



Happy Holidays!



\$1.00

from **The Cunningham Courier**

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

USPS 006-101

(620) 298-2659 e-mail: cunninghamcourier@embarqmail.com

Thursday, December 19, 2019

www.cunninghamcourier.news

Volume 29 Number 51



For more photos taken at the craft fair and the parade, visit cunninghamcourier.news and browse the Photo Gallery.

Christmas Lighting Contest

Sunday, December 22, 2019

Lights and displays need to be on by 6:30

CATHOLIC Masses

St. Leo

Sunday, December 22, 2019

10:00 a.m.

St. John's, Zenda

Sunday, December 22, 2019

8:30 a.m.

Sacred Heart, Cunningham

Saturday, December 21, 2019

5:30 p.m.

St. Peter's, Willowdale

Saturday, December 21, 2019

4:00 p.m.

Fr. Roger Lumbré

620-243-5451

620-298-2601

620-246-5370

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Penalosa

Sunday Bible Class

10:00 a.m.

Worship

11:00 a.m.

Afternoon Worship

1:30 at Penalosa Community Center

Mid-Week Bible Study

Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

620-532-2684

CHRISTIAN

Cunningham

Sunday School

9:30 a.m.

Worship

10:45 a.m.

Bible Study

6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting

7:00 p.m.

Pastor Mike McGovney

620-298-3201

620-770-9507

LUTHERAN

St. John's Nashville

Worship Service

10:30 a.m.

Sunday School & Bible Class

9:15 a.m.

Trinity Medicine Lodge

Sunday School & Bible Class

9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship

8:30 a.m.

620-656-7431

Pastor Dennis Fangmeyer

620-246-5220

Cell: 620-886-0911

UNITED METHODIST

Penalosa

Worship

9:15 a.m.

Cunningham

Sunday School

9:45 a.m.

Worship

10:45 a.m.

Pastor Katelyn Zoglmann

620-298-2090

Office Hours:

Tuesdays:

9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Zenda

101 N. Main

Sunday Worship

9 a.m.

Sunday School:

Children 8:30 a.m.

Adult 10:00 a.m.

(3rd Sunday of each month breakfast fellowship at : 8:30 a.m.)

(United Methodist Women meet the 1st Tues. monthly: 6:30 p.m.)

Pastor Ken Keeling

Community Bulletin Board

Thursday, December 19th

JH BB at South Barber

Friday, December 20th

11:30 a.m.

School dismissed

Friday, December 20th

End of semester

Friday, December 20th

HS Basketball at Udall

Monday, January 6th

School classes resume

Monday, January 6th

JH BB at Pretty Prairie

Tuesday, January 7th

HS BB vs. Mullinville at home

Wednesday, January 8th

7:00 p.m.

Board of Education meets

Monday, December 30th

6:30 p.m.

City Council

Thursday, January 9th

8:30 a.m.

NHS visit food bank

Ninnescah Valley Bank will be closed Christmas Day

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Kingman Historic Theatre

237 N. Main in Kingman

(620) 532-1253

http://www.kingmantheatre.org/

December 19th

Free Throwback Thursday Movie

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation

Rated PG-13

Showtime: 6:30 p.m.

Sponsored by Wheatlands Health Care Center/RiverCross Hospice

December 20th - 22nd

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

Rated PG

Showtimes :

Friday & Saturday 7:30 p.m.

Sunday 5:30 p.m.

December 26th

Special Holiday Matinee:

Spies in Disguise

Rated PG

Showtime: 2:00 p.m.

Fundraisers & Charitable Opportunities in our Community

Cunningham Public Library

4C Day Care

Shop smile.amazon.com

(Kathy Albers 620-298-2725 or 620-388-0774)

West Kingman County Education Foundation

Use your Dillon's Card!

Shop smile.amazon.com

(Janet DeWeese 620-298-2717)

Hands of Hope

(contact Fitzsimmons Insurance or any church)

Cunningham Schools

Box Tops for Education

Cunningham Alumni Scholarship Fund

(send checks to the West Kingman County Education Foundation)

Community Center

(leave donation at the bank)

Lions' Club

(leave your old eyeglasses at the bank)

Cunningham Museum

(to donate contact Donna Glenn)

The Cunningham Courier

(USPS 006-101)

117 N Main St. Cunningham, Kansas 67035

620-298-2659 © 2018

Periodicals Postage Paid at Cunningham, Kansas 67035

Postmaster: Send address changes to

The Cunningham Courier

PO Box 38, Cunningham, KS 67035-0038

Published Weekly

Roberta L. Kobbe

Editor & Publisher

Subscription Rates: \$40.00 per year in Kansas

\$45.00 per year out of state

117 N Main Street, PO Box 38, Cunningham, Kansas 67035.

E-Mail: cunninghamcourier@embarqmail.com



Patrol pajamas and toys!
Have a good trip around the world!
Jaxon

Dear Santa,
How do your reindeer fly? I leave you some cookies. I would like a drone and a stuffed penguin, and a tub of dice!
Asher

Dear Santa,
I would like a stuffed pig. I love you, Santa! I'll leave you some cookies and milk.
Kingston

Dear Santa,
I would like a stuffed animal that looks like Rudolph! I'll leave you some chocolate chip cookies. I know you love chocolate chip cookies!
Avery

Second Grade

Dear Santa,
How is your day going Santa?
I started wrestling this year. How has Cupid been? Please bring me a remote controlled car and a drone. Merry Christmas Santa!
Love,
Bryer Barber

Dear Santa,
How are you Santa? I went Christmas caroling last year. Who is your favorite reindeer? I would like to have a toy gun, a play station and a toy monster truck. Merry Christmas to everyone at the North Pole.
Your friend,
Trenton Pitcock

