

# The Cunningham Courier

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

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Website: [www.cunninghamcourier.news](http://www.cunninghamcourier.news)  
(620) 298-2659

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March 21, 2024  
Volume 34 Number 12

## School Construction Continues



The end of Main Street as it appears on March 19th.



A peek inside the construction barriers and fences.

## Minutes from Kingman County Commission Meeting

Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. March 11, 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; Jen Elliott, USI; Sally Tatro, USI.

Online Visitors: Oleg Alba, Nextera Energy; Tanner Yost, Kirkham Michael; Caller 01; Shanna Henry.

Staff: Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director; Steve Bachenberg, County Engineer; Jamie Smith, County Treasurer; Macay Ewy, Emergency Manager and Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director.

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

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning asked if there was any public comment.

Larry Landwehr discussed the bypass and said it was good to see everyone working together. Also, Mr. Landwehr thought that everyone should be thanked for their efforts.

Commissioners agreed that a lot of people came together to make it happen.

Bob Morris discussed the

Cunningham team winning the Championship.

Commissioners agreed that it was great that they won the Championship and wanted to thank the community and sponsors for their support of the team.

Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in to let the Commissioners know that all bids were good but Coastal was the lowest bid received.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the asphalt bid from Coastal. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Arensdorf asked the Commissioners what the match amount they would want to go with for the upcoming 2024 Spring Cost Share program.

Commissioners agreed to propose a 30% match for the application for the 2024 Spring Cost Share program.

Mr. Arensdorf discussed the Action Plan for Phase 2-Kingman Wind Farm Repair Program.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the Action Plan for Phase 2-Kingman Wind Farm Repair Program. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Bachenberg, County Engineer was in to discuss the application for the 2024 Spring Cost Share program.

Commissioners discussed the Hwy 54 Bypass being placed within the top four projects by the State.

Mr. Bachenberg discussed that they Commissioners should make sure that the change moving to the main street entrance has been given to the state for the plans to be finalized before the

project begins.

Sally Tatro and Jen Elliott with USI were in to discuss their business and what they can do for Kingman County.

Jamie Smith, County Treasurer and Macay Ewy, Emergency Manager were in to talk about Security Cameras and locks. Quotes received from INA Alert were given to the Commissioners to review.

Ms. Smith presented Commissioners the interest received for January and February.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session with Jamie Smith, County Treasurer and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 10:15 a.m.

to discuss an individual employee's performance pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:25 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

County Commissioners returned to regular session at 10:25 a.m. with no decision made.

Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director was in to request an executive session for non-elect personnel matters.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session with Stan Goetz, HR and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 10:30 a.m. to discuss an individual employee's performance pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:40 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The mo-

tion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning read a collateral substitution agreement between Kingman County Treasurer and Citizens Bank of Kansas to change the original document from a 2023 Dodge Durango to a 2023 Ford Explorer.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to accept the Collateral Substitution Agreement for the change in original document from a 2023 Dodge Durango to a 2023 Ford Explorer with Citizens Bank of Kansas. 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 with LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 10:55 a.m. 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 11:20 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 11:20 a.m. with no decision made.

Commissioners signed abatements and one addition.

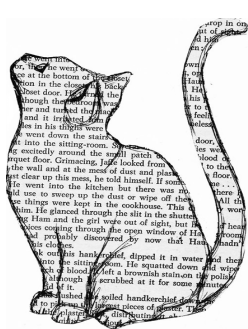
MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:22 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.



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Meanderings

This column will be a two-parter... or three... depending on how far I meander and how much I ramble on and what else I find in my research.

I meandered through many newspapers from 1918, trying to find Earl Cooper. Alas, Earl Cooper, who signed his name to put in the time capsule, may have to remain a history-mystery. I cannot figure out who he

is. I searched extensively, and the only mentions I can find of him in any Cunningham, Kingman, or Pratt paper were in a couple of ads. The one on the right read:

"In 1916 the International Wheat Show first added Automobile Races to its program of amusements. Those who saw the races that year admitted that more thrilling contests never were staged anywhere in America.

Last season the crowds broke all records and the races were even more satisfactory than those in the first year.

The fame of the Wichita races has spread, and this year the management has been able to interest such world cham-



pions as Earl Cooper and Gaston Chevrolet, who will make their first appearance on the dirt track at Wichita...."

Initially, I only noted "Earl Cooper" and assumed he was a local man who decided to enter the race. But when I started checking into Earl Cooper of this advertisement, he was a very prominent racer of his time. He raced for the Stutz company. He was the first racing driver to top 110 miles per hour.

He was born in Broken Bow, Nebraska in 1886. He would have been an adult in 1917 (about 32 years old), and this was definitely an adult's handwriting, very flowing and elegant. But what would he have been doing in Cunningham? I couldn't

see what his connection to Cunningham would have been.

Possibly he might have been visiting with the group from Wichita... the architects and dignitaries. But then why would he be writing his name with the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders? And why would he have written on the front of the envelope in blue pen... surely that would be the teacher's responsibility.

So, I meandered down that road. The teacher of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade was Prof. Ernest Martin. This is what I learned about Ernest Martin:

Mr. Martin was from Turon and attended college 'in Kansas'. In 1916 he was a teacher and 'coach of athletics' and organized a football team

for C.H.S., of which he was coach. I believe the following year he became principal of the school.

In 1919, he was promoted to Superintendent of Schools.

