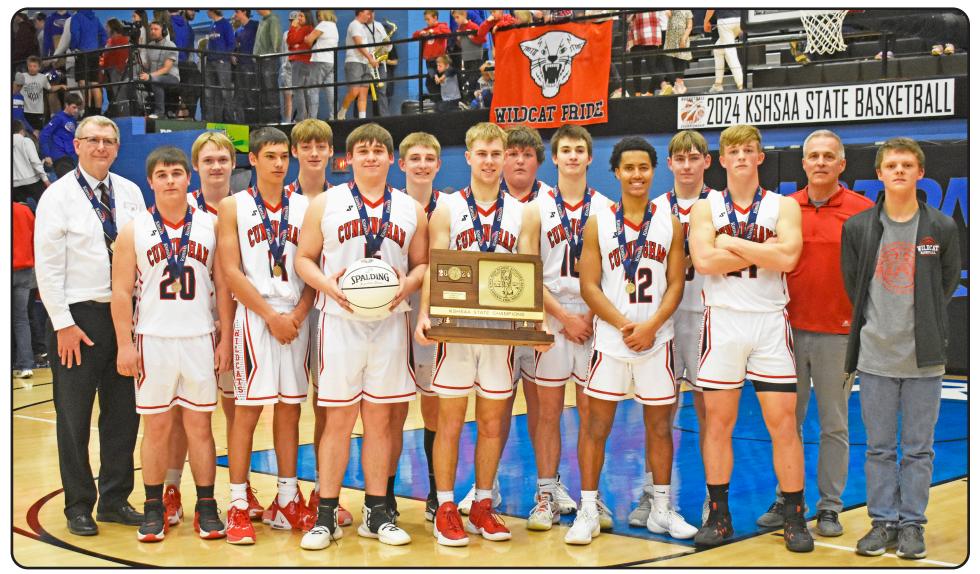
## The Cunningham Courier

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

Email: couriernews@yahoo.com Website: www.cunninghamcourier.news (620) 298-2659 \$1.50

March 14, 2024 Volume 34 Number 11

### Cunningham Wildcats are 1A Division II State Champions



The Cunningham Wildcats boys' basketball team joined the 1994 Scholars' Bowl, 2008 Boys Track and Field, and 2022 6-man football teams to be the fourth STATE CHAMPION in school history by defeating the Lebo Wolves on March 9, 2024, by a score of 60 to 55. The state tournament was held at Barton Community College in Great Bend.

Cunningham being the fourth seed defeated the fifth seed Bucklin Red Aces before ousting the number one seed Dighton Hornets to advance to the championship game against the sixth seed Lebo Wolves. Lebo had to get past the number three seed Northern Valley and the number two seed Axtell to advance.

The Wildcats started the game true to form by getting down 9 to 0 before scoring their first points. But in the final three minutes of the quarter, Cunningham not only caught up but led 12 to 10 at the end of the quarter. Will Wegerer scored seven points along with

three points from Luke Albers and a two point basket by Dylan Halderson.

Cunningham continued to build on the lead in the second quarter scoring 16 points and holding Lebo to 11 points. Albers made two three point baskets to lead the team. Luke McGuire and Wegerer each scored five points. The half ended with Cunningham leading 28 to 21.

The Lebo Wolves would not go away and made a run at the Cats in the third quarter with 18 points. Cunningham managed 13 points to take a two point lead into the fourth quarter, 41 to 39. Lebo took a one point lead with a three point shot late in the quarter, but the Cats' Will Wegerer was fouled on a last second shot from the three point line and calmly made all three free throws with .1 seconds on the clock. Albers scored seven points to lead the Cats. Wegerer had five points and McGuire added a free throw

The fourth quarter saw the lead go back and forth with Lebo doing their damage on the inside. Wegerer and Albers continued their dominance on the offensive end with help from a basket by Kory Morgan while the defense kept the Wolves from making another big run. Cunningham built a six point lead but Lebo hit a timely three point basket to cut it to three points. Wegerer made two free throws with three seconds left to solidify the win which was the first state championship in basketball in Cunningham history.

I can't say enough about how all of the players contributed to this season's success. Will Wegerer and Luke Albers' scoring abilities along with their ability to make those around them better. Dagim Reed and Logan Kinsler's defensive prowess. Luke McGuire's all-around play and always willing to sacrifice his body to take those charges. Nate Sterneker and Dylan Halderson's ability to neutralize inside players who were usually taller. Kendal Roger's quality minutes to relieve the starters. And all the rest of the team who were

there every day playing the other teams' defenses and working hard to be the future champions.

I can't say enough about my sidekick, Bart Ricke. Along with his other duties as Athletic Director and junior high girls' basketball coach during our season, he has been my sounding board with his years of experience and knowledge and his willingness to join me when times were tough. Thank You!!

We have the best fans around. You follow us wherever we play or watch us online or listen on the radio. On behave of this year's team, thank you so much for your support and kind words this season.

This team won the Falcon Classic, placed second in the 54 Classic, won the "B" Team tournament, won the season league title going undefeated, won the Sub-State tournament, and are State Champions. It's been quite a season. CONGRATULATIONS CUNNINGHAM!!!!

- by Coach Stackhouse

photo by Molly Morgan

Name	2pt. made	3pt. made	FTM/FTA	TI	)	Reb.	Asst.	St	tl.	Chg.
McGuire	2		2/4	6		6	4	2	2	2
Wegerer	8	1	8/10	2	7	3	4			
Albers	6	3	2/2	23	3	6		2	2	
Reed								1	1	
Halderson	1			2 2		2	1	1	1	
Sterneker						3				
Morgan	1			2		2				
1 <sup>st</sup>		2 <sup>nd</sup>		3 <sup>rd</sup>		4 <sup>th</sup>		Final		
Cunningham	1	12	16		13		19		60	
Lebo	10 11 18		18	16			55			

More State Tournament stories can be found on page 8





### USPS Not Delivering?

Subscribers: If you are not getting your paper, please let me know.

I have a smattering of folks who can't seem to get their papers delivered to their residences or post office boxes on a regular basis. My suspicion is that if there are a 'smattering' there could also be many more incidents.

I will mail your missing paper to you either via a large envelope or with the papers the following week.

We pay a lot of money to have those papers mailed, and we should get decent service for what we pay.

If it is a continual pattern in your area, please check with your local post office. They have to be somewhere.



Tuesday is the first Kansas primary in almost 30 years. Get out and vote.

Taxpayers are paying about 5 million dollars for this election, we best take advantage of it.

Use those tax dollars and vote.



SLEEP AWARENESS WEEK MARCH 10-16 2024



SLEEP AND GETTING AN ADEQUATE AMOUNT OF IT IS IMPORTANT TO YOUR HEALTH & WELL-BEING

The link between sleep and health is significant. If you're not sleeping well, it's likely that your health may also be affected. If you routinely lack in sleep or your snoring is disrupting your family's sleep, you might need a sleep study. Talk with your healthcare provider

or call our respiratory therapy department for more information.

KHC RESPIRATORY THERAPY DEPT. 620-532-0118



### Meanderings

Monday morning, I woke up and logged into my computer. All the usual tabs opened (all 16 of them). I checked the obituary sites (Larrison's and Livingston's), then I completed my Bing rewards quizzes (I have 14,889 points – almost have enough for a \$15.00 Amazon gift certificate).

I checked my books sites. No books to send, but one on my wish list came up 'available' so I told them to send it. (It is a children's book titled "Extraordinary Jane" by Hannah Harrison, and Sandra in West Virginia will be sending it this week.

I checked my email and specifically the 'informed delivery' from the USPS. One check from an advertiser was coming and a package from paperbackswap.com.

(two books by Claire Curzon, sent by Caroline in Leesburg, Georgia. Curzon's books are hard to come by).

Time to check the bank. I logged into my account and there was a significant amount of extra money in my personal checking account!! The whole mess with Medicare and Social Security has finally been resolved. My re-imbursement was in. I immediately moved most of it to savings. Those dreaded taxes are looming.

Woo-hoo! Yippee! Zip-pa-dee-do-dah! Yahoo! And all those other W, Y, Z words!

Jane Yolen is the featured poet at the bottom of the page. I've been

reading her novels and

poetry for decades. She is an incredible talent. I think I first became aware of her when I read "Devil's Arithmetic" back in the 80's. I so enjoyed that story. I read the story aloud to one of my classes. The students were enthralled with the premise of time travel and the ending was incredible. Two favorite picture books, "Owl Moon" and "How do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?" were written by her. Such a prolific and talented writer is Ms. Yolen.

Okay, maybe it isn't all over with the Medicare issue. This morning (Tuesday) I received a notification from the ACA Marketplace that I have to send in some documentation that says I'm not enrolled in Medicare. Keep in mind, I've already submitted THREE forms/ documents stating this. But you know what? I'm going to worry about this

tomorrow or Thursday. It will no doubt require a telephone call. Very frustrating, this mess. If it was actually my fault, I'd suck it up and not complain about it, but it isn't my fault, except that I chose to have someone with the social security administration help me fill out the form to get said benefits.

In the 'news of yesteryear' page there is a reference to a fire at the Rochell Nursing Home in 1954. Where was that? Does anyone know?

On the subject of yesteryear, I have been researching one Earl Cooper, a gentleman who signed in on the time capsule. I can't find out much about him. I may have to search through other newspapers of that time. Kingman and Pratt newspapers to begin with. The two references I can find mentioned him in relationship to car races. Not

sure why he would be at the school for the time capsule placement.

History can be baffling.

I know if and/or when I figure it out, I'll be quite excited to have solved a history mystery.

Spring Break is here this week. A very good

sign of warmer weather.