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa, I got a new puppy this year. His name is Frankie. How are my elves doing? Could I please get a camera that prints and an avocado pillow? Merry Christmas!
Love,
Vaughn Preisser

Dear Santa,
Hello Santa! I play football. How did Rudolph get a red nose? I would love a new puppy please. I wish you a Merry Christmas!
Love,
Mackley Glenn

Dear Santa,
Hello Santa! I had a new baby brother named Rio. Do you like sugar cookies or chocolate chip cookies? Can I please have a baby bunny and a bike and a JoJo doll. Have a Merry Christmas.
Love,
Lianna Jaquez

Dear Santa,
Hello Santa! I was in a show with Tess. Do you have kids? Could I please have a milk cow and a scooter. Merry Christmas Santa!
Love,
Ava Neywick

Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
What do you want for Christmas? I love you, Santa! I want toys!
Jalynn

Dear Santa,
I want a big unicorn and a LOL doll. I like pens to write with. I want a big empty box and a toy fish and toy penguin.
Parker

Dear Santa,
I haven't made a list, but I would really like a little Christmas tree with lights on it and I would like it in my room. I would like blue magnetic sand. Thanks!
Wyatt

Dear Santa,
I would like a new pair of glasses! Have a good trip and I'll try to leave a snack!
Willow

Dear Santa,
I want for Christmas a Santa doll, a guitar, a piano, and iPhone. Thanks!
Bailey

Dear Santa,
Hello Santa! I had my cousin's birthday and he turned one. Is Rudolph guiding your sleigh tonight? I would love a Hover board and an iPhone and a camera. Merry Christmas Santa!
Love,
Paisley Westerman

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa! I was on the volleyball team. Is Rudolph really real? Can I have a puppy please. I would love it if you would get a big LOL for me. Please can I have an I pod. Merry Christmas!
Love,
Carly McGuire

Dear Santa,
Hello. We got more kittens. How did Rudolph get red nose? I would love a puppy and a horse and a computer. Merry Christmas!
Love,
Alyssa Osner

Dear Santa,
We got a new baby, Broox. How is Rudolph doing? Please bring me new pajamas and an I pod. I wish you a Merry Christmas!
Love,
Lux Thimesch

Dear Santa,
What's up? My mom had a new baby his name is Paxton. How do the reindeer fly? Can I please have one more Rudolph picture and three more Chuggington trains and a flip phone? As you would say, Ho, Ho, Ho, Merry Christmas!
Love,
Casyn Miller

Dear Santa,
How are you Santa? I drove my dad's truck. How is Rudolph doing? Could I please get a guitar, a phone, and an elf? Merry Christmas!
Love,
Kalvin Fischer

Dear Santa,
Hi! My dad has Expansion Pass. How is Rudolph's nose? I would love a piano and an I phone and an I pod. Merry Christmas Santa!
Love,
Lucas Theis

Dear Santa,
I need some more candy! Frank the elf ate it all!
Bentley

Dear Santa,
I want a remote controlled train. I will leave you some cookies and chocolate milk. Is Rudolph coming along on this trip?
Owen

Dear Santa,
I can't decide what I want! Merry Christmas!
Grady

Dear Santa,
I'd like a remote controlled truck, a tractor and a combine! I'll leave you some cookies!
Wesson

Dear Santa,
I want a purple scooter for me and a black scooter for my brother. I'll leave you and Rudolph snacks and a Christmas tree!
Elsie

Dear Santa,
Hello Santa! I played on a football team this year. Do the reindeer like music or not? Can I have a guitar? Can I have a hover board? Can I have an iPhone for Christmas. Merry Christmas!
Love,
Jace Oldham

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa! I played soccer last year. Where do you get your reindeer? Could I please have some candy? I hope you have a Merry Christmas!
Your friend,
Landen Hageman

Dear Santa,
Hello Santa. I got to play flag football. Do you like going around to every house? Can you please give me a new green bike and a new yoyo please? Merry Christmas!
Love,
Landon Green

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa! I got a new puppy. Her name is Izzy. Do your reindeer go on flights? Please bring me a bike and fluffy socks. Merry Christmas!
Love,
Brody Halderson

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa! I got a new baby brother. His name is Hayes. How is Peter my elf doing? Could I please have a PC and an I pod. Can you drop it off at my mom's home? Merry Christmas to you all Santa.
Love,
Carter Wyatt

Dear Santa,
How are you Santa? I got on a flag football team. Is Mrs. Claus a good cook? I would love it if you got me some Legos and a guitar! Merry Christmas!
Love,
Cooper Neufeld





Dear Santa, I am so excited for Christmas. And there is only one thing I want the most is my grandpa! I miss him a lot. And I have not seen him in a long time so that is all I want for Christmas.

From, Olivia Wyatt

Dear Santa, This year I have been very, very, very, very, very, very good. I hope my elf has been good for you and doing what you want him to do. This year I only want a guitar. I want to play because I want something musical. Tell my elf thanks for coming this year. Merry Christmas!

Your Friend,
Carson Strohl

Dear Santa, I want a bunny but mom said that it's too cold so I hope you find one and make sure it is black and its name is Abga and its nickname is Abby. Please get me a bunny and I hope you have a safe flight to Kansas. Thanks!

Your friend,
Sage



I want for WW3 not to happen. I want a trophy back. I want a dirtbike, a reindeer, a puppy(a siberian Huskey) I would love to have a 22 but I don't want my mom afraid I would shoot my eye out. I would like a 100 dollar psu gift card. I would like to have airpods. I would also like a quaffel.