Ernest Martin served in the National Guard with Jim Luce, Dick and George Hart, Evertt Hauser, and Rex Shelman. In September of 1919, while Superintendent, he was attending National Guard drills at Fort Riley, when his father became seriously ill and passed away. Mr. Martin was called home and didn't finish the drill exercises.

He subscribed to The Cunningham Clipper and was a member of the United Methodist Church here in Cunningham of which he was appointed "Director of Recreation and Social Life."

In September 1916, he took out an ad in The Clipper: "Wanted - Roomers and borders (sic). See Ernest Martin in the Loomis property. Reasonable prices."

In March of 1918, the Ernest Martin family moved into the John Clouse property.

They had relatives in Liberal. Namely, Mrs. Frank Rutledge and children. Mrs. Martin was a sister to Dr. T. D. See's wife in Turon.

In 1922, Prof. Martin moved to St. John, but returned for the CHS graduation exercises in May.

You think I'm just meandering and wondering why I'm writing this abbreviated biography of Ernest Martin. But then....Why do all this research and not do something with it?

All this information about Ernest Martin, and not one mention of the elusive Earl Cooper.

I hadn't given up....

I did a search in the Turon papers for "Earl Cooper." Found the advertisement for the races in Wichita.

I was striking out big time.

I tried a search on "findagrave.com" for 'Earl Cooper' in Kansas. I found several, but none really seemed to be who I was looking for. While I was there, I searched for Ernest Martin. I found a few, but none of the information mentioned an Ernest Martin who was a teacher.

I did find one other mention of "Earl Cooper" in The Pratt Tribune. He was from Haviland and he and his family spent the day shopping in Pratt. That was it.

I'll continue next week. There's more gossip and interesting history bits I can share.

Always reading, and currently reading, "Plainsong" by Kent Haruf (for book club), Roberta

**NOW! INTERNATIONAL NOW!**  
**WHEAT SHOW**  
**WICHITA FAIR & EXPOSITION**  
**THE WAR SHOW-NOW!**  
 SEE THE BRITISH BATTLE RELICS CAPTURED FROM THE HUNS.  
 U. S. WAR & NAVY DISPLAYS :: WAR COOKING SCHOOL : ARMY KITCHEN  
**AUTO RACES MON. WED. & FRI. October 7-9-11**  
 EARL COOPER, CHEVROLET, DISBROW, D'ALLEN, WUNDERLICH and other Speed Kings in Hair Raising Contests  
**1918 HIPPODROME** NEW ACTS FOR THE SECOND WEEK  
**TWICE DAILY IN INNES' BAND**  
 THE AUDITORIUM  
**CLOSES SAT. OCT. 12** LAST CHANCE  
 Admission 25c. Children, 15c  
 No War Tax  
 Reduced Rates on all Railroads

Tallgrass and Tumbleweeds by Gaille Pike

Dear Readers,  
 ....with sincere apologies to Clement Clarke Moore, author of "A Visit from St. Nicholas."  
 'Twas the night before "Chick Day," when all through our house, not a cat was stirring or chasing a mouse. And I was so excited I found it hard to sleep. Before my alarm rang, I sprang from my bed. I was so eager to get to Emporia's

Bluestem Farm & Ranch Supply store that I don't think I took more than two sips of coffee. And one step through those doors, what to my wondrous ears did I hear but a cacophony of chirping and peeping emitting from boxes stacked in the center of that store. There were baby chicks and ducklings galore.

And before my giddy eyes, appeared my Heartland Hatchery Santa. He did not wink or smile, but once he learned I was there to pick up an order, went straight to his work. Instead of lay-

ing his finger aside of his nose, he pointed to a box with my name scrawled across the top.

"Where's YOUR box?" he huffed.

Before I could say, "Right here," he had the lids open and was pitching handfuls of chirping yellow and black fuzz balls from his cardboard sleigh into mine, counting lickety-split as he did, one to ten. Then he cried "Your Ducks!" and spun to his left. Before I could get the chicks packed, he swung a fistful of ducks at me. While he waited for me to get my

second box open, four lemon-headed, black-eyed ducklings protested loudly. Once dropped inside they added the drumming of their bright orange web feet to their complaint. My Poultry Elf spun once again and this time, I didn't even see him dump four more ducklings in the box. But I felt them land. Then he clapped his hands like a Black Jack dealer ending his shift, looked over my shoulder and called, "Who's next?"

As I drove my 18 new babies home, I began to relax as their peeps and

chirps softened from hysteria to sounds as soothing as rain. But the transition to their respective brooders unsettled them once more and their volume crescendoed. I was bursting with affection. But every time I tried to talk to them or moved to get a better look, they skittered and scattered away from me. They crashed into each other and into their feeders. Two ducks tried to jump in their waterer and three pecked at their brooder's thermometer.

"WHAT HAVE I DONE?" I thought as I

watched my babies go berserk.

My Poultry Elf squeezed my elbow. He hasn't run a hatchery but he's raised ducks and chickens before. And generally can tell what I'm thinking. With a wink and a smile, he adjusted each brooder's heat lamp. And as he left to go get coffee he called, "Happy Chick Day to all and I doubt you'll sleep any better tonight."

P.S. As of this writing all 18 are not just doing well, they're thriving.