Even better is the fact that leaves and flower buds are beginning to sprout on the trees. I can hardly wait. I seldom run the furnace these days, and I turn on the little bedside fan at night. I'm looking forward to those nights when I can sleep with the windows open, fan blowing cool air. Except for those beasts who still want to snuggle up against me. Hey, Quinn! Hey, Eleanor! Barney! I have a reason for the fan being on. I like to sleep cool, not warmed by your furry little bodies. Move it!

Barney has a new 'trick'. He begins the night sleeping at the bottom of the bed. When I get up at any time during the night, he IMMEDIATELY shoots to the spot where I sleep and lays down where I've been laying. He curls up in a little kitty spiral, about where my shoulder rests, and he seems to immediately fall alseep. I'm not gone but a minute or two--at the most. When I get back to the bed he acts like he's been sleeping in that exact spot for hours. When I tell him to move he groans or hisses or whines. I usually end up moving him... to the bottom of the bed, of course. Just so we can repeat as needed during the night.

I love that kitty, but he can be a trial.

> Always reading, and currently reading, "Ptolemy's Gate" by Jonathan Stroud. Roberta

### Tallgrass and Tumbleweeds by Gaille Pike

**SUGGESTED** TITLE: Criminal Critters Dear Readers,

The other morning as I put back together the birdbath that been knocked over, it crossed my mind that a raccoon might be to blame. I didn't think the culprit was the wind because the "birdbath" is a big old tin pan filled with water, clam shells, rocks and a solar pump, set (solidly I thought) atop a stump. I was barely back inside

before I heard a commotion and when I investigated, found the birdbath components upended again, with my youngest cat, now a prime suspect, sitting wide-eyed amid the mess. Luca is the only cat I've ever known to love both water and fire. Her attraction to these elements combined with her presence at the scene of the second crime led me to conclude that she, not a racoon, was responsible for both bird-bath assaults. I am aware raccoons are around because I see their distinctive tracks near the pond or along the creek and I have vivid recollections of damage they've wrought. But for several years every case of mischief around this place has been traced not to a masked marauder, but to one of my cats.

Most crimes my cats commit are petty misdemeanors for which they receive no punishment. In truth, I would never consider "punishing" an animal of any kind and (it has been pointed out to me) I am not even much of a disciplinarian. I attempted to teach them as kittens that the kitchen countertops were off limits by squirting them with water if they crossed that line. I like to think that

training was successful but the reality is that my cats trained ME to never leave any food out that interests them. Overall I find their delinquent antics amusing, which may encourage their naughtiness. Then again, they're cats and I have little impact on their behavior.

It's clear from my two past raccoon encounters, I have even less influence on these critters' criminal impulses. They were audaciously unrepentant and unfazed by light or loud noises. They sauntered off only when every bucket and flower pot had been vandalized. In each case, the bandits returned nightly for about a week and then, to my relief, inexplicably just stopped coming around. Racoons are protected animals in Kansas with dates set aside for their "fur harvesting. " Lethal means CAN be used to dispose of them if they are causing a nuisance. To the chagrin of my neighbors, I was unwilling both times to even contemplate raccoon capital punishment.

Nor do I wish to consider a raccoon death penalty now but this morning all the minnows were discovered to be missing. Nothing else in the aquarium was disturbed. And the presumedly homicidal thief (or thieves) left clam shells pulled from a bucket as calling cards, all lined up in a neat row on the patio. I've got a gut feeling the raccoon gang is BACK. I'll let you know if last night's bait-fish-murderlarceny was a prelude to higher crimes or if a critter passing by was simply hungry. Either way and not that she cares, Luca's off the hook for the first bird-bath attack.

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

### Poetry From Daily Life

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

Poetry from Daily Life: A poem a day is good practice — and proof of life By Jane Yolen

This week's guest on "Poetry from Daily Life" is Jane Yolen, who divides her time between Hatfield, Massachusetts; Mystic, Connecticut; and Scotland. Jane began writing in 2nd grade and published her first poetry in Smith College's magazine. She sold her first book on her 22nd birthday. She writes in numerous genres but likes poetry and children's picture books best. Among her hundreds of books, Jane especially loved writing "Owl Moon" (a picture book) and the collection of poems in "Kaddish." A unique fact about Jane is that she has written at least one poem a day for the past 19 years.

### **Daily observations**

I write a poem a day (sometimes more) for three reasons.

First for finger exercises that wake up both fingers and brain.

Second, I use it observationally, and by that, I mean to sharpen my observations of the world

### The Cunningham Courier

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around me. To make connections. At 84, I could just rest on my laurels, or give up being engaged in the world, or watch TV, or sleep a lot. But living on a 14-acre un-farmed farm in Massachusetts for the last fifty years, I have found watching the wild keeps me sharp.

And third, I might just get a new book out of it! I may be 84, I may have 457 books already out there with about 30 more sold, but I am not ready to do a sleeping beauty.

### A Convocation of Vultures

Sit upon my barn roof, contemplating eternity as if they control it. And in a way they do, They measure the size of mortality with their large beaks, and notarize the deaths of every squirrel and skunk on the block, leaving nothing but a death mask behind.

I, too, contemplate mortality. My father lived the last seven years of his life with my family when my children (all grownups now) were teens. My father began every day by reading the New York Times obituary columns. "Why?" I asked him. And he replied, "To remind myself that I am still alive."

And while I find myself occasionally reading the local obituaries as well, I know every morning when I get up and write a poem that I am still alive, too.

### A Resolution of Vultures

Seven sit daily on my barn roof, in silent convocation, staring in all directions, till one lifts its head, its wings, flies aloft, a silent signal that lunch is spread, and then all follow to the dead.

\*\*\*

\*\*\*

All poets use observation when writing poetry. Some turn inward, some outward, but the poems do both things at the same time. You can see in my

vulture poems that I have looked at the birds for some time. But you can also hear in my words that I have made connections far beyond the vulture's world, even connecting the elder gods.

### **Return of the Vultures**

By one — through seven the convocation of vultures, never looking less hungry, return.

They sit on the barn roof, surveying the farmland, the road into town where many a squirrel has limped to its death. Then one by one, the seven lift off and fly north. Possibly for dinner, or another rooftop. I never ask.

They never explain. \*\*\*

### Where Have The Seven **Vultures Gone?**

Have they moved south, started a commune, opened a store of dead animals, created bone jewelry, hired a top chef? Or did they just get tired of the same company, bored with the same outlook, ready for something more exotic. White squirrel, anybody?

\*\*\*

### **How To Talk To A Vulture**

We have not met Yet.

I hope it is not soon.

Among Jane Yolen's long list of awards are a Caldecott, two Christopher Medals, and six honorary doctorates. For more information, see https://www.janeyolen.com/.

### **Community Bulletin Board**

**Sunday March 17** 

St. Patrick's Day

Monday, March 18

School Resumes

Tuesday, March 19 **Primary Election** GET OUT AND VOTE

Wednesday, March 20 HS Health Dept.

Thursday, March 21

Screenings

Friday, March 22

Forensics at St. John

Junior High Play

Saturday, March 23 Forensics at Cheney

Monday, March 25 JH Scholar's Bowl at Attica \*\*\*

6:30 City Council Meeting

Wednesday, March 27 7:00 Book Club

Thursday, March 28

JH Track at Skyline

Friday, March 29 Good Friday No School

The Community Calendar is sponsored by



nvalleybank.com

Member FDIC

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

## We need photos for the paper!!

### **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



Mon. - Thurs. 10:00 - 7:00 Friday: 10:00 - 6:00 Saturday: 10:00 - 2:00 Closed on Sundays (620) 672-3041



**EGG HUNT** 

Location - The Vernon Filley Art Museum

project and a basic wood burning kit).

at www.vernonfilleyartmuseum.org.

Ages - 15+

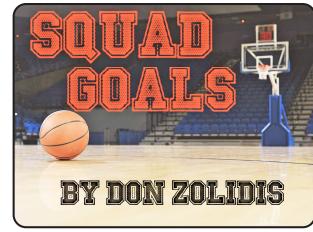
Max Class Size - 8

FILLEYWorkshops

Date - Thursday, March 21 from 6pm to 8pm

FOOTBALL FIELD

JH Play is Next Week



The CJH Drama Department would like to invite everyone to their production of Squad Goals by Don Zoldis. In this humorous one-act play, a rag-tag basketball team has a series of tryouts to fill the last open position on their team. Looking to a variety of sports movies for inspiration, the two coaches put a series of candidates through a set of unique maneuvers to try and find the perfect fit for their team. The play will be performed on Friday, March 22 at 7:00 in the gymnasium. Admission

> will be \$5.00, activity passes will be admitted for free. We hope to see you there!

Photo and article submitted by Rebecca Huelskamp





Pyrography Class with Don Buhler

Cost - \$85 includes all supplies (participants will take home a finished

You can sign up for this class by calling (620) 933-2787 or on our website

Deadline to sign up is March 10!!!!!



"If you hear a voice within you say you cannot paint, then by all means paint and that voice will be silenced."

> — Vincent Willem van Gogh

JOIN THE KINGMAN COUNTY AMBASSADORS FOR THE

-----

# 1ST ANNUAL 4-H

4-H Project Fair | Event Promotion | Family Activities | Snacks

Sunday, March 17 2:00-4:00

Kingman VFW Hall

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Research and Extension

Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants.

Kingman County

You have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact Melissa Thimesch at

Kingman Historic Theatre March 16 Def Leggend LIVE

7:30 p.m. http://www.outhousetickets.com



#### Cozy's Pizza 115 N. Main Cunningham, KS 67035

*620-298-7000* 

Mon., Tues., & Thurs. - 11:00 to 8:00 Friday and Saturday - 11:00 to 9:00 Closed Wednesday and Sunday

### Kingman Historic Theatre

237 N. Main in Kingman (620) 532-1253

http://www.kingmantheatre.org/

March 15 & 17

Kung Fu Panda 4

All Seats are \$3.00

(cash or local check only) Showtimes: Friday 7;30 p.m.

