matthew W. Ricke, of lawful age, being first duly sworn, on oath, states:

I am the attorney for the Petitioner. I served a copy of the following:

1. Notice pursuant to K.S.A. 59-2209 and 59-2211;
2. Petition for Final Settlement; by depositing the same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, on the ____ day of December, 2025, and within

seven days after the first publication of notice, addressed to the following persons:

Name	Address
Geneva Henning	9075 SW 100 Ave. Spivey, KS 67142
Stanley Henning	426 West E Ave. Kingman, KS 67068
Sharon R. Nowak	9418 SW 110 th St. Zenda, KS 67159

such persons being the heirs, devisees and legatees of Vernon Henning, deceased, all guardians and conservators thereof, and guardians ad litem, whose names and addresses are known to the Petitioners or to this affiant.

Notice was served by depositing the same in the United States mail, postage prepaid.

Matthew W. Ricke #20995
Attorney at Law, LLC
349 NORTH MAIN,
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Ryan Hower

Ryan Dean Hower of Norwich, Kansas departed this world on December 21, 2025, at the age of 44. He was born on August 6, 1981, in Kingman, Kansas, the second child of Lanny and Veronica (Pool) Hower. He was welcomed home by his big sister Jamie. They shared a special sibling relationship. One of his greatest joys was tormenting her until she screamed.

Ryan was a lifelong member of the Norwich Community, attending Norwich elementary and Norwich High School. He graduated in 2000. He participated in a variety of activities while in school. He attended Hutchinson Community College and Pittsburg State University. He was a tooler at Textron Aviation.

He was a die-hard Nebraska fan, much to the chagrin of his father. He attended several games over the years, taking Cainin on several occasions. He proudly displayed his Nebraska flag each game day. His current dog Tommie was named after the Huskers All-American quarterback Tommie Frazier.

While in school he developed a passion for woodworking. His most impressive projects were a four-poster bed, two side tables and a glass top coffee table made from native walnut that he and several friends had milled.

He was an avid sportsman. Hunting, fishing, trapping and camping were always on his calendar. He processed each animal that he harvested. He loved to prepare the meat for his family and friends. Sampling beaver, and bobcat on several occasions. He attempted unsuccessfully to get his mom and sister to eat deer, always telling them that it tasted like beef.

He adopted his son Cainin Dean, who he loved dearly. He was a devoted father attending activities that Cainin was involved in. He taught him to hunt, fish, and trap. He also taught him to shoot a bow and crossbow.

He was a loving, caring father, son, brother and friend, whose time here on earth did not last long enough. He will be in our hearts forever.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, Paul and Lydia Hower, Earl and Evelyn Pool and his uncle and aunt, LaDean and Judy Hower. He is survived by his son Cainin, parents Lanny and Veronica and sister Jamie, and a host of aunts and uncles and cousins.



Lynette Markel

Lynette Ann Markel, 64, died Dec. 24, 2025, at Hutchinson.

She was born Sept. 1, 1961, at Wichita, Kansas, the daughter of Raymond and Phyllis (Geubelle) Lubbers. She grew up in the St. Joe Ost community where she attended grade school, then later graduated from Andale High. On Nov. 30, 1985, a cold and icy day, she married Daryl Markel at St. Joe-Ost, Kansas. They moved to Pretty Prairie in 1992 where they raised their kids and spent the rest of their time together.

Lynette was sort of a jack of all trades as she was a former Dental Assistant, a Medical Records clerk, babysitter, stay at home mom, and Para-professional for several surrounding school districts. Later in life, she followed and helped Daryl and Tony with their family business while also getting to be a full-time grandma.

Lynette was a very giving person and liked to volunteer her time helping others. She was a member of the St. Rose Catholic Church and the Altar Society, both at Mt. Vernon. She also taught PSR, participated in bible study and volunteered at the Lord’s Diner. Her time and commitment has had a lasting impact on others. She continued to give even up to the end by being an organ donor and blessing the lives of others.

Lynette is survived by her husband Daryl, her son Tony Markel and his wife Julie; daughter Andrea Hastings and her husband Cody; sisters Lesa (Perry) Maus and Lavina (Shawn) Telford; and grandchildren Kenna and Kimber Markel, Eli, Ezra, and Eliana Hastings.

Parish rosary will be 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 30, 2026, at St. Rose Catholic Church, Mt. Vernon. Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2025, also at St. Rose Catholic Church. Burial will be in the St. Rose of Lima, Mt. Vernon Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the St. Rose Building Fund and mailed to Livingston Funeral Home, 1830 N. Main, Kingman KS 67068.



Mary Lou Osner

Mary Lou Osner entered the world on September 1st, 1935, the youngest of twelve children born to August and Anna Detmer (Rohling). From the very beginning, she was surrounded by a full, lively family, where siblings were playmates, teachers, and lifelong companions.

She attended Willowdale Grade School, a place that became the backdrop for many of the memories she cherished. It was there that she began forming the values that would define her life: kindness, loyalty, and a deep appreciation for the people around her. After grade school, she babysat and helped her siblings, showing early on her nurturing spirit and sense of responsibility.