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

Poetry From Daily Life

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

Poetry from Daily Life: You can follow a form and make it your own

By Sandy Asher  
 This week's guest on "Poetry from Daily Life" is Sandy Asher, who lives in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. When she was in 2nd grade, Sandy began making up plays for her friends to act out with her. Her first publication was a poem in a small, literary magazine in 1964, for which she was paid two contributor's copies. She writes for preschool through adult audiences — "anything that moves me deeply" — and her work includes plays, poetry, stories, books, and articles. She calls chocolate ice cream her drug of choice and wants us to know that she once "jumped up and

down on a dance floor with Paul Newman." Two of Sandy's favorite picture books are "Too Many Frogs" and "Chicken Story Time." "Sophie's Monster Goes to Shul" is due out in March 2024. ~David Harrison

Try a guided poem  
 Hundreds of writing workshops into my long career, I'm still amazed by one particular phenomenon: Whenever I give a single writing prompt to a group of people — of any age! — they will always come up with a roomful of unique responses. No two alike. Ever!

It's a perfect metaphor, and proof, of our uniqueness as human beings. Every story, every poem, is part of our human tapestry. If they are never created, there's a hole that cannot be repaired.

One of my favorite prompts is the Guided Poem, an idea I've borrowed from Springfield native Joyce Pyle, a retired 4th and 5th grade teacher formerly at Bingham Elementary School. Joyce has a special love of poetry and inspired many of her students to publish their work in local and national collections.

I invite you to create a Guided Poem of your own, on the topic "My Favorite Place." After you've done one, you can reuse the directions to create any number of poems on other topics. You can also revise the directions to lead you in a different direction altogether. I've used this prompt with children and adults. I've enjoyed responses featuring everything from the beach to a bathtub. An especially striking response came from a participant in a workshop for incarcerated women at Lancaster County Prison. First, she wrote about New York City, her favorite place. That night, in her cell, she turned the guidelines around to write a second poem about her LEAST favorite place: Lancaster County Prison.

Unique? You bet! Your response will be unique as well. Try it!

"My Favorite Place" is a working title. You can change it later. For now, put it at the top of your page. As you answer each question, begin a new line in your poem. You may answer in simple phrases or in full sentences.

MY FAVORITE PLACE

What is your favorite place? (Be specific.)

What is your favorite kind of day there? (Rainy? Autumn? Windy? KIND of day. Write a word or two or more.)

What is your favorite time of day there? (10 a.m. or dinnertime? A word or two or more.)

What sounds do you hear? (Include as many as you like, on as many lines as you like.)

What do you see? (Include as many things as you like, including people, on as many lines as you like.)

What do you most enjoy doing in this place? (Use as many lines as you need.)

When will you go to your favorite place again? (Never? Tomorrow? Next year?)

How does that make you feel? (Happy? Sad? Eager? Something else?)

Now, you can edit your poem any way you like. And write others, using the same guidelines.

It pleases me no end to think that this poetry-writing prompt that I've used all over the country is now coming home to Springfield. Thank you, Joyce Pyle, David Harrison, and Springfield News-Leader!

During her 36 years in Springfield, MO, Sandy Asher taught creative writing and ran many workshops as writer-in-residence at Drury University. She also founded and directed Good Company Theatre for All Ages, which performed at Drury, the Vandivort Center Theatre, and the Springfield Public Library. Most recently, Springfield Contemporary Theatre presented the world premiere of her play "Death Valley: A Love Story." Visit Sandy at <http://sandyasher.com>.

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**Community Bulletin Board**

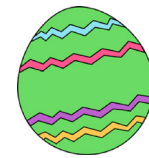
<b>Thursday, March 21</b> Forensics at St. John	<b>Thursday, March 28</b> JH Track at Skyline
<b>Friday, March 22</b> Junior High Play	<b>Friday, March 29</b> Good Friday No School
<b>Saturday, March 23</b> Forensics at Cheney	<b>Saturday, March 30</b> 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Lions Club Breakfast at Community Center *** 10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt at the Football Field
<b>Monday, March 25</b> JH Scholar's Bowl at Attica *** 6:30 City Council Meeting	<b>Sunday, March 31</b> Easter Sunday
<b>Wednesday, March 27</b> 7:00 Book Club	<b>Monday, April 1st</b> JH Scholar's Bowl at Stafford

*The Community Calendar is sponsored by*

**City Council to Meet Monday Evening**

Monday, March 25, 2024  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA  
Meeting will be held at City Hall, 119 N. Main St.

- 6:30 p.m. – Call to Order
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes of February 26, 2024 meeting
- Public comments, concerns, & communications
- Fire Department – Chief's Report
- Strong's Insurance Renewal/Quote
- Leiter Avenue
- Schedule Workshop for Water Tower Maintenance Proposal
- Reports
  - Property Officer
  - Planning & Zoning
  - Maintenance
  - Swimming Pool
  - Animal Control
- Financial Report & Payment of Bills
- Adjourn



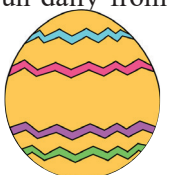
**HILLTOP HAPPENINGS**

We have been a busy bunch this past couple of weeks. Our residents continue to enjoy our expanding activity program. One of our new activities is Happy Hour. Every Thursday, residents are encouraged to attend for snacks and drinks. Residents do get the opportunity to have a two-drink max of their choice and snacks. Cheese puffs are a popular hit here. The goal is to have residents come out and socialize with each other, we also incorporate activities like, beer pong minus the beer, trivia, and live piano playing from our very own Larry Burnhardt. The participation has been fantastic. Gene Swift, our Maintenance Supervisor has built a mobile bar. It is a work of art, if you stop by, take a look at it, it's high class on wheels.