Sunday at 2:00 pm.

Rated PG

Thank YOU for supporting YOUR Kingman Historic Theatre.

### The Cunningham Courier Serving Cunningham and Surrounding Communities

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

#### 1929

March 22 – The Santa Fe evidently means business when it comes to putting in the heavy steel between Kingman and Pratt, because the crew switched off 17 carloads of railroad ties here Wednesday, and agent Huffman says that he expects to receive some of the heavy steel any day now.

Notice to Chicken Owners – Numerous complaints are coming in regarding chickens running at large. It is now the season of the year when you must keep your chickens penned up. You are subject to a fine if you allow them to run at large. Any person annoyed by chickens will kindly report the matter to the City Marshal. By Order of the Mayor and City Council.

#### 1934

March 16 – Activity at the Gas Plant and Compressor Station this week has been at full blast. The large engines at the power house are gradually being put in shape and some of them are putting gas into the Kansas Gas & Pipeline company line. By Saturday it is thought that all of the big Bessmer engines will be in operation and that the full amount of gas to complete the contract will be going into the line.

#### 1939

March 17 – Neighborliness still reigns supreme in small town communities, as was evidenced on Wednesday of last week when seventeen men with their hammers and carpenter's aprons made quick work of shingling the roof on the new home of Loren Cooley. The crew, all neighbors, shingled the 28 by 38 foot roof in less than five hours.

While the men folks were busy on the roof of the new home, the women were likewise busy making quilts at the Wm. Cooley home nearby. The women prepared dinner for the farmer carpenters before starting in on the quilting.

#### 1944

Publication suspended for the duration of the war.

#### 1949

March 18 - Fire breaking out on a broken oil pipeline just east of the plant at Skellyville, did considerable damage before it was extinguished about 1:30 o'clock Monday afternoon. The fire broke out about 9:30 o'clock that morning. A building and two pumping units were destroyed and the main building damaged before the flames were brought under control.

This end of the 7-inch line carrying oil from the Cunningham field to the El Dorado refinery caught fire when a collar on the line discharge line broke. Exhaust from a pumper engine set the spraying oil aflame and difficulty was encountered in getting the valve shut off.

The flames roared out of control and it was not until workmen started pulling oil out of the line that the fire burned down enough so that workmen, by scooping sand on the flames, managed to get the fire out.

As soon as the fire was out, workmen began digging out the damaged pipe to repair the line which runs to Arlington, thence to Burrton and El Dorado.

### 1954

March 18, – Principal Will Seacat, who has been Principal of Copeland Kans., High School for the past seven years, has been hired as Principal of Cunningham Rural High School for the coming year.

A momentary scoring lapse in the first five minutes of the third quarter of the finals game of the Class B Regional Basketball Tournament at Pretty Prairie last Friday night between the Wildcats and Partridge, cost Cunningham the ball game and a berth in the State Tournament at Hutchinson this week.

The Wildcats could score but two points in those crucial five minutes, and lost their chance to win the game. In the final eleven minutes of the game, Cunningham out-scored Partridge, 27-14, but time ran out as the Wildcats were beginning to catch up.

Partridge held a slim one-point lead, 17-16, at the end of the first period, and stretched their advantage to six points, 32-26, at half-time. Partridge held a twelve-point lead at the end of the third quarter, and staved off a Wildcat rally in the final period to win the game by a 60 to 55 score. Billy DeWeese paced the Wildcat attack with twenty-one points, and Ronnie Adelhardt counted eighteen points.

Fire which broke out in the walls of the two-story house occupied by the patients and nurses of the Rochell Nursing Home, Sunday morning, caused



www.fitzsimmonsinsuranceks.com Leann@fitzsimmonsinsuranceks.com

ns Insurance Agency, Inc. is an independent insurance agenc and an equal opportunity provider serious damage to the house before it could be extinguished. The house, which is owned by Mrs. Myrtle Burgett, caught fire about nine-thirty o'clock that morning. Quick action and response to the fire whistle was credited with rescuing all people in the house, and practically all of the household goods.

#### 1959

March 19 – We started pouring concrete on the new co-op elevator for the Chalmers & Borton Construction Company about a week too early according to our story in last week's issue. We're glad to report they're about ready to start this week-end.

Work was started on the new United States Post Office building in Cunningham, Tuesday.

The new ediface, 25x52 feet, will be constructed of cinder block, with a brick and glass front.

#### 1964

March 19 – The volunteer fire department was able to prevent fire from destroying the home of Mrs. Margaret Murphey and family, northeast of Cunningham, last Friday evening. A shift in the wind caused a grass fire to ignite the house. It was necessary to cut down a burning tree near the house.

Dale DeWeese, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold DeWeese of Cunningham, is in an Air Force Reserve Unit, and is now stationed at Lackland Air Force Base near San Antonio, Texas.

Hershey's Chocolate Syrup, 16 oz. can, 23c Staley's Waffle Syrup, quart, 49c Rainbow Peas, 8 #303 cans, 99c Rainbow Tomatoes, 7 #303 cans, 99c Rainbow R.S.P. Cherries, 2 #303 cans, 55c TV Sliced Strawberries, 10 oz. pkg., 29c Minute Maid Orange Delight, 6 5-oz. cans, \$1 Choice Boneless Round Steak, 79c lb. Choice Sirloin or T-Bone Steak, 89c lb. Choice Rib Steak, 69c lb. Choice Standing Rib Roast, 59c lb. Firm Ripe Bananas, 11c lb. Cunningham IGA

#### 1969

March 20 – Perhaps the largest farm machinery sale ever held in this area, will be conducted Friday, March 28, in Cunningham, when the Kincheloe Implement Company will dispose of their large stock of farm machinery and equipment at a public sale.

A "Battle of the Bands" will be held at Swingle's located one mile west and one and one-half south of Zenda, Sunday afternoon, March 30, beginning at 2:00 o'clock.

The three competing bands are the "Katz Meow" of Cunningham, the "Vibrations" of Zenda, and the "Underground Express" of Attica.

The Cunningham Lions Club will hold their annual Broom Sale in the Cunningham community Saturday, March 22, beginning at 9:00 o'clock in the morning. The brooms and other products, are made by the Foundations for the Blind in Wichita.

Lieut. Col. Russell A. Stanley, Base Judge Advocate at George Air Force Base, Calif., has been selected as one of the 15 officers to become members of the Air Force Trial Judiciary.

With this appointment, Lieut. Col. Stanley will be re-assigned to Clark Air Base, Republic of the Philippines, by June.

Lieut. Col. Stanley is a former Cunningham boy, a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Verne Stanley.

Mike Scripsick, who has been stationed with the U.S. Army in Germany, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. K. J. Scripsick, and Kent. He will report soon for duty in Vietnam.

An aftermath of the snow storm came Tuesday of last week, when the engine of the Wichita & Western Railroad train was derailed at the crossing, two miles east of Cunningham.

The Rural Township grader had opened the township road, leaving a ridge of snow across the railroad crossing. The engine hit the ridge of snow-ice and de-railed. The engine did not overturn, and no one was injured, even though the entire train crew and trackman were riding in the train cab.

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

Publisher: Charles G. Barnes

### 1974

March 21 – The Cunningham Student Council met Monday, March 11. It was discussed and decided that Ted Holcomb and Randy Fischer would attend the

> Museum Hours Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Angie Mertens at 620-532-4354 or Alan Albers at 620-298-2725 or Mike McGovney at 620-770-9503

(Volunteers Needed at the museum)

### Thursday, March 14, 2024 page 4

School Board Meeting Monday night.

A suggestion barrel is in the process of completion. It will be painted green and lettered by Tom Herd. The barrel will then be placed in the halls where students can voice their opinions to the Student Council.

Jim Schaller, Kent Scripsick, Nancy Schilling, and Reta Ratcliff will attend the board meeting on Tuesday evening. Some of the ideas they will mention are vending machines, semester tests, art classes, and reorganization of the classes into more specific classes. Also they discussed having no required courses for Seniors.

Kingman Manufacturing Company of Cunningham has gone international. According to president Harold Schreck, the company has received an initial order for six mineral feeders from the Association Francaise Hereford, headquartered in Pari, France. The association will become the exclusive dealer for the Cunningham company's products in France.

A former Cunningham boy, Richard (Mark) Maier, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Maier now of Russell, has signed to play professional baseball with the New York Mets. Richard reported to the Mets training camp at St. Petersburg, Florida on March 14.

Richard started playing baseball on the Cunningham Pee-wee team. He and his teammates have several trophies in the First National Bank as reminders of their early baseball days.

Mr. and Mrs. Weldon Allen, Skip and Scott of Plains visited Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cain, Jr. Sunday afternoon.

Old English Lettering any size, any place. Don Shorock

Posters, Signs made to meet your needs. Don Shorock.

### 1979

March 22 - Brian and Tresea Schnittker of Iuka announce the birth of a baby boy. Jeremiah Joh, born March 16, 12 12:33 a.m. He weighed 7 lb. 6 ½ oz. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Donald Schnittker, Nashville, and Mr. and Mrs. J.T. Deviney of Bromide, Okla.

Great grandparents are John Schnittker, Cunningham, Lulia Deviney, Millerton, Okla. And Lena Helvey, Levelland, Texas.

Zenda News: Mr. and Mrs. Socko Swingle and sons of Valley Center were Saturday dinner guests of Mrs. LaVonne Swingle.

Mrs.