1st on the nice list,
Logan Kinsler

Ps I want my two front teeth

Pss I am still waiting on that hippo



Color Guard:
Wayne Dick,
Garrett Beat,
John Fischer,
Jennifer Neywick
Tricycles:
101 Jade Preisser 1st place
Scooter:
201 Andrew Kerschen
Wagons:
301 Jett Preisser 2nd place
302 Oakley and Krusze Panek 1st place
Bicycles:
401 Ty Schultz
402 Andrew Schultz
403 Kalvin Fischer
404 Vaughn Preisser 5th place
405 Gabriel Chapman 4th place
406 Adam Sterneker and Nate Sterneker 2nd place

Dear Santa, I would like it if you would give me a Shopkins Mansion and a new diary. I was also wondering what your favorite kind of dessert is, because if I did, I could make it for you. What is your favorite reindeer's name? I hope you have a merry Christmas.

Your friend,
Katie Ogg

Dear Santa, For Christmas I want a guitar with strings, an elf on the shelf. Can I have that before Christmas like the 15th? And a BIG, BIG slime kit. You are the BEST, Santa! I will leave cookies! Bye.

Love,
Caity

Dear Santa, All I want for Christmas is a Nintendo switch light and Luigi's Mansion 3. And of course I want my family. And maybe a hamster. And the new Zelda for a Nintendo switch lite. And maybe a new MP3 player. And the notebook of doom monster notebook.

Your favorite kid,
Kane Reid

Dear Santa, I hope to have my sister and brother not to fight. I also want peace on earth. I want an electric scooter. I also hope to have a recor. I want a personal house so I don't have to put up with my siblings. I would like a full size basket ball court. I hope to have a ice skating rink. I would also like a huge stuffed bear. I also would like a huge stretch limo. I would like a dirt bike. I would also like an iphone 11.

Your Friend, Kendall Rogers

Dear Mr. Kringle, I want the Korean War to stop. May I please have a new PS4 controller. Can I also have a gaming computer. I would like a nintendo switch with fortnite on it so I could

Dear Santa, Thank you for giving me presents. For Christmas I want a wooden basketball hoop for Christmas. And I also want a big bone for my dog named Frankie, and for my other dog named Cheech. And make sure it is wrapped like a present for my dog.

Your friend,
Wesly Preisser

Dear Santa, I hope you have a merry Christmas. I also hope you, your elves, your Reindeer, and Mrs. Claus are all doing well. If it's alright with you I want a pet puppy, Call of Duty Black ops 4, and an rc car for Christmas.

Your friend,
Liam

Dear Santa, I would like the board game called Clue and a new video game and it's about Christmas or something. I would also like a new guitar and a karaoke machine.

Love,
Zechariah Pinaire



play with Ty. Can I get a pair of Ipod Pro's. Can you please fix my dirtbike. May I please have a rock climbing wall. Can I also have ropes. I would really like a TV put in my room. I would like a basketball goal and a 28.5 inch basketball. May I please have an Iphone 11 like Jenette Rogers phone?

Your best friend,
Andrew Shultz

Dear Santa, I would love it so much if the world came together as 1 country and showed respect, love and cared for others. No matter the color of the peoples skin or how rich people are, or the way people dress, you should still be nice. It cost nothing to show respect to people and to care for others. I also

Dear Santa, I would like a scruff u love, baking equipment, art equipment, telescope, Boxcar children books, Dork Diary books, multi-plication books, My Love newborn doll. Merry Christmas!

Your friend,
HarLee Barber

Dear Santa, I hope you have a safe flight! For Christmas can I please have a puppy because Max died. Oh, and an electric toothbrush. What about slime? Can you let Chippy stay for one more day after Christmas? Also, school supplies because I love to play school! Maybe a kitten! A gift card that is worth \$30! What about cleaning supplies so I can clean for mom! Enough money for a trip to Bozeman, Montana!

Love,
Keyonna

Dear Santa, What is your favorite cookie? I will bake them. I do not care what I get. Have a safe flight.

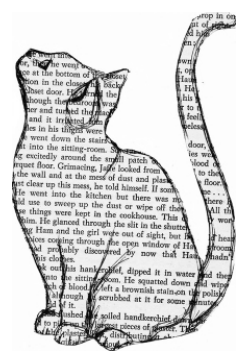
Love,
Colton

hope for people to stop letting there anger out on the world. And people should not pollute. They certainly should not kill but instead they should love everyone. Don't get me wrong Jolly Ol' Saint Nick, I still want towys like a hoverboard. And if I can't get that there is a ohone case that I really really really (You get the point) want. And since the tires on my bike broke, I could use another one. I hope you can do this for me. I should really thank you for getting me all this stuff in the past. Thank you. I am really thankful for you.

Your best friend that is on the nice list,
Dylan Halderson

P.s. I am on the nice list, right?

#326 Keith, Kandi, Macy, Cooper and Brynn Neufeld
#325 Keith, Bentley, Megan, Carson Strohl and Dixie
#332 Jamie, Gage, Carson, Kailynn Elliott, and Emily and Travis
3 1 1 M a t t Westerhouse
#333 Chief Harold Stark with Bill Stark
Cunningham women's Club Raffle Winners:
Red Velvet Angel was won by Amy Miller
Quilted Snowman Hanging was won by Jeanette Kerschen
Frozen Trunk was won by Parker Miller



Meanderings

Oh, rats! Rats! Rats! Rats!

In last week's column I mentioned an illustration in a book of collected stories by Edgar Allan Poe: There was that guy tied to a table with rats (shudder) crawling all over him and the pendulum hanging above. “They swarmed up me in ever accumulating heaps” was the caption.

I don't particularly care for stories where the animals talk, and thus, I can't think of many "rat" characters in stories that I like. There is Nicodemus and his troupe of escaped rats in "Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIHM" by Robert C O'Brien. I did like that award-winning book a great deal.