**The 1st Annual Community Easter Scavenger Hunt!! NO AGE LIMIT!**

Starting March 25<sup>th</sup>, go to our Hilltop Manor Facebook page for that day's clue of the whereabouts of a golden egg which will be hidden somewhere in the community. If you find the egg, return it to Hilltop Manor for that day's prize. We have had a great response from our local businesses for sponsorship and hope that this will be an event that everyone participates in every year. This event will run daily from March 25<sup>th</sup> to March 29<sup>th</sup>.

We would like to encourage everyone to participate in not only our activity but remind everyone that on March 30<sup>th</sup>, kids can have breakfast with the Easter Bunny and enjoy the Easter Egg hunt. Hilltop Manor will have eggs for this plus one lucky kid who finds a golden egg, will win a bike (\$125 value). Good Luck to all.



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Cunningham, KS  
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**- WANTED -**  
*Old Photos for Our Community Album*  
Call (620) 298-2659 or email to [couriernews@yahoo.com](mailto:couriernews@yahoo.com)

**We need photos for the paper!!**



How Providing Race and Ethnicity Data Helps All Customers

We are continuously working to better understand how Social Security's programs serve the public. Collecting race and ethnicity data for research and statistical purposes is one way for us to determine whether we are equitably serving the public. Applicants and customers may voluntarily provide this information. It does not affect decisions on benefit applications.

Why does it matter if people provide race and ethnicity data?

When customers choose to provide race and ethnicity information, it lets us know:

- Who our benefit payments and programs are helping and who may be left out.
- What unintended barriers may impact benefits and services.
- Where to expand outreach efforts.
- How to increase awareness of eligibility for programs and benefits.

**ANNUAL SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS STORMSPOTTERS MEETING**

**DATE:** MARCH 28, 2024  
**LOCATION:** PRATT COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING  
103 NE 20<sup>TH</sup> AVE PRATT KS  
**TIME:** 7:00PM

National Weather Service presentation  
For questions contact BJ Hayes, Pratt County Emergency Manager  
Office # 620-672-4132 Cell # 620-508-1314

**Libraries**

**Cunningham Public Library**  
Mon., Wed., Fri.  
2:00 - 6:00 p.m.  
Tues., Thurs., Sat.  
9:00 - 11:30 a.m.  
Closed for Holidays  
298-3163

**Zenda Public Library**  
Monday  
8:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.  
Thursday:  
4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday:  
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
620-243-5791

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

**Pratt Public Library**  
Mon. - Thurs.  
10:00 - 7:00  
Friday: 10:00 - 6:00  
Saturday: 10:00 - 2:00  
Closed on Sundays  
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In other words, race and ethnicity data can help expand access to our programs, which is one of the objectives in our Equity Action Plan at [blog.ssa.gov/social-securitys-equity-action-plan](http://blog.ssa.gov/social-securitys-equity-action-plan). Examples of how we use this information can be found on our Racial Equity Resources webpage at [www.ssa.gov/policy/about/racial-equity-resources.html](http://www.ssa.gov/policy/about/racial-equity-resources.html).

Currently, we collect race and ethnicity information on applications for new or replacement Social Security number (SSN) cards. These applications can be completed:

- Online at [www.ssa.gov/number-card](http://www.ssa.gov/number-card).
- At one of our local offices or card centers.

Soon, parents may voluntarily provide this information when requesting their newborn's

SSN at the hospital. The option to provide this data will be available in participating states.

We encourage you to provide your race and ethnicity information on your or your child's application for a new or replacement SSN card. This information will help us better understand and serve all our current and future customers.

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

**March 22 - 24**

**Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire**

**Rated PG-13**

Thank YOU for supporting YOUR Kingman Historic Theatre.

All Seats are \$3.00 (cash or local check only)  
Showtimes:  
Friday 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday at 2:00 p.m.



Tilly's Washer - The Girl Who Won the War

The pages of history are filled with forgotten stories and heroes not remembered. This is a story worth remembering...

In the summer of 1940, WWII was just getting started, and Great Britain was in peril. After the invasion of Poland in September 1939, Hitler's

Germany began the conquest of Europe. By June of 1940, France had fallen, leaving only Great Britain to stand against the Nazis. The U.S. had not yet entered the war.

Hitler's plan was to first defeat the Royal Air Force (the RAF), and then the Royal Navy, prior to invading Great Britain by land.

In those early months of the war, Britain was in grave danger and their first line of defense was the RAF. Despite the British government's posture of appeasement under Neville Chamberlain, the British, expecting the worst, had begun preparations for war. This included the development of a

new fighter aircraft, the Supermarine Spitfire. The Spitfire was to become known as one of the most distinguished fighters of the war. In the hands of the brave RAF pilots, it has been credited with saving Great Britain, and to a significant degree, winning the war.

By the summer of 1940, the German Luftwaffe was ready and poised to pummel Britain into submission from the air and began their assault. The Battle of Britain had begun.

Along with a supply of Hawker Hurricanes, the RAF had 19 squadrons of Spitfires facing off against veteran German pilots, many flying the Messerschmitt BF-109. Both planes were fast and could exceed 350 mph in combat. The Spitfire carried the famous Merlin V12 engine. Dogfights over the English countryside became a common occurrence.