Pauline Morris was Friday overnight visitors of Phyllis Taylor and Jan of Medicine Lodge.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the patrons of position no. 2 U.S.D. 332 for their votes in the Primary Election and to ask for their continuing support in the General Election April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

I would also like to personally endorse Karl Werner's re-election to position no. 7 of U.S.D. 332. Jack Crick

In the reelection held on Tuesday for school board members, the results were approximately the same as the first primary. Jack Crick garnered 64 votes, Gene Albers 29and Rex Moore 31. The last two candidates position were just reversed from the first election.

Hilltop: On Friday evening, March 16, a group of 18 square dancers visited the home and danced for the residents. It was a very nice performance and we all enjoyed it so much and hope they come back again soon.

### 1984

March 22 – During the recent surprise thunderblizzard, several persons opened up their homes due to the power outages. Mr. Ormiston let a couple of families stay in the lunch room out of the cold as they were stranded in Cunnigham with no place to go.

Luann and Amy Renner stayed with her grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Ray Schafer.

The Lloyd Worrels lived in their camper outside their home until the power was restored They had a butane heater there.

Steve Long transported Annice Hendrixson to the home of Iona Shafer where they visited by the kitchen stove which is gas burning.

Lola an Everett Swander were invited into the Jean Washburn home for comfort.

Dr. Thompson weathered the storm with Alva and Eugenia Hellar at their home

Eugenia Hellar at their home.

Elsie Witt, along with guests Hazel Wadkins, Eva
Cundiff and the Dennis Petz family enjoyed their

Cundiff and the Dennis Petz family enjoyed their meals by candlelight and card games in the basement of her home during the pre-spring storm.

Richard Piehlar rescued a stranded family and

took them to his home until they could continue on their way.

An out-of-state woman who was traveling stayed with the Bob Witt family.

Wichita State University has awarded scholarships to 44 community college students who will transfer to WSU this fall.

The students, who already have been admitted to WSU and have at least a 3.25 grade point average, competed for the scholarships March 3 at the university's first Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Scholarship Competition. Alan Theis, R.R. 2, Cunningham, \$600 each year for two years.



### Husband **School** 101 – The Conversational Gardner

Marriage is hard. Ask anyone who has navigated the waters of matrimony for any length of time, and they will confirm this. Those that say otherwise are lying. However, as wretched humans, we often make marriage more difficult than it needs to be. In an attempt to foster marital happiness, and avoid marital combat, I would like to share the following tips. Disclaimer – I

am in no way a marriage expert. I struggle in marriage as much, probably more, than any of you. But I am learning, or trying to learn, how to become a better husband and have a happier marriage.

There are habits and skills in marriage that will foster a happy marriage. And there are habits and behaviors that produce conflict and discord. As a husband, it is critical that you understand this because women are responders. Your wife will respond to virtually everything you do and say, to some degree. If you can care for your wife well (the way she needs to be cared for), she will respond positively, and your marriage will be happier.

In order to have a happy marriage, it is important to understand that you, as the husband, are the gardener. An unhappy wife is like an untended garden, with poor neglected soil, plenty of weeds and bugs, a lack of water, and not enough sunlight. As the gardener, if you can meet her needs by giving her the nutrients and water that she needs, while pulling the weeds and killing her bugs, she will respond by blooming and bearing fruit. Men have a hard time understanding this. Men are simple. We are like small engines. With adequate gas and oil (you fill in the blanks), we will run satisfactorily for years. Men tend to think that women are the same way. They are not. Women are wired differently. Women are multi-faceted, intricate, and complicated. Your wife is more like a tomato plant than a small engine. When given the proper amount of sunlight, fertilizer, and water, she will bloom and bear fruit every time.

What constitutes this

marital sunlight, fertilizer, and water for your wife? In part, it is deep conversation. It has been said that "men need sex like women need conversation." Men get this, but often fail to see the other side of this coin. "Women need conversation like men need sex." Most men do not need conversation the same way our wives do. We often find conversations with our wives exhausting. We don't like hearing about problems and challenges without immediately trying to "fix" things. But our wives don't want us to fix things, usually. They want us to listen, and they want us to talk. They desire deep conversation. Deep conversation can be described as a verbal ping pong game where you hit the words back and forth, with both of you participating. Just like men need physical release in marriage,

women need emotional release. And this emotional release comes from deep conversation.

Deep conversation starts with deep listening. You listen to her (pay attention), and then ask questions that allow her to go deeper into the subject. She wants to fully express her feelings. Don't interrupt her. Don't cut her short or try to solve her problems. Deep listening takes time, energy, and patience.

Deep conversation also requires that you initiate conversations of significance. Ask your wife about her fears, desires, and dreams. What is important to her? What is she concerned about right now? As men, we would rather buy gifts, do yard work, fix the car, etc. But these duties, though important, are no substitute for the deep conversation that your wife craves.

Deep conversation does require that you be transparent and vulnerable with your wife. Open up to her. She wants to know what you are thinking. Practice sharing your heart with your wife (even if you have to do it in a manly, big-truck sort of way).

Try to talk to her for 20-30 minutes every day. Work this into your schedule as best you can. Find whatever works for the both of you. Listen well, ask questions, and work on your marital happiness. It will be worth it. NOTE- much of this information comes from one of the best marital self-help books I've ever read. I highly recommend it. The book is Husband School by Julie Gordon. For more info, go to: JulieNGordon.

© 2024 Jody Dyer typewriterweekly.

### **Blourokkies**

By Fiona Stevenson not really express it.

I had to admit I did not know who she was, except, "I believe she is one of those people they call "Blourokkies" and they live on a farm about

"Does she always dress like that?" asked Frieda, eyes following the figure walking briskly along the opposite pavement. At the same time Anna asked, "What are "Blourokkies"?"

I tried to answer both questions at once, "Yes. I think "Blourokkies" means "Blue Dresses" and she always wears a plain blue dress with a high neck, long sleeves and a long skirt. And, as you see, a blue scarf over her head. I understand they are a religious group who say that God speaks to them - don't ask me how because I don't know - and they live their lives strictly according to the Bible. That's all I know."

By now the lady in the long blue dress had entered the bakery and we sauntered on. Frieda continued to frown and chew her lip. "Weird!" she repeated, and remained abstracted all the way home.

Later she roused herself from her reverie to ask, "How does God talk to them - okay, okay, you said you don't know. Do vou have a Bible?"

Surprised, I answered, "I think there's one on the bookshelf. Why?"

"Don't know. Just thought I'd look."

Leaving Anna absorbed in a jigsaw puzzle we two located a Bible somewhere on a higher shelf. "Whew!" Frieda blew the dust from the top edge. "Not the family favorite, is it?"

She kicked off her shoes, snuggling into the big chair near the fire. Seeing neither girl needed my company I wandered into the kitchen to make the family meal.

Dinnertime was as

much about talking as about eating. It was the one time of day the family spent together – on a normal day, I mean, and so we all brought news and views to share with one another. This evening Frieda flummoxed us all by asking right out cold, "Does anyone understand the Bible?" She looked around at open mouths, poised forks, a silent cessation of activity. Even my brother and sister looked stunned. Eventually my father, a well-regarded family solicitor, cleared his throat, put down his fork and smoothed his agitated moustache.

"Well, my dear," he began, "there are men, scholarly men, men of the church, you know, who study the Scripture assiduously. They would be able to answer your questions. However, we as a family, " his eyes swept the table, quelling any contradiction, "we do not have the competence to answer your questions."

He returned to his knife and fork. The subject was closed. But it had been a bad start and conversation was desultory. Besides, Frieda was not yet finished. Along with the dessert she trotted out her next question.

"Who are the "Blourokkies"? Are they scholarly men?"

My mother choked on a spoonful of ice-cream as Father turned his full attention to Frieda.

"My dear girl, what IS this sudden interest in religion? There is a group

St. Luke's Anglican Church

BRING YOUR DOG OR CAT

The Rev. Steven Smith

BLESSING OF

of farmers, good men no doubt, and successful farmers, who live in the neighborhood of this town, and who are known locally as "Blourokkies;" chiefly I believe because of the dress affected by their womenfolk. I do not think you could truthfully call them scholarly men. I think it would be more correct to refer to them as a CULT." He pronounced the word distastefully and frowned as he considered the best way to explain this. "I understand their beliefs are - er - somewhat outlandish, though to be sure they are well-behaved citizens, if somewhat anti-social. By that I mean that they do not take part in the usual events and activities of the community, but keep themselves to themselves. May we leave it at that?"

Without waiting for her reply he turned to Mother. "Maria, may we take our coffee in the living room please?"

With evident relief she nodded and they rose and moved away, leaving us young 'uns to clear the table. I could see from Frieda's expression that she was not yet satisfied. There would be more questions, and I didn't know who was to answer them.

742-6202

PETS

WHATEVER

I was showing visiting friends, Frieda and Anna, around my new hometown. The woman in question did not often come to town but when she did she stood out among the mini-skirted throng like a ... like a ... well, I was going to say sore thumb, but that does thirty miles from town."

St. John, Zenda Saturdays 4:00 p.m.

St. Peter Willowdale Sundays 10:00 a.m.

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





### **Lutheran Churches**

**Catholic Churches** 

Sundays 8:30 a.m.

Saturdays 5:30 p.m.

St. Leo

Sacred Heart, Cunningham

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

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

**Trinity, Medicine Lodge** 620-886-3397

Sunday School & Bible Class 9:45 a.m. Worship Service

8:30 a.m.

Pastor vacancy until further notice.



**Church of Christ** Penalosa

**†††††** 

+++++

### First Christian Church

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Cunningham

Sunday School 9:30 am Morning Worship 10:45 Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 Jr High Youth Group 4:00 pm Sunday Sr High Youth Group 7:30 pm Sunday Wednesday Prayer Service 7:00

Pastor Mike McGovney 620-298-3201





Penalosa

Cunningham Worship 10:45 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Pastor Mathew Ndambuki Musyoki 620-298-2090

Zenda

Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School: Children 8:30 a.m. Adults 10:00 a.m. Pastor J L Nichols 620-491-0680

### Cunningham Hands of <u>Inc.</u>

LAWNCHAIR

Who: A Not-for-Profit (501c3) organization providing assistance through donations and volunteers. Who we serve: Residents within the USD #332 school dis-

What: Food

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

Where: 117 N Main (Old School Board Office)

Why: To provide food assistance to those in need.