I guess I liked "Ratty" from "Wind in the Willows" by Kenneth Grahame. I don't dislike him.

Then there is Chiaroscuro (known as "Roscuero") in "Tale of Despereaux" by Kate DiCamillo. He was a good rat.

I have a book on my shelf titled "I was a Rat" by Philip Pullman that I am going to try and read this week.

One of my favorite authors, Avi, has written a story "Christmas Rat" I'd like to read...someday. Either in this lifetime or the next.

We often use 'rats' as a mild expletive. I did a bit of research and one website (hammertechltd.com) gave this as three reasons, but I think this is the best one: ‘Drat’ was first used early in the 19th century. It was a shortening of ‘od rat’ which was a euphemism meaning God rot. Drat has been adapted to rats. This definition comes from the new Oxford American dictionary.

THEN I thought of two stories about rats.

The summer of 1983 I ventured to the Flint Hills for a summer job as a camp counselor at Wiedemann Girl Scout Camp. It was rather primitive in those days. We slept in tents draped over wooden framed platforms. There was a screen door at the front to exit when the flaps were down. There was a creek that ran through the camp, and some of the units were within yards of it. They had several little bridges one could walk over to cross that little meandering creek.

One of the camp “legends” the girls told was about a rat that crawled along one of the boards during the night and bit a camper as she was sleeping. She had to have rabies shots and lots of other shots and she almost died.... And... and...

My fellow counselors and I'd been there for a few weeks when we were told there was stormy weather headed

our way. Before going to bed, we “battened down the hatches”. All tents flaps were tied to the platforms, screen doors were secured.

I woke in the night unable to breathe. (I'd had asthma when I was younger, and although I'd mostly gotten over it, I could still get quite wheezy if conditions were right) The wind was howling, and the rain was pelting the tent. I sat up, hoping to catch my breath, but there was no air circulating and it must have been over 100 degrees in that tent. I pulled the tent out a bit from the floor beside my cot, thinking I could get some air that way. When I looked down at the ground underneath, I saw that little creek was running under out tent. We'd gotten a lot of rain. I saw limbs and leaves rushing by in the turmoil, but I still couldn't get any air.

I got up, stumbled to the door, opened it, and there was a big rat huddled against it. Oh! UGH! It didn't help my breathing any. I woke one of my tent mates. “Rachel?” I shook her shoulder until she opened her eyes. “I'm having trouble breathing. I need to open the door.”

“Okay,” she said, “can I do anything?”

“There's a rat outside the door.”

“OH! #\$%%!” She flew out of bed, knocking backward onto mine. “I hate rats!”

She turned on a flashlight, and lighted the door. There was about 12 inches of tail sticking under the door. Rachel is scrambling around. “Oh! What can we use? We have to get rid of that thing! Here!” She picked up a gallon-sized bottle of Clorox and thumped it down on the tail. It disappeared. She very carefully opened the door. No rat. I stood out on the little landing, getting soaked, but I was finally able to breathe. Rachel joined me and watched the creek rushing by. Swirling and whooshing.

I felt a little bit bad about making the creature “jump ship.” But they are survivors and I hate rats.

Well, now I'm out of room, the next story will be next week.

Rat stories. What an interesting choice for the Christmas holidays.

Always reading, and currently reading, "Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore" by Robin Sloan Roberta

“Still, it seemed to us that the main reason we were hated must be that we always lived by stealing. From the earliest times, rats lived around the edges of human cities and farms, stowed away on men's ships, gnawed holes in their floors and stole their food. Sometimes we were accused of biting human children; I didn't believe that, nor did any of us unless it was some kind of a subnormal rat, bred in the worst of city slums. And that, of course, can happen to people, too.”

— Robert C. O'Brien, Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH

Libraries			
Cunningham Public Library Monday - Wednesday - Friday 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. Tuesday - Thursday - Saturday 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. 298-3163 Closed Holidays	Zenda Public Library Hours Monday & Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Thursday 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. Sat. 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 620-243-5791	Kingman Carnegie Library 620-532-3061 Mon. : 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. 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. Satu. : 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Pratt Public Library Mon. - Thurs. 10:00 - 7:00 Fri. - Sat. 10:00 - 6:00 Closed on Sundays



Jr. High Lady Wildcats Defeat Skyline

by Coach Bart Ricke

The Cunningham Jr. High Lady Wildcats traveled to Pratt-Skyline on Thursday, December 12, 2019 to take on the Skyline Thunderbirds in Heart of the Plains basketball action and came away with a 22-15 win. The Lady Cats outscored the T-birds in each of the first two quarters by a score of 6-4 and led at half-time 12-8. In the third quarter, the Cunningham girls extended their lead out to eight on two different occasions only to see Skyline cut the Wildcat lead to four until Cunningham would score the final basket of

the third to lead 20-14 heading into the final period. Baskets were hard to come by in the fourth as Skyline would only add a free-throw and Cunningham would add a two-point field goal to bring the final score to 22-15. The win improved the Jr. High Lady Wildcat record to 2-1 in league games and 3-4 overall. Scoring for the varsity Lady Cats: Elizabeth Paris 6, Maranda Lohrke 4, Taylor Schultz 8, Ellie McGuire 4. In the hard fought b-team game the Lady Cats battled back from an early 2-8 deficit to defeat the Skyline b-team 13-12. Scoring for the b-team Lady Cats: Emily Ogg 2, Kaitlyn Hennessee 7, Grace Hageman 2, Ava Bock 1, Joanna Hansen 1.