As mighty as the Spitfire was, RAF pilots soon learned the planes had a serious design flaw. When engaged

in a dogfight and subject to negative G rollovers or quick evasive turns, the Spitfire would stall. This was due to the fact that the Spitfire used a carburetor for fuel intake. When the plane rolled, excess fuel flowing into the carburetor would cause it to flood, and the engine would stall. German pilots, whose planes were fuel injected, were quick to take advantage of this. Many RAF pilots lost their lives as a result. The RAF had a big problem.

Enter Tilly Shilling... Beatrice "Tilly" Shilling was born in the town of Waterlooville in Hampshire, England on 8 March 1909. As a child she loved to tinker with engines. At the age of 14, frustrated that her sisters were faster on their bicycles than her, she acquired a Royal Enfield motorcycle. She learned to take it apart, and soon determined to become an engineer.

In 1932 Tilly earned a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Manchester. She then

studied for another year and earned a master's degree in mechanical engineering. During this time, she began racing motorcycles. Among her accomplishments, she won the Gold Star for lapping the famous Brooklands Circuit at 106 mph on her modified Norton motorcycle. She was also racing cars at this time.

In 1936 Tilly began working at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, the research and development agency for the RAF. She soon advanced to the position of experimental engineer. While there she earned a reputation for being a "take no crap" engineer and was known for her "hands-on approach" to solving problems.

As the Battle of Britain was being waged, complaints from RAF pilots regarding Spitfire stalling led to a search for a solution. Tilly Shilling had an idea.

Tilly's solution was both brilliant and simple. She calculated exactly how much fuel the big Merlin engines need-

ed and then designed a washer with just the right sized hole that restricted the amount of fuel fed into the carburetor. When the plane rolled or turned abruptly, this washer prevented the carburetor from being flooded. Tilly's washer was easily attached without the planes having to be taken out of service.

Tilly's washer, officially named the RAE Restrictor, saved many lives, and allowed the Supermarine Spitfire, in the hands of RAF pilots, to fight off the German aerial offensive and win the Battle of Britain, setting the stage for the ultimate allied victory in Europe.

For her efforts, Beatrice "Tilly" Shilling was awarded the Order of the British Empire for chivalry as a non-combatant, one of Britain's highest civilian honors.

Tilly Shilling was an amazing woman and deserves to be remembered. She is sometimes called the Girl Who Won the War.

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**MESSIAH**  
festival of the arts

**March 24 - 31**

Tickets are on sale at:  
[www.messiahfestival.org](http://www.messiahfestival.org)

Handel's "Messiah" Dress Rehearsal  
3 PM Sunday, March 24 — featuring Bethany College student soloists

Bach's "Passion of St. Matthew"  
7:30 PM Friday, March 29

The 143rd annual performance of Handel's "Messiah"  
3 PM Sunday, March 31

These are all ticketed events.

Forgiveness

By James Graham  
It happened at the praetorium  
When his words caused him grief  
Peter denied Christ three times  
Casting dismay upon his belief

There was no way he could amend  
The denials that he regretfully did  
As he fled the scene in turmoil  
Having failed, kept his face hid

How could he amend what he did?  
Would Jesus really understand?  
Would He forgive his denials?  
He was just an afraid, mortal man

Was what he had done forgivable?  
Could he meet Jesus face-to-face?  
Would Jesus ever forgive him?  
Or would he be banished in disgrace?

All of this was on his mind  
As he panicked and ran away  
Then followed the crowd up the hill  
To a crucifixion that fateful day

Peter was with the other disciples  
When before them, Jesus stood  
From the grave, he was resurrected  
As only the Son of God could

What Peter had done was forgotten  
As for the world, Jesus made amends  
The temple veil was broken  
Jew and Gentile could to Heaven ascend

The plan of God was forever amended  
So that everyone could be saved  
Even the one who denied three times  
Received forgiveness, his guilt was waived



Giving Opportunities in our Community

- 4C Day Care Leave a donation with the Methodist Church.
- West Kingman County Education Foundation Use your Dillon's Card! (to donte contact Janet DeWeese 620-298-2717)
- Hands of Hope (contact any church)
- Cunningham Alumni Scholarship Fund (send checks to the West Kingman County Education Foundation)
- Cunningham Community Center (leave donation at the bank)
- Lions' Club (Money is being raised to dig a well in the village of Kakindu, Kenya)
- Cunningham Museum (to donate contact Alan Albers or Mike McGovney)
- Cunningham Public Library (to donate, contact Kerri Steffen)
- Cunningham EMS (to donate, contact Monte Rose or Kathy Albers)

Cunningham Hands of Hope, Inc.

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

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

**What:** Food

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

**Where:** 117 N Main (Old School Board Office)

**Why:** To provide food assistance to those in need.

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

*Do you need assistance outside distribution hours?*

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



Catholic Churches

Sacred Heart, Cunningham  
Sundays 8:30 a.m.

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

St. Leo  
Saturdays 5:30 p.m.

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

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



Lutheran Churches

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  
Sunday 11:00 a.m.



First Christian Church

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

Pastor Mike McGovney 620-298-3201



United Methodist Church

Penalosa  
Worship 9:15 a.m.