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

Do you need assistance outside distribution hours?

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

### State Championship Highlights



**Janet Sterneker Marcy Allbritten Janet DeWeese Leroy Panek Carol Freund Louise Armstrong Johnna Freund Jane Meyers** Joan Thimesch MaryAnn Ruckle

Mary and Steve Albers Martha & Ron Albers **Judith Huffman & John Williams** Linda and Ken Kerschen **Linda and Kelly Phillps** Rogene & Wayne Jarmer **Amy & Lance McGuire** Nancy & Stan Weglarz **Terri & Kenny Simon** 

**CC & Joe Sterneker Diana & Gary Wegerer** Pam & Doug Liebl **Kristin & Kevin Wegerer** Liz & Steve Miller Kathy & Alan Albers Mary & Bob Stackhouse **Kathy & Doug Griffis Jody & Bill Thome Judy & Scott DeWeese** 

**Gwen & Mark Betzen** Molly Morgan & Family **Shawna & Tom Sterneker** Jeanette & Bob Kerschen **Helen & Chuck Holcomb Eilene & Jack Crick** Lois & Don Becker **Bill and Deanna Parker** 

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### We are PROUD of Our Wildcats



Nate Sterneker







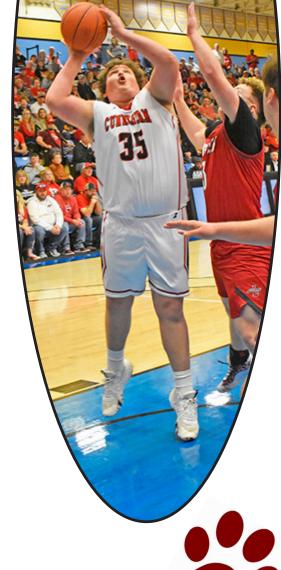




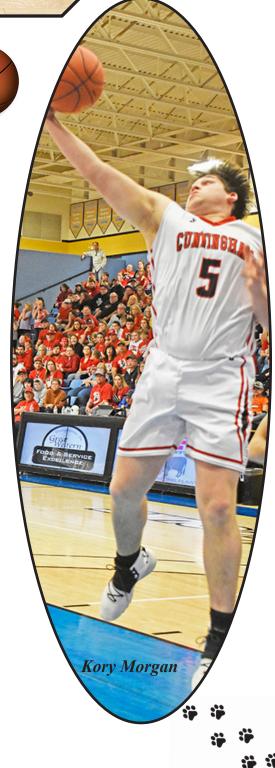
photo by Mary Stackhouse



Photos by Molly Morgan

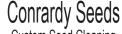












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Supporting U.S.D. 332 Go Wildcats!

Bucklin

### Wildcats Make Comeback Against Bucklin at State

The Wildcats kept everyone on the edge of their seats in a come from behind victory against the Bucklin Red Aces at the state basketball tournament held at Barton Community College in Great Bend on March 6, 2024. The final score was Cunningham 70, Bucklin

The Red Aces came out smoking hot in the first quarter scoring 27 points which included four three point baskets. Cunningham kept fighting and managed 12 points with Luke Albers making four points. Will Wegerer, Dagim Reed, Dylan Halderson, and Nate Sterneker each added two points.

The Wildcats came out in the second quarter with a different strategy and a change in momentum that would carry them through to the end. The Bucklin 15 point lead was cut reduced by three at the end of the half. Cunningham trailed 28 to 40 at halftime. Wegerer led the charge with five points. Luke McGuire and Albers each added four points and Halderson scored three points.

Cunningham cut the lead in half by the end of the third quarter as Wegerer found the basket for 12 points. Albers scored four points with Sterneker making a basket and Halderson hitting a free throw. The score was 47 to 53 going into the fourth quarter.

The Cats kept nibbling way at the Bucklin lead behind the play of Albers' 13 points including a three for three effort from the free throw line after being fouled on a three point shot. Wegerer added six points, mostly in the paint and at the line. Reed made two critical free throws and Sterneker scored a basket to finalize the score at 70 to 66 in favor of Cunningham.

These words can't come close to the excitement and courage it took for these players to never give up and come back from as many as 17 points down to win this game You just had to be there.

by Coach Stackhouse



Name	2pt. made	3pt. made	FTM/FTA	TP	Reb.	Asst.	Stl.	. Chg.
McGuire	2			4	5	2		1
Wegerer	8	1	6/10	25	11	8	4	
Albers	8	1	6/6	25	9	2	4	
Reed	1		2/2	4	3	1	1	
Halderson	2		2/4	6	4	2		
Sterneker	3		0/2	6	4		1	
Kinsler						1		
		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>		3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>		Final
Cunningham	,	12	16		19	23		70

13

13



27



66

13

### Cunningham Wildcats are in the State Championship Game

The Wildcats accepted the challenge of playing the number one seed, Dighton Hornets, in the 1A Division II State Basketball Tournament held at Barton Community College in Great Bend on March 8, 2024, and came away with a 61 to 58 win.

Both teams came out hot in the first quarter as the duo of Will Wegerer and Luke Albers managed 18 points. The Hornets managed 23 points and took the early lead at the end of the first quarter.

A change in defense

shut down one of the Dighton's leading scorers as Dagim Reed hounded the sharp shooting Cramer along with some assistance from Logan Kinsler they only allowed him one more shot for the game. Nate Sterneker put in a three point basket and Wegerer added five points for a total of eight points for the second quarter. Dighton scored 11 points and took a 34 to 26 lead into the half.

Knowing they had been there before the Cats put together a terrific third quarter, scoring 18 points and the defense held the Hornets to 6 points to take a four point lead to the fourth quarter. Several players contributed to the total

with Wegerer and Albers scoring five points each. Sterneker added two baskets and Luke McGuire made three points. Dylan Halderson scored on a free throw.

The lead was short lived as Dighton took the lead behind the scoring of 6"4" Shimer. Albers turned up the gas and scored timely baskets and free throws to lead the Cats with 12 points. Wegerer scored four points and Dagim Reed made a free throw at the end to solidify the victory and allow the Wildcats its first trip to the Championship game in school history. The final score was Cunningham 61, Dighton 58.

by Coach Stackhouse

Name	2pt. made	3pt. made	FTM/FTA	TP	Reb.	Asst.	Stl.	Chg.
McGuire	1		1/2	3	6	3		
Wegerer	7		10/13	24	5	1	2	
Albers	5	4	3/5	25	6		1	
Reed			1/2	1	2		1	
Halderson			1/2	1	3		1	
Sterneker	2	1		7	2			

	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	Final
Cunningham	18	8	18	17	61
Dighton	23	11	6	18	58

"If you really want to be great at something you have to truly care about it. If you want to be great in a particular area, you have to obsess over it."

— Kobe Bryant, The Mamba Mentality: How I Play



"What is love? Love is playing every game like it's your last."

— Micheal Jordan



### Local Student Earns Honors at Fort Hays State University

HAYS, Kan. (March 8, 2024) - Fort Hays State University has named 1,646 students to the Deans' Honor Roll for the fall 2023 semester.

The Deans' Honor Roll includes undergraduate students only. To be eligible, students must have completed 12 or more credit hours and earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.60 for the semester. Full-time on-campus and FHSU Virtual College students are eligible.

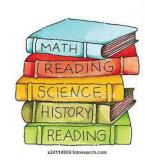
Kylee Ricke Cunningham, KS



### Pratt Student Graduates from Emporia State University

Bryan Lee Mead of Pratt, Kansas, was one of nearly 500 students who graduated from Emporia State University in December 2023.

Mead graduated with a Master of Science in Special Education with a concentration in High Incidence Special Education.



### 2024 HOPL All League Boys Basketball

1ST Team

Carter Swingle, Jr. Attica

### Will Wegerer, Jr. Cunningham Luke Albers, Jr. Cunningham

Calen Wente, Sr. Fairfield Justus Huff, Sr. Hutchinson Central Christian Brody Froese, Jr. Hutchinson Central Christian Piercen Huff, Soph. Hutchinson Central Christian Jace Benge, Sr. Norwich Justus Novotny, Sr. Pratt-Skyline Brayden Berens, Sr. Pratt-Skyline Lukas Dunham, Sr. South Barber Bryson Rathgeber, Sr. South Barber Jimi Oleson, Sr. Stafford

### **Honorable Mention**

Mac Harnden, Jr. Attica Conner Fowler, Jr. Fairfield Brayden Pauly, Jr. Norwich Gage Bowers Sr. Pretty Prairie James White III, Sr. Pretty Prairie Oakley Duvall, Sr. South Barber

### 2024 HOPL All League Girls Basketball

1<sup>ST</sup> Team

Zoie Redgate, Jr. Attica Isabel Alexander, Sr. Attica

Ellie McGuire, Jr. Cunningham Mikayla Pugh, Sr. Fairfield

Jessa Losew, Soph. Hutchinson Central Christian Belle Barnett, Jr. Hutchinson Central Christian

Kiersten Adams, Sr. Norwich Braylin Kelly, Sr. Norwich Kory Anschutz, Jr. Pratt-Skyline Kaylea Robinson, Jr. Pretty Prairie

### **Honorable Mention**

Cady Hemphill, Soph. Attica Brooklyn Sheetz, Sr. Norwich Leah Detter. Sr. Pretty Prairie Autumn Drake, Sr. South Barber Taylor Denio, Sr. Stafford



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### **Surrounding Communities**

### Thursday, March 14, 2024

### Minutes from the Kingman County Commission

Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. March 4, 2024, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse.