Clockwise from above left: Taylor Schultz; Joanna Hansen; Brianna Dittmer (12) , Emily Ogg, Grace Hageman, Ava Bock

Cold Game for JH Wildcats

by Coach Lance McGuire

The Junior High boys traveled to Skyline to take on the always competitive Thunderbirds on Thursday, 12/12. We were not ready to play, coming out slow on defense and shooting the ball like we were visiting Santa Claus at the North Pole: we were COLD. The second quarter we thawed out and made it a game, outscoring our opponent 16-5 for a hopeful halftime score of 18-20. We shot well, rebounded better and clawed our way back.

Unfortunately, the third and fourth quarters looked much like the first. Overall the only statistic we led through the game was fouls. Skyline outshot and outplayed us in every respect. The game was hard to watch, harder to play, and will be a learning tool for our team. We will make adjustments and better prepare for any “next times” down the road this season.

Nate Sterneker led in rebounds (4) on a night we struggled to rebound. Will Wegerer led in steals (3).

TEAM	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	Final
Cunningham	2	16	1	2	21
Skyline	15	5	12	10	42



Kendall Rogers (#10) and Lucas Hageman? (#1?)



Dagim Reed



Luke McGuire



Kory Morgan



Skyler Thimesch (#15), Trent Schnittker (#55) and Kory Morgan (#30)

Wildcat Scorers	
Will Wegerer	9
Luke McGuire	4
Dagim Reed	4
Wylan Betzen	2
Nate Sterneker	2

photos by Molly Morgan and Joyce Depenbusch

Defense Sets Tone In Lady Wildcat Victory

by Coach Eric Meyers

On a night when we weren't too clean on offense, we got dirty on defense and smothered the Lady Indians from Medicine Lodge. The Lady Indians scored 54 points in their opening round win and made it clear who their number one offensive option was. We worked hard to deny entry passes to her, and effectively disrupted their offense with a combination of defenses to clear a path to victory. Early turnovers - three in the first two minutes - got my ire, but we didn't allow points off of those turnovers and pushed out to a 14-2 lead. We had the edge in the second quarter as well to lead

at halftime 26-10. While our half court offense was just soso, we did get a number of points in transition which helped. I believe the early part of the third quarter is one of the most critical junctures in most games because teams make adjustments at halftime and dealing with such can impact the direction of the game. When we nearly pitched a third quarter shutout while scoring 16, the game was settled. The final score of 47-19 may raise some eyebrows because Medicine Lodge is a pretty good team as I think their season results will begin to prove, but it's encouraging to me to have these results on a night when we were not at our best. We definitely need to focus on rebounding as the Lady Indians got the best of us in this department, 36-29.

We shot 38% from the floor, the poorest results in this young season, but finally at the free throw line we exceeded 60% on 11 of 18 (61%). Further evidence that we weren't clicking offensively is revealed in the 0.89 points per possession, something I like to see at 1.00 or above. However, I really liked the balance among our scorers as 7 contributed, led by Morgan Meyers' 16 while Madie McGuire added 9 points and Mackenzie Wright 8. Rounding out the scoring was Holly Deweese with 6, Maddi Panek with 4, and Alayna McGuire and Reese McGuire accounting for 2 points apiece.

Madie led our team in rebounds with 7,

but Holly, Morgan, and Maddi followed closely behind with 6, 5, and 4, respectively. Morgan set the pace in steals with 6 while Alayna and Holly each had 3. Morgan had 6 of the team's 10 assists and Alayna had 2.

The final game of this tournament is against host Skyline, and they seem to get up for us, so we will need to come ready to play. Our defensive effort has earned an A+ from me thus far, and I'm not an easy grader. I know the opponent's score means something to these girls so I expect more of the same.



Morgan Meyers

Milestone for Lady Wildcat Basketball

by Eric Meyers

When Cunningham played Medicine Lodge on Friday, December 13, 2019, it marked the 1,000th game for the Cunningham Lady Wildcats, and as it should be, it was a Wildcat win! Through 1,000 games, Cunningham's record is 605-395. I thought it might be interesting to some people to look back

on who coached these teams over the years. In order, and with number of seasons as the head coach, the list looks like this:

Jim Webster (1)
Randy Randle (4)
Skip Herd (3)
Lonnie Thiessen (3)
Chuck Zimmerman (13)
Brad Sillin (2)
Steve Miller (2)
Bob Stackhouse (2)
Gwen Theis (1)
Thayne Ediger (1)
Lance McGuire (3)
Eric Meyers (11)



Reese McGuire scores two.



Alayna McGuire

Wildcats Begin Thunderbird Classic

The Cunningham Wildcats traveled to Skyline on December 13, 2019 to take on the Indians of Medicine Lodge 37th annual T-Bird Classic. Medicine Lodge beat the Wildcats by a score of 71-45.

After quick start by the Indians, Cunningham settled in to a rhythm and managed 10 points to the Tribes 16. Daylen Schnittker led the way with six points.

Cunningham played a little closer in the second quarter scoring 14 points. Erik Paris tallied seven points. Medicine Lodge added 16 points to their total and led at halftime, 32 to 24.

The Cats came out flat in the third quarter and could only muster 9 points while giving up 25 to Medicine Lodge who took advantage of 12 Cat turnovers. Lane Halderson added to his game leading total with four points.

Medicine Lodges mass substitutions during the game wore on the Cats but they would not give up. Cunningham added 12 points to their total to finish the game with 45 points. Nathan Lohrke and Halderson each scored six points

This was a challenging night with two of the seven Wildcat players unavailable to play. Cunningham played ironman basketball with only five players suited up for the game.



Lane Halderson



Isaiah Reed shoots.