Cunningham  
Worship 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Mathew Ndambuki Musyoki  
620-298-2090

Zenda  
Worship 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School: Children 8:30 a.m. Adults 10:00 a.m.

Pastor J L Nichols  
620-491-0680



YEARS AGO IN

*The Cunningham Clipper*

W. A. Bradley / William Bradley

**1929**

March 29 – The official city election for the city of Cunningham in the year 1929, will take place Monday, April 1st. the voting booths will be located in the A. C. Houston Lumber company building.

The horse-shoes belonging to the local horse-shoe park were stolen sometime between Saturday and Monday and when the sun turned out bright Tuesday the horse-shoe pitchers were sure mad.

It was also reported that the Western Light & Power company had some of their copper stolen from their truck which was parked in town over the week-end.

**1934**

March 30 – Dow “Doc” Caldwell, 35, oil field truck driver for the Skelly Oil Co., in the Cunningham Pool, met almost instant death Tuesday afternoon on the highway about 10 miles east of El Dorado, when he slipped and fell beneath the wheels of a heavily loaded trailer.

Last Friday evening the “Who-Do” Sunday school class of the Methodist church enjoyed a Taffy Pull at the parsonage with Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Shuler.

The party started off by singing songs and later games were played. After a short business meeting, popcorn and taffy pulling were enjoyed.

The Cairo vicinity was favored with a fine rain. So goodbye sand storms, for awhile at least.

**1939**

March 24 – Cunningham High School tied with Adams High School for first honors of Highly Superior in the one-act play contest in the County League Forensic Festival held at Adams, Tuesday evening, and won two third place honors in the Reading and Extemporaneous Speaking contests in the afternoon.

Eight high schools from over the county participated in the Festival. Adams, Belmont, Cunningham, Nashville, Norwich, Penalosa, Spivey, and Zenda.

The one-act play, “The First Dress Suit,” in which Phillip Fee, Bernice Hardraker, Jean Fee, and Dean Cooley took part, was a grand comedy and was splendidly played.

In the afternoon contests, Phillip Fee placed third in the Reading, and Dale Sheldon ranked third in Extemporaneous Speaking, both receiving the rating of Excellent.

Formal dedication services for the new Junior College of Pratt took place in the Auditorium of the College, and on Friday evening, an “open house” will close the week of dedicatory services, which began Sunday with a union church service.

On Friday, March 31, The Kingman Journal will celebrate a half century of progress in Kingman with the issue of Volume 50, Number 1. In commemoration of the birthday, R. S. Whitelaw, veteran Kingman newspaperman, who has been editor of the paper the past 31 years, announces a “Golden Anniversary Edition.”

**1944**

Publication suspended for the duration of the war.

**1949**

March 25, 1949 – Cunningham high school received six I ratings out of nine entries in the Kingman County High School Music Festival held at Norwich last Friday.

They were as follows: Marilyn Oak, Howard Elrod, Paul Goetz, Girls Triple Trio, Girls Glee Club, and Mixed Chorus. Those receiving II ratings were Norma Watkins, Mary Smith, and Elva Mae Gagnebin.

Miss Helen Luce, Miss Ann Hauser, and E. R. Smizer were accompanists.

Trap Shoot, Sunday, March 27 at Leo DeWeese Farm, Hams – Bacon, Meade Creek Gun Club

The J. O. Y. Endeavor group enjoyed a St. Patrick’s party Friday evening in the Christian church basement.

Those present were Pat White, Donna Renner, Johnna Cooley, Janice Spain, and the hostess, Mrs. Kenneth Crosley and co-hostess Mrs. Mark White.

**1954**

March 25, 1954 – Two new homes are in the process of construction in Cunningham at the present

time. Mrs. Fern Huhman is building a new home in the south part of town, and Leroy Needham is erecting a new residence in the northeast part of town.

Coach Nelson Hartman has twenty-six aspiring candidates out for track this spring, eleven of which are returning lettermen. The squad will participate in nine track meets with the first one being held here next Wednesday with Zenda and Nashville.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Joe Theis on the birth of a son, Wednesday, March 17, at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Wichita. He weighed six pounds, five ounces, and has been named David Michael.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Alf Cooley, and paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Nick Theis, all of Cunningham.

We found out that several of our subscribers read the Clipper from “cover to cover.” We made a mistake in last week’s issue in reporting a fire at the Addie Wilson farm, when it should have been the Addie Wetherall farm. Some of our readers let the mistake pass on the front page, but by persistent pursuing of the correct news through the next eight pages, found the “truth of the matter” in the Classified Department on the back page where they read a Card Of Thanks from Mrs. Wetherall thanking those who helped extinguish a brooder house fire at her farm the previous Saturday night. We are sorry for the mistake, but this should be a good lesson to our readers – read the whole paper.

**1959**

March 26 – Enrollment at Cunningham Rural High School has reached its highest in the history of the school! Principal Will Seacat announced that 111 students are enrolled in high school.

The High School Board of Education announced this week that the entire faculty of the past year has been re-hired for the coming year.

They are Principal and Mrs. Will Seacat, Mrs. Lynn Spencer, Warren Fouse, Russell Willis, Weldon Allen, Gerald Keenan, and Ronald Burgess.

It is believed that this is the first time in the history of the Cunningham school system that the entire faculties of both the grade and high schools have been re-hired for consecutive years.