Present: Jerry Henning, Chairman; Pat Elpers, Commissioner; Jack Thimesch, Commissioner; Carol Noblit, County Clerk; Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor

Visitors: Larry Landwehr; Bob Morris, Kingman Leader-Courier; Dale Enyart; Oleg Alba, Nextera Energy; Tanner Yost, Kirkham Michael and Sheila Govert, Kingman Carnival Board.

Online Visitors: Caller 01; Julie Lyon; Shanna Henry; Tammy

Staff: Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director; LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer; Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director and Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director.

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

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to ap-

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

Chairman Henning asked if there was any public

Larry Landwehr discussed that the City of Kingman was having a special meeting tonight about the solar farm.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch** moved to go into executive session at 8:40 a.m. with Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss pending administrative proceedings pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:00a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to open session at 9:00 a.m. with no decision made.

Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director was in to let the Commissioners know that it is time to purchase shavings again and submitted quotes received from the following:

Fisher Lumber 1350 8 cu ft. bags at \$6.10 each \$8,235.00 S-4 Quality Shavings

Commissioners.

Chairman Henning discussed with the board that

he would like to go with the local company. Ms. Frampton discussed that the increased pricing

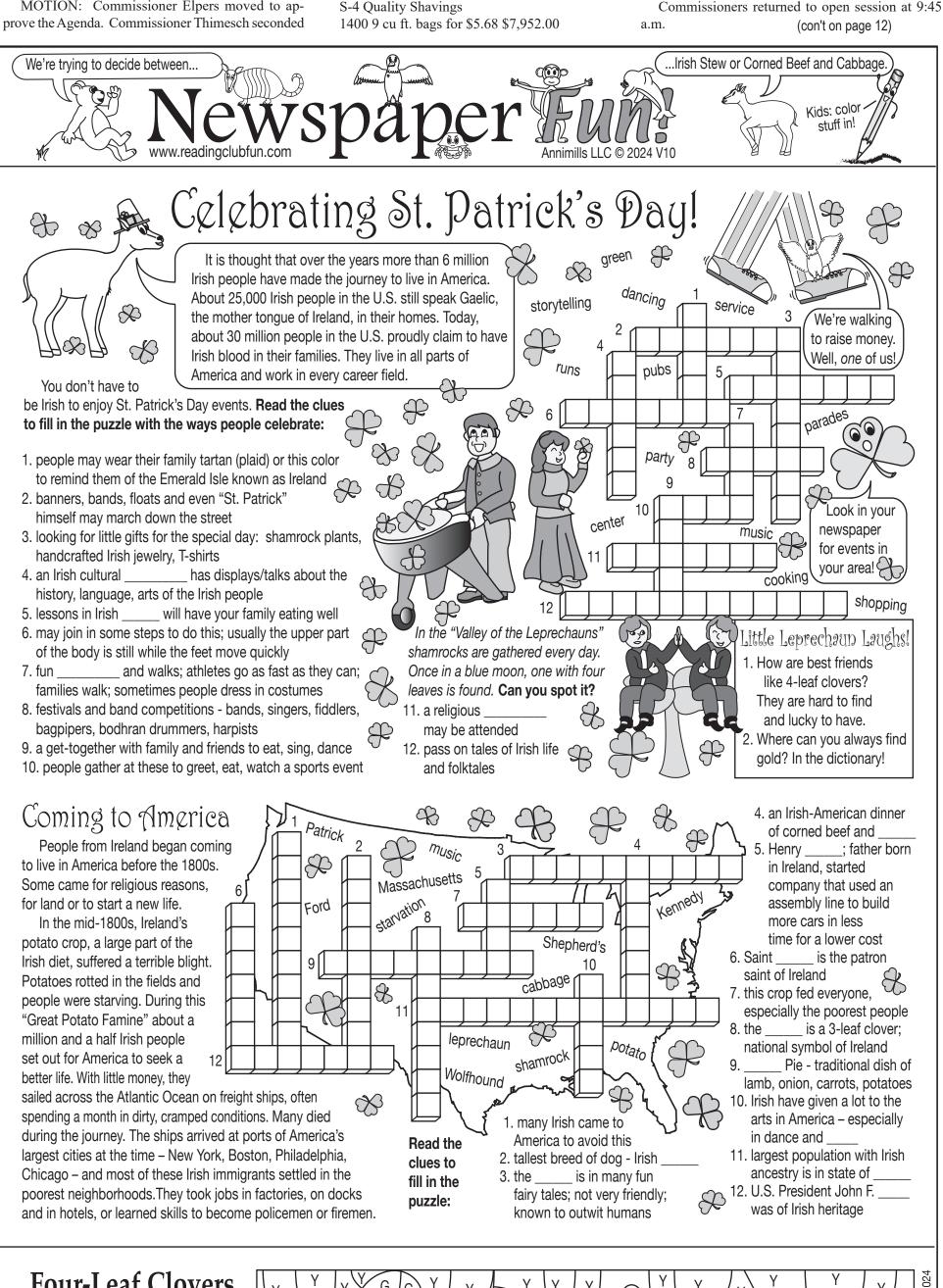
has affected arena bookings. Ms. Frampton let the Commissioners know about

the bookings that she has had. MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to ap-

prove the purchase of shavings from Fisher Lumber in the amount of \$8,235.00. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director requested a non-elected personnel executive session for employee evaluation.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Elpers** moved to go into executive session with Stan Goetz, HR and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 9:25 a.m. to discuss individual employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:45a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County

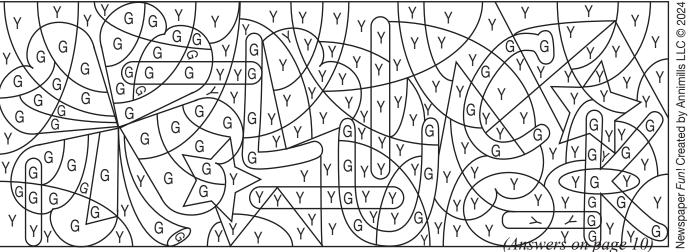


### **Four-Leaf Clovers**

Have you ever heard the song "I'm Looking Over A Four-Leaf Clover" (written by Mort Dixon and Harry Woods)?

Why would people be out in fields looking for 4-leaf clovers when there are 3-leaf clovers everywhere? Four-leaf G = Green Y = Yellowclovers are







Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, from 8:00 - 5:30 (except during lunch 12-1) on Wed., from 8:00 - 12:00 Call for Saturday hours.

1015 East U.S. 54, Kingman, KS

### KCHS Donation Wish List

The pets at Kingman County Humane Society are in need of the following items: 13-gal. kitchen trash bags dry cat and kitten food clumping cat litter canned dog food Purina Puppy Chow long-lasting chews stainless steel flat-sided water buckets paper towels bleach liquid laundry detergent poop bag rolls disposable gloves (large)

The items can be brought to KCHS at 811 East C Avenue in Kingman Monetary donations can be sent to KCHS P.O. Box 103 Kingman KS 67068



### Kingman County Humane Society Pets Ready for Adoption

### Ringo

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Ringo is a male Domestic Shorthair He weighs about 12 pounds and is about 3 years old. He has been at the shelter since February 12, 2024. His adoption fee is \$40.00

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

"Maybe humans are just the pet alligators that God flushed down the toilet."

— Chuck Palahniuk, Lullaby

### Streak

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Streak is a male Terrier, American Pit Bull / Terrier He is about 2 years old, weighs around 50 pounds and has been at the shelter about one year, having come on April 21, 2023

His adoption fee is \$180.

Streak is fun and playful. He doesn't bark a lot but will be a good watchdog. Streak is a low-maintenance type dog that will be a great companion. Enjoys hanging around with family, napping in the sun and eating McDonald's french fries.

You or your business can sponsor a Humane Society pet for \$10.00 a week per pet. Fifty percent of the profits will be donated to the Humane Society.



### **Upcoming Auctions**

Monday, March 18, 2024 - Harrison Farm Equipment Auction - 11:00 AM

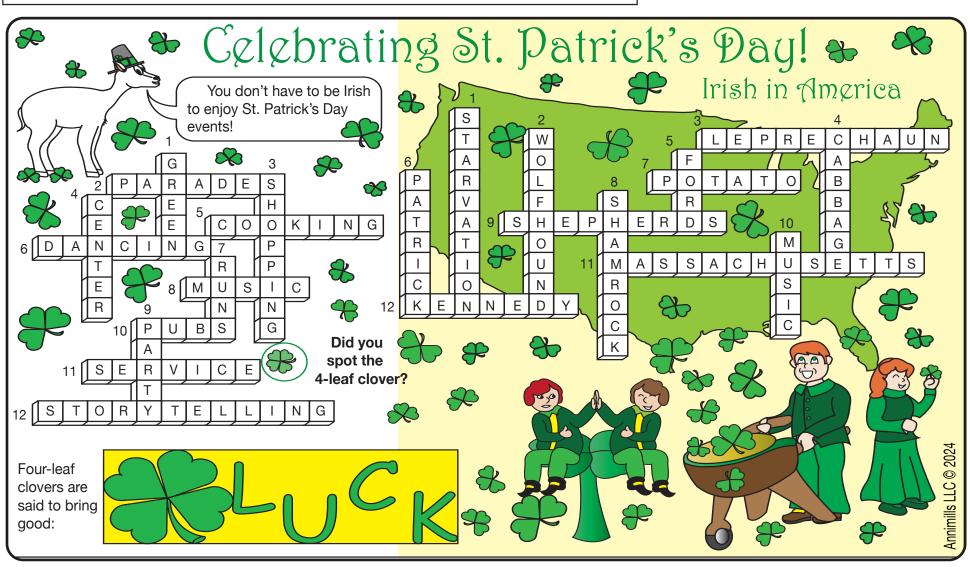
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Saturday, March 23, 2024 - Oller Farm Equipment Auction - 10:30 AM