Name	2pt. made	3pt. made	FTM/FTA	TP	Reb.	Asst.	Stl.	Chg.
Halderson	7		3/7	17	6	2	2	
Schnittker	4			8	10	2	4	
Lohrke	4	1		11	4	1		
Paris	2	1		7	3	1		
Reed	1		0/4	2	7	9	3	
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	Final			
Cunningham	10	14	9	12	45			
Medicine Lodge	16	16	25	14	71			



Erik Paris

Minutes from the County Commission Meeting December 9th, 2019

The Board of Kingman County Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Kingman County Courthouse, Kingman, Kansas on December 9th, 2019. Those present: Fred Foley, Commissioner; Jerry Henning, Commissioner; John Caton, County Counselor; Carol Noblit, County Clerk

Visitors: Carol Voran; Larry Landwehr; Jason Jump, Kingman Leader-Courier; Zachary Bieghler, Kingman EMS Director

Staff: Matthew Ricke, County Attorney; Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director; Amber Hartley, Interim County Appraiser; John Wimer, Noxious Weed Director; Sheriff Hill; Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director and Staci Jackson, District Court Clerk

Commissioner Henning called the Board of County Commissioners Meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

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

Commissioner Henning would like to discuss windfarm traffic; RFP's and an email from Martin Lohrke. MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve the agenda with the addition of discussion of the windfarm traffic; RFP's and an email from Martin Lohrke. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a majority vote of the County Commissioners.

County Clerk submitted the minutes of the November 18th, 2019 Commission Meeting for approval. MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve the minutes of the November 18th, 2019 Commission Meeting. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Stan Goetz, was in and thanked the Commissioners for the Christmas Dinner on Friday.

Mr. Goetz discussed with the County Commissioners about the Planning Boards recommendation to close the road. The Commissioners discussed the trees that were put in the road.

Matthew Ricke was in to represent one of the landowners involved in the request to close the road.

Mr. Ricke discussed the entrances around the property.

Mr. Goetz said that there would be no decision made at the meeting because a unanimous vote could not be made because Commissioner Steffen is gone. Mr. Goetz said that the decision will have to be postponed until the December 23rd, 2019 Commission meeting.

Mr. Goetz discussed the Economic Development Director position and the pay discussed for approval by the County Commissioners. MOTION: Commissioner

Foley moved to approve \$40,000.00 for the Economic Development Director and \$5,000.00 start up for a total of \$45,000.00. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Goetz reviewed the Department Head Meeting minutes with the County Commissioners.

Commissioner Henning discussed with Mr. Goetz that the County Commissioners would like to receive copies of the RFP's (Request for Proposals) before they go out.

Commissioner Henning discussed the Windfarm traffic and the big cranes that are being used to fix wind turbines.

Mr. Goetz would like to bring up this discussion again when Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director is in. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Foley moved to go into executive session with Stan Goetz, HR and John Caton, County Counselor at 8:57 a.m. to discuss an individual employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under KOMA. The County Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:03 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Foley moved to go into executive session with Amber Hartley, Interim County Appraiser; Stan Goetz, HR and John Caton, County Counselor at 9:04 a.m. to discuss an individual employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under KOMA. The County Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:15 a.m. with no binding action taken.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve Resolution 2019-R14, A RESOLUTION APPOINTING COUNTY APPRAISER PURSUANT TO K.S.A. 19-430 AND APPROVING THE FORM OF A COUNTY APPRAISER EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH APPOINTMENT. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners. MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve the County Appraiser Employment Agreement for Amber Hartley. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote.

Mr. Goetz submitted building permits for the following:

Kevin Schrag for a Livestock shed in Section 6, Township 27, Range 05W.

Bill Osner for an attached garage in Section 9, Township 27, Range 10W.

Zachary Bieghler, Kingman EMS Director was in to go over the 2019 3rd Quarter budget report with the County Commissioners.

Mr. Bieghler discussed that they have established a reserve fund and extra funds will be placed into this fund to make future equipment purchases.

Mr. Bieghler went over his EMS stats with the Commissioners.

Mr. Bieghler let the Commissioners know the new employees that have been hired. A Full-Time paramedic: Michaela Youngers; Part-Time EMTs: Walt Smith, Rachel Schneider and Maddie Rhodes and Rescue: Tyler Esposito. The EMT class is wrapping up with 6 students anticipated to finish. EMS held its 3rd annual "Fill the Ambulance" food drive for the Kingman Foodbank on December 7th and 8th.

John Wimer, Noxious Weed Director was in to open chemical bids. The following bids were received

Van Diest Individual pricing received

Continental Research Individual pricing received for multi spread 25.90 for 5 gallons

M A R C (Mid-American Research Chemical)

M19 26.87 per gallon
M45 65.34 per gallon
Judgment Day -Roundup
SIMS

Individual pricing received

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to table the bids until December 16, 2019 Commission Meeting. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a majority vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve a Cereal Malt Beverage License for Spike's Place. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a majority vote of the County Commissioners. MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to process the Board meeting at 10:12 a.m. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a majority vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to reconvene the Board meeting at 10:16 a.m. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Sheriff Hill presented the monthly reports for October 2019 and November 2019 for the Commissioners review.

Sheriff Hill was in with a request for storage and was looking to purchase a 20ft sturdy-bilt container and place it over in the fenced in area. Sheriff Hill would also like to lease a 40 ft container temporarily to hold items during the construction.

Commissioner Henning discussed that maybe 3-20ft containers would be better so that moving them would be easier.

Sheriff Hill would like to change his request to 3-20ft containers instead of one 20 ft and one 40ft container.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve the purchase of 3-20ft containers for the

Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Staci Jackson, District Court Clerk was in to talk to the County Commissioners about the Computers in the District Court System and the cost of replacement.

Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in to let the County Commissioners know that the letting date for FAS #12 Bridge Repair is set for January 13, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.

Mr. Arensdorf discussed the application that was submitted for the bridge repair and the response that was sent to him.