No candidates filed for city offices at the City Election to be held Tuesday, April 7, according to City Clerk Elmer Steffen. No names will be printed on the ballot.

**1964**

March 26– Theodore A. (Ted) Zensinger, an automotive veteran of 35 years with the Studebaker Corporation, has been named executive assistant to Gordon E. Grundy, president of the Studebaker Automotive Division.

A native of Willowdale, Kans., Mr. Zensinger was educated at Cunningham Rural High School and Kansas State College at Manhattan, where he was also a member of the College R.O.T.C.

He joined Studebaker in 1927.

Mr. Zensinger is well known in this community, having visited relatives and friends here many times. He was the brother of the late Mrs. Albert (Olinda) Sterneker.

The Kingman County Grade School Music Festival was held in the Cunningham Rural High School Gym-Auditorium last Friday afternoon.

Over 650 grade school students presented the program, “It’s Hootenanny Time,” to a goodly crowd, slimmed perhaps by the inclement weather.

Mrs. Bill Bradley of Cunningham, served as the festival chairman.

Schools participating in the festival were Adams, Belmont, Cunningham, H.H. and C., Murdock, Ninnescah, Spivey, Norwich, Nashville, Zenda, Waterloo, and St. John’s Lutheran.

Music teachers of the county schools include Keith Richardson at Adams, Mrs. Marvin Blumanhourst at H.H. and C., Mrs. Lola Maxwell at Norwich, Mrs. Jessica Gatz at Cunningham, and Mrs. Bradley at Nashville, Belmont, Zenda, Spivey, Waterloo, and Murdock.

**1969**

March 27– City and school board elections will be held next Tuesday, April 1.

A blank ballot will confront City of Cunningham voters. All the candidates will be elected by the “write-in” method. The polling place is City Hall, and will be open for 12 hours from 7:00 o’clock in the morning until 7:00 in the evening. The judges and clerks are John Schnittker, Henry Gibbens, Iona Shafer, Zola Pearson, and Frances Nossaman.

A blank ballot also faces voters in city elections at Penalosa and Nashville.

School board elections will be held for three positions on the U. S. D. No. 332 School Board, but only

one position has a contest.

Voters in the Willowdale community will decide between two candidates, Bernard Gillen and Julius Govert, for Position No. 4.

Dean Pagenkopf is the candidate for Position No. 5, representing the Nashville area.

Joe Dirks is the candidate for Position No. 6, representing the Zenda community.

Motor failure at the city water pumps created a water shortage in Cunningham last Thursday morning.

The water was off in the city from about 10:30 o’clock that morning until almost 2:00 o’clock in the afternoon while a motor replacement was being made by the Layne Western Company of Wichita.

School was dismissed shortly after noon due to the water stoppage.

YEARS AGO IN

*The Cunningham Clipper*

Publisher: Charles G. Barnes

**1974**

March 28, 1974 – A kitchen shower for Suzanne Steffen, bride-elect of Mark Stillwell, was held Friday, afternoon, March 22 at the home of Mrs. Bill Murphy with Mrs. Jerry Alley as co-hostess.

Besides a kitchen gift, each guest have Suzanne a favorite recipe and each gave a marriage hint for making a better marriage. An appropriate game was played.

Those attending the shower were Mrs. Mona Steffen, Mrs. Anna Steffen, Mrs. Joan Stillwell, Mrs. Viva Alley, Mrs. Naomi Huffman, Mrs. Vera Watkins, Mrs. Harriet Bainum, Mrs. Audrey Raney, Mrs. Rose Stillwell, and Mrs. Florence Harbert.

Mexican wedding cakes and punch were served to the guests.

Girl Scout Troop 55 met Thursday, March 26 in the Methodist Church Basement. All the girls participated in a play, called “The Three Sillies” which was presented for their mothers enjoyment.

They held a Court of Awards at which the girls received the Troop Dramatic Badge. The troop is planning a campout in the near future.

Melva Oller and Roberta Thimesch are Girl Scout Cadets and are working in our group at the present. Melva and Roberta worked with the Brownies and earned the Games and Leaders Badge.

The remainder of the time was spent socially. Punch and cookies were served to the mothers and the troop

Public Auction: Saturday, April 6, 1974 at 10:30 a.m. Mr. and Mrs. Victor Fiegel, Owners.

**1979**

March 29 -This week the seventh grade class has been reading a play in literature. The play is called “Inside a Kid’s Head.” It is interesting.

In English we will be learning about the different verb tenses and how to use them properly.

One day every week, we watch a filmstrip. These are Newberry Award books reproduced on filmstrips and records.

The filmstrip we watched last time was called “Gay Neck”. Gay Neck is a pigeon. He was a carrier pigeon during a war and was injured during his flight.

We have to draw or sculpture the pigeon as follow activity. We usually do at least one follow up activity after each filmstrip. Reporter, Debbie Beat

Hilltop Manor: Josephine Strohl brought Naomi Nossaman a delicious fried chicken dinner.

We have a new exercise record. It is really jazzy. We were really sore.

Friday the mixed chorus and the Main Street Singers presented a program. They sang the songs they sang at music festival. The group is led by Pat Deighton.

You’ll be able to see farther down the road when driving at night because of a new type of headlight, reports Automotive Information Council.

The new halogen lights will increase the illuminating power from 75,000 to 150,000 candle power, which will boost driver night seeing distance about 20 percent. The new light also offers a whiter light than the present tungsten headlights.