House Auction - 328 N Pine in Pratt - April 1, 2024 @ 5:30 on site

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





### Kingman County Sheriff's Report

#### Sunday, March 3

Traffic Stop Traffic Complaint Abandoned Vehicle Traffic Complaint Medical Miscellaneous Traffic Complaint

Monday, March 4

Traffic Stop Civil Paper Service Traffic Complaint Traffic Complaint Traffic Complaint Traffic Complaint 911 Accidental Dial Miscellaneous Traffic Complaint

Check Welfare Tuesday, March 5

Miscellaneous

Traffic Stop Civil Paper Service Traffic Complaint Suspicious Person Fraud Traffic Complaint

Suspicious Person

Non-Injury Accident

15000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney 4000 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman 14000 Blk E Hwy 2, Norwich 500 W A Ave, Kingman 1300 Blk N Spruce, Kingman 3000 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman

2 9000 E Hwy 54, Murdock NW 50 Ave & W Hwy 54, Kingman 100 Blk W 4th St, Cunningham 9000 Blk E Hwy 54, Murdock 200 Blk N Pine St, Kingman 15000 Blk NE Paint Pony Trail, Cheney 1000 Blk W D Ave, Kingman 200 Blk W Kansas Ave, Kingman E Hwy 54 & NE 150 Ave, Cheney

E Hwy 54 & NE 150 Ave, Cheney 1100 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman 100 Blk W 1st St, Cunningham NE 60 St & N Hwy14, Pretty Prairie 300 Blk N Dresden St, Cunningham SE 60 St & SE 120 Ave, Norwich

livestock.

Wednesday, March 6

Traffic Stop Civil Paper Service Follow Up Traffic Complaint Check Welfare Non-Injury Accident Follow Up

Thursday, March 7

Traffic Stop Civil Paper Service Warrant Service Traffic Complaint Miscellaneous Warrant Service Trespassing 911 Accidental Dial

Miscellaneous Friday, March 8 Traffic Stop

Civil Paper Service Warrant Service Trespassing Animal Bite Saturday, March 9

Traffic Stop Disabled Vehicle

Trespassing Disabled Vehicle

100 Blk W 1st St, Cunningham 12000 Blk S Hwy 14, Rago 600 Blk SE 80 Ave, Murdock 200 Blk S Parkway St, Norwich 400 N Main St, Spivey

Transport Prisoner From Sedgwick Co Jail 120 N Spruce, Kingman 130 N Spruce, Kingman SW 30 St & SW 170 Ave, Cunningham 4000 Blk NE Sunset Lane, Cheney 120 N Spruce, Kingman

300 Blk E D Ave, Kingman 200 Blk W Burns Ave, Norwich 16000 Blk NE 50 St, Cheney

11

120 N Spruce, Kingman 200 Blk W Sherman Ave, Kingman 700 Blk W D Ave, Kingman

15000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney 300 Blk W C Ave, Kingman E Hwy 54 & NE 150 Ave, Cheney



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9

6

7

3

### Go Chiefs: Gun **Fixation**

The more thought that I give to the problem I may be part of the gun

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB

1

2

5

4

2

fixation in our country. After all, I have owned guns and used them many times from hunting to shooting rabid skunks

1-855-576-5653

or coyotes to protect our

The gun culture in our country is bigger than that though. My wife Kathy grew up on the East Coast and worked for 3 years for the FBI as a secretary. Part of her training at the FBI was how to use a gun. She had training with coworkers and learned gun safety and how to shoot. So rural gun ownership and gun use isn't just a rural thing.

I taught our 3 sons and two nieces gun safety and how to shoot. I've also taught some of our

grandchildren gun safety and marksmanship. Grandson Gabe and I regularly have target practice with my 22-caliber pistol or Grandpa's old rifle. Interestingly none of our boys or the nieces have a gun in their homes. The guns that they own are in my safe. So I can give myself a pass that I didn't instill in our family that guns are mandatory.

Guns are the most common way that people commit suicide. A friend once gave me his rifle to keep for him. Years later he wanted it back.

More years later he took his own life with a gun. I can't help but feel a pang of guilt for being a partial contributor to his demise. So guns have consequences.

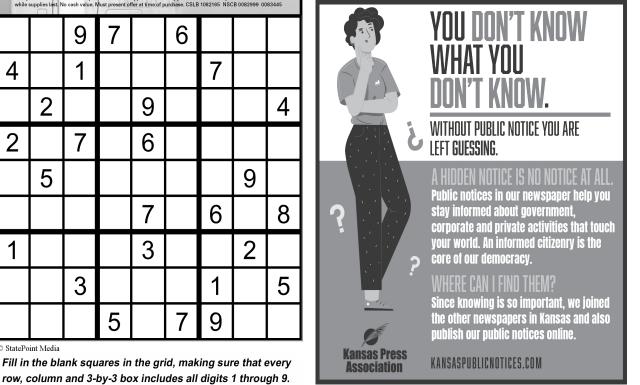
From speaking to friends who have experiences in countries outside of the US, Americans do have a desire to own guns that others don't have. I'm sure that the long history of our country with guns is partly to do with that need.

Why do we seem to have so much more gun violence than in the recent past--or maybe we don't. When son Jon inherited an old chest after Mom's estate was settled years ago we found an old copy of the Kansas City Star from 1926. I'm assuming that Grandpa Ben Albers had kept this paper as Dad would have only been 7 at that time. In the paper was a story of a teenage farm boy from the Emporia area who took his 22 rifle and killed his whole family and then burned the house down where their bodies lay. In today's news cycle that would have been a big story on the TV and on our

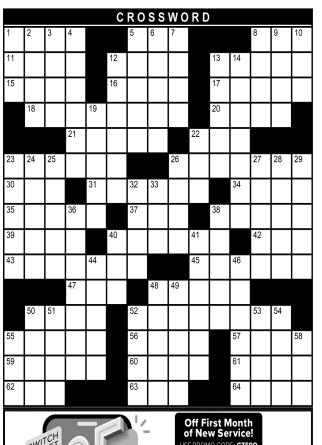
My dad told me the story about his first jury duty in Kingman. Two farmers by Cleveland, Kansas were arguing about where the fence line between their land should be and one of the farmers pulled a handgun from the tool box on his tractor and shot and killed his neighbor.

While reading from an old Cunningham Clipper article in the Museum dated 1936; it tells of a dispute on Main Street in Cunningham when two groups of teenagets argued and one boy shot another boy named McMichael and killed him. I knew an old man named Sam McMichiel (a brother?) here in town. So maybe we have been closer to gun violence than we want to admit. To be continued.

Alan Albers



### Statepoint Crossword Theme: Spring's in the Air



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**ACROSS** 

1. College cadet program

5. Comedian Schumer 8. Not square

11. October birthstone

12. Dueling weapon

13. Flambé

15. Capital of Azerbaijan

16. Rugged rock

17. Actress Vergara 18. \*What many chicks are doing

20. "Me and Bobby McGee" singer-songwriter

21. \*What the weather does in

spring across the U.S.

22. Make a seam

23. Old name for 5-iron in golf

26. Facing

30. 20s dispenser 31. Bodily fluids

34. Steak choice

35. Dungeness and snow, e.g. 37. "Chapter" in history

38. African antelope

39. Republic of Ireland

40. Made a feline sound

42. 34th U.S. President

43. Knock-at-the-door onomatopoeia

45. the Great, king of Persia

47. Give it a go

48. Fraternity K

50. Dr Pepper, e.g.

52. \*The Beach Boys: "Spring , good vibration"

55. Member of Nahuatl people 56. #23 Across, e.g.

57. Articulated 59. Salary increase

60. Umbilical connection

61. Volcano in Sicily 62. Robinson or Doubtfire

63. Bajillion years

64. One-horse carriage

**DOWN** 

1. What highwaymen do

2. Moonfish

3. Bangladeshi currency

4. Type of purse

5. \*Simon & Garfunkel: ", come she will"

6. Wealth

7. Safecracker

8. High quality sound reproduction, for short

9. \*Purple flower that starts blooming in spring

10. Fairytale insomnia cause

12. Like repeating tunnel sound

13. Off kilter 14. \*"Spring , fall back"

19. Spring mattress filler 22. Acronym in a bottle

23. Ceremonial staff bearer

24. Skylit lobbies

25. "Designing Women" star Jean

26. \*Become soft, as in ground

27. Radices, sing.

28. "Way 2 Sexy" rapper

29. "Battle of the " movie 32. Swimming competition, e.g.

33. Not amateur

36. \*The : "Little darlin', it's been a long, cold, lonely winter"

38. Highly skilled 40. \*Official start of spring

41. Make bigger

44. Vanish without this? 46. Elevates

48. Dry plateau in South Africa 49. Oak nut

50. Same as tsar

51. "The Dock of the Bay" singer

52. Joe Biden, once

53. Solemn promise

54. Pinta and Santa Maria

companion 55. Vegas bandit's body part

58. \*It gets longer

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### Minutes from Kingman County Commission

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MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the position upgrades for employees who are taking on Mr. Goetz's jobs. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve pay in lieu of vacation for an employee. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the request to carry over vacation for 90 days for an employee. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

The County Clerk submitted the minutes of the February 26, 2024, Commission meeting for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the February 26, 2024, Commission meeting minutes as amended. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning let the Board know that the Compensating Use Tax and Sales Tax for February 2024 received was \$90,566.34.

Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director; Tanner Yost, Kirkham Michael and Oleg Alba, Nextera Energy were in to discuss the windfarm haul route roads.