Mr. Arensdorf submitted the November financial reports for his department for the Commissioners to review.

Mr. Arensdorf discussed with the Commissioners about the teleconference last week with the wind farm. The Wind Farm requested to use AB1 on Township roads instead of AB3.

Commissioner Henning discussed the wind farm hauling a crane down the County black top and they had stopped to put weights on. Commissioner Henning said we need to incorporate something to help with this moving forward.

Mr. Caton said that maybe we need to let the wind farms know that they need to let Mr. Arensdorf know when they plan on driving the big cranes down the County or Township roads.

Mr. Goetz discussed the tele-conference with the Wind Farm last week.

Mr. Arensdorf said that he felt that the agreement should be signed after the action plan has been established.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve the quote for the District Court Computers in the amount of \$32,097.74. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved with the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Mark Schnittker, Courthouse Maintenance was in to discuss putting

no parking signs in front of the trash can and the garage on the East side. The Commissioners agreed to put no parking signs.

Mr. Schnittker asked about the damage to the Expo Center pickup and if it was going to be fixed.

The County Clerk let Mr. Schnittker know that she would get in touch with KCAMP and see what they will do.

Mr. Schnittker talked to the County Commissioners about the old air conditioners from the old buildings on main street and if they can be disposed of.

The Commissioners agreed to dispose of the old air conditioners.

The County Commissioners signed County Vouchers in the amount of \$144,445.87.

The County Commissioners signed Road & Bridge Vouchers in the amount of \$71,690.07.

The County Commissioners signed the Abatements, Additions and Escapes:

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

The Kingman Area Chamber of Commerce would like to say thank you to:

Kingman Community Hospital for sponsoring the Gingerbread Decorating

Shad and Nancy Milford for sponsoring the Free Meal

Tina Watts for helping with Snow Prince & Princess float

Kingman Fair Board for sponsoring the after-parade concert & dance event

Kingman Police Department and Sheriff's Department for helping make sure the community is safe and that traffic flows during the parade

Kingman Expo Center for allowing us to use their space for the Arts & Crafts Fair

Cox Communications for their sponsorship

Kingman Recreation Commission for sponsoring the Reindeer Run/Walk Race

Rotary Club of Kingman for the donation of the downtown lights

Kingman Christian Church for providing the Chili/Soup Supper

Kingman Elementary & Middle School students for helping us in preparation for parade day

The City of Kingman – Greg Graffman, Tom Archer, and all of the crews for their hard work and dedication

White's Foodliner for all of the ingredients and extra work to help us prepare

Kingman County Historical Society Museum for taking Santa photos on the firetruck

Dixon's Hardware for donating the boy's & girl's bicycles

PrairieLand Partners for donating the Gators for our use on parade day

Whispering Willow 4-H for taking pictures at the breakfast on parade day

KAMI for sponsoring the breakfast with Santa

Convention & Tourism Board for their sponsorship

Kansas Wheat Commission News

Skyland Grain pledged \$50,000 to the Kansas Wheat Commission Research Foundation, for the second time, in support of impactful wheat research. This generous donation is part of KWCRF's Fields Forward campaign for a sustainable wheat future. The campaign aims to fund research projects that improve yield and quality, develop and maintain technologies and facilities necessary for future wheat research and cultivate new talent in the wheat breeding and genetics industry.

"This gift is an incredible gesture to Kansas wheat farmers and researchers," said Aaron Harries, vice president of research and operations at Kansas Wheat. "It will allow us to properly maintain and improve the Kansas Wheat Innovation Center, a facility that marks the largest investment by farmers in wheat research to date. This facility has hosted tens of thousands of visitors from around the globe over the last seven years, and it contains the future of wheat genetics in its laboratories and greenhouses. This donation gives our stakeholders peace-of-mind, knowing that the hub they have created for international wheat research will be maintained for years to come."

Skyland Grain has a longstanding relationship with the Kansas Wheat Commission. The co-op was a founding supporter of the Kansas Wheat Innovation Center opened in Manhattan in 2012. They continue to support the white wheat industry in Kansas through their network of farmer customers and have been instrumental in supplying hard white wheat to domestic and international customers.

The KWCRF was established in 2011 as the official fundraising organization for the Kansas Wheat Commission. The Foundation works to raise private dollars to combine with public funds for the advancement of wheat research including the accelerated release of wheat varieties. Much of this research is conducted at Kansas State University.

Over the past half century, Kansas wheat farmers have contributed millions of their own hard-earned dollars toward wheat research through the wheat checkoff. However, the cost of research continues to increase while government funding decreases. The Kansas Wheat Commission Research Foundation was created to increase research funding above and beyond the resources of the wheat checkoff. And while the checkoff is paid only by farmers, the Foundation allows private individuals and all segments of the wheat industry to support wheat research through tax-deductible gifts.

With supporters like the Skyland Grain, the Kansas wheat industry will continue to honor the heritage that unites us all. For more information about the KWCRF, visit fieldsforward.org.

Lions' Club Clothing Drive

The Cunningham Lions' Club is hosting a socks, hat, scarf, and glove drive for the holiday season.

The members will be collecting these accessories in all sizes until the end of December.

These items are for those in need in our local community.

Drop Box can be found at Ninnescan Valley Bank.

To reserve the
Cunningham
Community Center,
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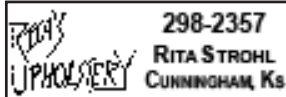
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Public Notice

Published in The Cunningham Courier on December 19, 2019 (1t)

Notice of Budget Hearing for Amending the

2019 Budget
The governing body of
City of Cunningham

will meet on the day of 12/30/2019 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 119 N. Main for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed amended use of funds.