On December 1st, 1956 she married Mark Osner. Mark and Mary Lou began their married life near Murdock, Ks. After a couple of years at Murdock they decided it was time to start a new adventure and purchase a farm from the Rohling aunts and uncles who had the farm north of Cunningham. Mark passed away Oct. 22, 2006. Survivors include children, Bill and wife Denise, Della Hampton and husband Von, Jason Osner and wife Megan; brother Lonnie; 13 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and 4 step-great-grandchildren. She was also preceded in death by son Leonard; and brothers Theodore, Leonard, Martin, Andy, Leo and John; sisters Agnes Urban, Christine Miller, Rita Goertz and Isadore Fischer.

The farm at Cunningham is where they started a family and raised 4 children, Leonard, Bill, Della, and Jason. Besides raising children, they raised cattle, hogs, and sheep and also began a dairy. Along with the livestock, Mary Lou especially enjoyed raising puppies where they raised rat terriers and other breeds. She would many times talk about taking trips to the various places where they sold them.

After Leonard, Bill, and Della had graduated, and Jason started school, Mary Lou worked at USD 332 at the school cafeteria. Besides just working as a cook, she enlarged her network of friends with coworkers, teachers, staff, and students. Along with working at the school she also devoted her time to the Sacred Heart CCD program as the 2nd grade teacher for several years. She also encouraged others to join the Catholic faith.

Mary Lou also enjoyed gardening, raising flowers, fishing, but her true passion was music. Gifted with a natural ear, she could play the piano beautifully without needing sheet music. Some of her happiest moments were spent making music with her brother Lonnie; together, they would fill the room with classic country and gospel tunes, often drawing a crowd of friends and family who loved to listen. Mary Lou was also skilled on the accordion—affectionately known by some as the “squeeze box.” In her later years at Parkwood, she brought joy to fellow residents by playing the piano for them, her face lighting up with the biggest smile after each song.

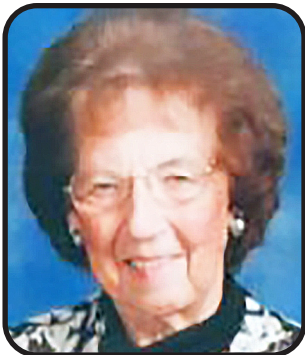
Mary Lou also enjoyed spending time with her 13 grandchildren. Grandma and Grandpa’s house was filled with many memories from always having popcorn, ice cream, candy and cookies to spending hours in the basement playing games. Holidays were always filled with everyone gathering for dinner and more food than you could eat, followed by card games and basketball outside on the court. After that you were expected to eat again!

Although Mary Lou didn’t personally know Mark Zuckerberg, she inspired his idea of Facebook. There were countless times of when you would walk into the house and she would be on the phone with friends socializing about current events. She would typically end that conversation with, “Well I need to let you go someone is at the door.” She would then proceed to tell us how she just couldn’t get off the phone!!!

Over the last few weeks our family has been brought together spending time as she rested. We have been able to look at photo albums and recall many memories of her numerous jokes and stories. The last several days she continued to rest and died peacefully on December 28th, The Feast of the Holy Family. In the months and weeks prior to all of this, in her times of distress she would call out, please help us all Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Family was the center of her life from the beginning of one of 12 kids, she was blessed with 69 nieces and nephews, and along with raising 4 children, who blessed her with 13 grandchildren, and 15 great grandchildren, and 4 step great grandchildren. This doesn’t include the countless friends who were like family. May it inspire all of us to make family and friends be the center of all of our lives.

Parish rosary will be 7:00 p.m., Friday, January 2, 2025 at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Cunningham, Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:00 a.m., Saturday, January 3, 2025 also at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Cunningham. Burial will be in the Sacred Heart Church Cemetery.

Memorials may be made with the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 401 E. First St., Cunningham, KS 67035 or to the Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Pratt, 332 N. Oak St., Pratt KS 67124. A memorial may also be mailed to Livingston Funeral Home, 1830 N. Main, Kingman KS 67068.



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KCHS Pets Ready for Adoption
Malcolm

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



This guy, who looks like he’s just awakened from his nap, is Malcolm. He’s a very handsome sort of a guy. He appears to be laid back, suave and sophisticated --- every girl’s dream cat.

He is about a year old, and weighs about 10 pounds. He’s been at the shelter since December 5, and can be adopted by the perfect girl for \$40.00.

He’d love to grace your home in the new year.

Waverly

Sponsored by Baker Accounting



Isn’t she a soulful looking dog? Waverly is a black Lab and boxer mix with special needs. She is about 4 years old and weighs about 50 pounds. Part of her adoption fee is sponsored by a donor, so for \$150.00 she can be adopted by you from the shelter where she’s been since December 10.

She loves people, but should only be in a single dog family.

The KCHS website says this about her: “Meet Waverly, a beautiful dog with a heart of gold. At first, Waverly might come off as shy, but don’t let that fool you-she is one of the friendliest dogs you’ll ever meet once she gets to know you. With a little patience and lots of love, Waverly quickly warms up and becomes an affectionate and loyal companion. She thrives in a calm and nurturing environment where she can feel safe and loved. Waverly enjoys quiet walks, gentle petting, and simply being by your side. If you’re looking for a loving and devoted friend, Waverly is the perfect match for you. Adopt Waverly today and let her light up your life with her gentle spirit and endless affection.”

She sounds like a winner to me.



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