Chairman Henning let Mr. Alba know that the Commissioners don't want them using SW 80th Ave and would like Nextera to continue to use SW 90th Ave with an overlay put on the road when the reconstruction is done.

Commissioners discussed their concerns on the usage of the roads with Mr. Alba.

Mr. Alba let the Commissioners know that the repower project will most likely begin in early 2026 and hopefully finish by the end of 2026.

Mr. Arensdorf discussed having Nextera submit a new action plan and the route they plan to use.

Mr. Alba let the Commissioners know that he will work on the action plan and get it to Mr. Ritcha.

Commissioners let Mr. Alba know that they will give an answer next Monday.

Mr. Yost discussed the Flat Ridge 4 & 5 haul routes with the County Commissioners.

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

Mr. Arensdorf and Commissioners opened asphalt bids received at 11:00 a.m. from the following:

	MC800	CMS-1	CRS-1H
ERGON	3.46	2.91	2.46
COASTAL			
ENERGY	2.86	2.67	2.25
VANCE			
BROTHERS	33.89	3.14	2.74
ASPHALT			
FUEL	2.99	N/A	N/A

Mr. Arensdorf let the Commissioners know that they will review the bids received and bring back before the Commissioners next week for a decision.

Mr. Arensdorf submitted the following permit: SC Telcom-Fiber Optic Crossing-South side of Section 34, Township 30, Range 07W(Valley).

Mr. Arensdorf submitted his department January Financial reports.

Mr. Arensdorf submitted a design contract for FAS 989 Hot Mix Overlay from Schwab Eaton to not exceed \$48,500.00.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the Schwab Eaton design contract for FAS 989 Hot Mix Overlay not to exceed \$48,500.00. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Arensdorf reminded the Commissioners of the Spring Meeting for Commissioners & Engineers at St. John on April 4th.

Mr. Arensdorf reminded the Commissioners of the Township Board Meeting on March 11th, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Arensdorf let the Commissioners know that the City of Kingman monitoring well project was completed at the landfill.

Mr. Arensdorf and Mr. Yost left the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Commissioners signed abatements.

Sheila Govert, Kingman County Carnival was in with a 2023 Budget recap for the Commissioners.

Ms. Govert let the Commissioners know that they purchased a ride last year and repairs on a few of the other rides is some of the expenses were a one time charge.

Commissioners let Ms. Govert know that they gave \$10,000.00 this year and would be willing to give \$10,000.00 for 2025 if there will be a time that it will be self funding.

### **B-29 Museum**

is open on Sundays from 2:00 to 4:00 pm Pratt Army Airfield – 82 Curran Road Visit them on Facebook at www.prairiebombers.org for more information. If you would like to visit the museum at another time call 672-8321,

672-2444 or 620-797-2919 to schedule an appointment!

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve \$10,000.00 for 2025. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning presented an invoice from KONE for a book for the Elevator that is needed for \$500.00.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the purchase of a book for the Elevator that is required from Kone for \$500.00. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session at 11:41 a.m. with Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss pending administrative proceedings pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 12:14 p.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 12:14 p.m. with no decisions made.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session at 12:14 p.m. with Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss pending administrative proceedings pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 12:30p.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 12:30 p.m. with no decision made.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 12:45 p.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

### Comfortably Dumb by Bruce Quast



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Jon Wollen, Agent

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Kingman, KS 67068

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604 N. Walnut Medicine Lodge, Kansas 67104 620-886-3222 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Seth Thibault, OD Andrew W. Piester, OD 104 West C Ave. Kingman, KS 67068 620-532-3154

1-800-371-3154 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Friday

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### Kingman Real Estate

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\$5.00 minimum charge for one-week run. DEADLINES: 2:00 p.m. Tuesdays

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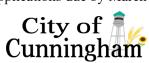
### **Looking to Rent in Cunningham Area**

Retired gentleman with farming background is looking to rent a home in or near Cunningham. Please call in the evenings 620-860-9073

### **Help Wanted**

### City of Cunningham

is hiring a part time seasonal maintenance worker. Applications available at Cunningham City Hall, 119 N Main Street, or print at www.cunninghamks.net. Applications due by March 25th.



is hiring lifeguards for the summer pool season. Certification in CPR/First Aid and Lifeguarding is provided to selected applicants. Applications are available at Cunningham City Hall, 119 N Main Street, or print at www.cunninghamks.net. Applications due by March 25th.

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### **Estate Sale**

Estate of Don and Donna Brown

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### March 14th - 16th 8 a.m.-6 p.m. daily

Misc. Household and kitchen items, furniture, large collection of Christmas figurines, some misc. hand tools and yard statuettes

### **Help Wanted**

#### The City of Turon

is looking to fill a part time/ as needed Sub-Clerk Position. If interested please contact the city office at 620-497-6443

#### The City of Turon

is looking to fill the role of Pool Manager. Interviews are at the next city meeting March 11th at 7:00pm If interested please contact the city office at 620-497-6443

#### The City of Turon is looking to

hire life guards for the City of Turon Pool If interested please contact the city office at 620-497-6443

### The City of Turon

is looking to fill a part time treasurer position. If interested, please contact the city office at 620-497-6443

### **Career Opportunity**

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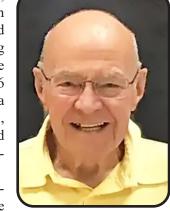


Karen Hampton 209 S. Main St. Pratt, KS 67124

620.508.5050620.388.5880 Cell kkhampton3@gmail.com

### **Bob Pinkall**

Robert (Bob) Pinkall, 87, passed away on March 8th, 2024 at Grand Plains Skilled Nursing in Pratt, Kansas. He was born May 20, 1936 to Edward and Laura Pinkall in McPherson, Kansas. His parents and brother John have proceeded him in death.



Education was important to Bob and he

was proud to graduate with honors from Salina High School in 1954. He continued that education at Kansas Wesleyan University graduating with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1958. In 1962 he was awarded a National Science Grant to study at Colorado State University. He received a Master's Degree in Physics in 1966 with an additional opportunity to pursue 2 summers of research also at Colorado State University.

While attending Kansas Wesleyan University he met his future wife Karen Nonken, while sitting in assigned seats in a class. That relationship continued until June 23, 1956 when they were married at Hope, Kansas. They were married for 67 years. Karen continued her PHT (putting hubby through) by working at the Western Star Mill office. Their family grew when Bruce, Gary and Allen were born. It now includes daughters-in-law Rita, Michelle and Charlotte, grandchildren Katie Utt, Bryan, Ryan and Brent Pinkall. Also great grandchildren Logan and Benton Utt. Nothing was more enjoyable to Bob than a family gathering.

Teaching was Bob's choice of careers. He taught in Public Schools in Goodland, Lyons, and Great Bend. He also was on the faculty at Fort Hays State University, and Barton County Community College. After leaving the teaching field he became the Director of Rock Springs 4-H Center where he enjoyed living in "the country" in the beautiful Flint Hills for 10 years. When he reached retirement age another "career" opportunity allowed him to work at the Land Institute, a research facility south of Salina.

A God given talent that Bob used during his adult life was that of drawing. He loved illustrating things and his drawings were used in many different areas. Many 4-H publications used his drawings and sets of note cards featured his drawings. He particularly enjoyed drawing birds. His favorite pastimes were being in the outdoors, fishing, camping with family, hunting with friends, attending ball games, traveling to Branson and Colorado, and gatherings with The Crazy Buddies a group of 5 couples who met yearly for over 50 years.

A particular area of pride was his involvement in Boy Scouts of America. He was a Scoutmaster and regular adult sponsor at campouts. He sponsored several groups to Philmont Scout Ranch and other High Adventure trips. The fact that all three sons and three grandsons earned the Eagle Scout award was of special pride to him.

Celebration of Life will be held at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, March 14, 2024 at University United Methodist Church, Salina, KS. Memorials may be made to Kansas Wesleyan University or the Kansas 4-H Foundation in care of Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt.



Cards by Roberta Kobbe
Handmade Greeting Cards for sale.
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Cheney, Ye Olde General Store in Norwich and
Market 54 on Main in Pratt or contact me.
Will mail or deliver.



Cards and stamps make nice gifts for shut-ins. 620-298-2659

Cleo's Flower Shop
229 N. Main in Kingman
kingmanksflorist.com
(620) 532-3883

221 N. Main in Cheney cheneyksflorist.com (316) 542-0054 Sheila Jayne, Owner/Operator

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



The second Hilltop Manor Pillowcase Dress Style Show was as delightful as the one two years ago. Sunday afternoon found many Hilltop friends sitting in the lobby of Hilltop Manor waiting on the show to begin.

Finally, Betty, CEO of this group, began by talking about the reasons the dresses are so important to little girls around the world.

Then the models were there and they strolled through the group, showing off the dresses they wore. They were so, so cute. To keep things simple, I have identified the girls by one name only, as is the custom for many international models.

Betty and Judy and other dedicated residents and staff meet weekly and have created over 550 of these little dresses to send to places the world over. They have sent and are sending dresses to Rwanda, Haiti, Mexico, Philippines, and Kenya.

Inppines, and Kenya.

If you have plain or

decorative pillowcases that you don't need or use, the dress crew will be making more of these little dresses and would welcome your pillowcase donations. They can also use laces, bows, rickrack, buttons and bows and other decorative objects that little girls love to see on their clothes.

Even small scraps of fabric can be used to make the pockets, as each dress has a pocket for the girls to carry their special little treasures in.

These donations, as well as monetary ones for purchasing materials can be taken to Hilltop.

More information about the pillowcase dresses can be found at dressagirlaroundtheworld.com

After the ten girls (and one mom) strutted down the runway, cookies (made by Kathy Glenn) and punch were served.

I am looking forward to Dress Show number 3.

-Roberta-