Detailed budget information is available at City Hall, 119 N. Main and will be available at this hearing.

Summary of Amendments

Fund	2019 Adopted Budget			2019 Proposed Amended Expenditures
	Actual Tax Rate	Amount of Tax that was Levied	Expenditures	
Library	3.818	10,915	11,500	12,205
			0	0
			0	0

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Seth Thibault, OD
Andrew W. Piester, OD
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Pratt, Kansas 67124
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604 N. Walnut
Medicine Lodge, Kansas 67104
620-886-3222
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Seth Thibault, OD
Andrew W. Piester, OD
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Kingman, KS 67068
620-532-3154
1-800-371-3154
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Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Friday

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Celebrations of Life

Earl Gatz

Earl E. Gatz, 89, passed away on November 28, 2019. A funeral service will be at St Paul’s United Methodist Church, 7740 Lackman Rd, Lenexa KS 66217 on Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 10 am. The family will travel to Pratt, Kansas after the service and a brief reception for family and friends.



Earl was born at home in Preston, Kansas on July 17, 1930 to Dr and Mrs Isaac F. (Ike) and Dorothy (Ellis) Gatz. He was the youngest of three children; an older brother, Jack, and a sister, Kathy.

Earl’s parents lived and worked on the family farm near Preston where Ike also ran a veterinary practice. Ike was in the Kansas State veterinary graduating class of 1922 followed by Earl in 1956 and Earl’s son, David, in 1984. Dorothy also attended Kansas University.

Earl met and married Nancy D. (Murray) in Manhattan, Kansas in 1954 where they both attended college. Nancy and Earl were married for 65 years.

After college, Earl served in the US Army at the Presidio in San Francisco, California. Nancy has fond memories of the two of them and their newborn, Janet, living at the Presidio overlooking the Golden Gate Bridge.

While at the Presidio their ‘Army’ baby, David, was born. Later they moved to Iowa where Earl worked for a veterinarian, and following his father’s stroke, Earl moved back to Kansas with his young family. Another daughter, Karen, was born in Pratt, Kansas soon after their arrival. Two more daughters followed, Suzanne and Kathleen (Katie), also born in Pratt.

Janet lives in Stilwell, near Kansas City; David in Amarillo, Texas; Karen in Piedmont, California; Suzanne in Ballarat, Australia; and Katie in St Louis, Missouri.

After arriving in Pratt, Earl set up his own veterinary practice, the Town and Country Veterinary Clinic, that operated for almost 50 years. Many around Pratt knew Earl as ‘Doc Gatz’ and he was well known in the district. Nancy helped in the clinic, looked af-ter a large and busy family and taught in the local schools.

Some of the family’s favorite memories are of their father enjoying his evenings and weekends on the golf course with his friends. After the demanding years of working and providing, these were times of simple relaxation and the company of good friends and lots of laughs. Earl possessed a sense of fun and humor that truly shined in the company of these dear friends.

As the children grew, Earl and Nancy had many opportunities to visit them at their homes and favorite vacation spots including San Francisco, Cape Cod, Florida, Texas, New Zealand and Australia. They also traveled in Europe visiting or accompanying their children.

Earl was Veterinarian of the Year in 1984 and served 17 years on the Kansas State Board of Veterinary Examiners. He was a lifelong member of the Kansas Veterinary Medical Association. He also served eight years as a Trustee of the Pratt Community College and was a member of the Pratt Presbyterian Church, a church founded by his maternal grandfather, Rev. Andrew Axline in 1884. Earl retired and moved with Nancy to Olathe Kansas 12 years ago.

Earl is survived by his wife, Nancy and five children - Janet, David, Karen, Suzanne and Katie; 13 grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to kcur.org. or Saint Paul’s church.

A Limo for ACT Testing



A reader stopped by the office on Saturday to give me a head's up about the limo being in town. One would not think a limo and the ACT that was being administered at the school would have anything to do with each other; but I contacted Mr. Toby Munz, a coach and a teacher of Mathematics at Kingman Middle School. He admitted to "losing a bet" (he came in last in his Fantasy Football League). "...I took the ACT today with my current players and former students. It was my second time taking it, but the last time was not in this century."

- "A couple lessons I want to teach my kids, students, and players:
#1 choose your friends wisely #2 pay attention in class
#3 don't play fantasy football and if you do, DO NOT draft LeVeon Bell.
#4 Don't take 25 minutes on one problem."

Wise words. The limo was rented by Mr. Munz's buddies to bring him to Cunningham; he didn't really seem appreciative of their effort.



4-H Holds Holiday Party

On Sunday, December 1st, the Cunningham 4-H club held their annual Christmas meeting at the Community Center.

Before the meeting, members enjoyed a potluck of many different soups and side dishes, and drank hot chocolate with marshmallows. Following the meal, members travelled down the street to sing carols at the gazebo. After finishing eating and caroling, the club’s meeting started. The roll call was, “What is one of your favorite sports teams?” Answers included K-State, Seahawks, Chiefs, and Texas Tech. During this meeting, club leader Judy DeWeese handed back the members’ record books, which they had finished updating the month before to submit for judging. Katie Ogg, Emily Ogg, Brianna Dittmer, Jessica Dittmer, and Alice Huelkamp received awards for their perfect attendance record of last year’s meetings. The club decided to donate to the Soldier Surprise again this year, and to have members

write letters to send to soldiers. When the meeting had finished, members all pitched in to help make crafty snowman decorations for Hilltop Manor. On December 14, the Cunningham 4-H club

will enter a float in the local Christmas parade, and will also assist at the Lions’ Club soup lunch. The club will meet again on January 5th for their next meeting.



Birthday Wishes to:
Andrew Schonlau
&
Alex Schonlau



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