The halogen headlight has been used in Europe for years but was not approved for use in the United States until last year.

**1969**

March 29 – Helen Long spent the past week in Kansas City visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Benny Orth and getting acquainted with her first grandson, Michael Andrew.

Linda Sterneker has been accepted for admittance to Fort Hays State University for the 1984 fall semester. She is a senior at Cunningham High School and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Al Joe Sterneker.

In the town team Tournament last Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, Scott Huhman of Cunningham the top scorer oof the tournament. In the tree games Cunningham played, he scored 29, 20 and 17.

First place was won by Kingman 60, Cunningham 58, in a real thriller. Mike Klaver, Kingman, made 20 points in the championship game with Scott Huhman making 17 and Dale Magnett 16.

Schmidt construction of Pratt garnered third place with a 74 to 53 win over St. Leo. Willie Schnittker tossed in for 18 and Joe Strohl going for 15 points on the Pratt team. Steve Vierthaler made 16 for St. Leo and Darrel Fischer put in 12.

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



Counting Farms

Greg Doering, Kansas Farm Bureau  
There are fewer than 2 million farms in the United States according to the USDA Census of Agriculture released last month, down from a peak of just under 7 million in the early 1930s. Any agricultural enterprise with at least \$1,000 in sales was counted as a farm, which excludes the family vegetable garden. The census, which

began in 1840 and has been conducted every five years since 1920, is the best source of comprehensive and impartial information about the state of agriculture down to the county level available. The trends it reveals, like fewer farms, older farmers and less farmland are not necessarily new, but it will inform decisions for a variety of stakeholders ranging from farmers and ranchers to private companies and cooperatives. The census showed Kansas followed the national trend with 55,734 farms, down almost 3,000 from the last count in 2017 and the lowest total in 25 years. The average

size was 804 acres, up 25 acres from five years ago. That total would be higher, but all land devoted to farming fell by nearly 1 million acres to 44,784,702 acres. Less than a third of farms had sales of \$100,000 or more in 2022. The vast majority of Kansas farms are owned by an individual, family or through a partnership. Just under 7 percent of farms are corporations, most of which are still family owned enterprises. While the number of farms shrank, the number of farmers topped 100,000, with more than a third of that total being women. The average

age of a Kansas farmer increased slightly to 58.2 years (0.2 above the national average), but the number of farmers 34 and younger grew by more than 1,100 to 9,700. It just so happens 2022 was a good year for farmers on the revenue side, with Kansas producers earning just under \$24 billion. Livestock accounted for \$15.5 billion of the total sales with crops adding \$8.4 billion. The expense side of the ledger tallied \$21.5 billion, leaving a gross profit of about \$2.5 billion, or less than \$45,000 per farm. It helps put in perspective how thin the margins are in farming, especially when the av-

erage acre costs \$2,324 and the average farm has more than \$200,000 worth of machinery and equipment. Taken as a whole, the census shows there are challenges and opportunities in agriculture. The job has never been easy, but small and medium farms are the most strained in today's current environment. It says something about the nature of farmers and ranchers that their ranks are growing. Though it's a tough way to make a living, farming and ranching does provide an appealing lifestyle. What we should all keep in mind with the census is it's not the

counting of farms that matters, rather how we can best use the information to support the people working the fields. Remember the ones who count every time you eat. "Insight" is a weekly column published by Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm organization whose mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service. Copyright © 2024 Kansas Farm Bureau, All rights reserved. News from Kansas Farm Bureau

We are decorating our Easter... ...eggs using sparkles and mini stickers. Kids: color stuff in!

# Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com Animills LLC © 2024 V10

## Happy Easter!

I am a baby rabbit. I am a kit or kitten. Later, I can be called a bunny or a rabbit.

I helped to dye all the eggs.

Whew! One gazillion and one... almost done!

When we "ducks are out of water" we never have to "duck and cover" when it rains because spring showers just "roll off our backs!"

We helped, too!

**1** This puzzle has 2 parts to it. First, read the clues below to fill in the puzzle about Easter customs. In "two shakes of a lamb's tail" the weather turned as "gentle as a lamb."

- the Easter Bunny leaves \_\_\_\_\_
- go to church \_\_\_\_\_
- color, dye and decorate \_\_\_\_\_
- wear new \_\_\_\_\_
- clean the \_\_\_\_\_
- share large \_\_\_\_\_ with family
- send Easter \_\_\_\_\_ and greetings
- church \_\_\_\_\_ ring
- bake hot-cross \_\_\_\_\_
- visit \_\_\_\_\_

**2** When you are finished with the clues, notice that there are 10 unused words left around the puzzle. **The second step is for you to fill in the rest of the puzzle with the words that are left.**

Words: baskets, clothes, lilies, lamb, bunnies, meals, services, hunts, bonnets, cards, family, chick, rabbit, house, eggs, candles, parades, sunrise, beginnings

### Easter Basket Fun

Can you help the bunny pick up all the eggs and the chocolate rabbit to fill the Easter basket?

### Sunrise Surprise!

If the weather is nice on Easter morning, some people will attend church services outdoors at sunrise. If it rains, they will go inside.

Can you find your way through the maze?

Did it rain on this Easter morning or was the sun shining?

Peep!

Sunny!

Rainy!

Have you ever heard the Easter Bunny hopping by? On Easter morning you might find a basket full of surprises. Follow the alphabet code to "see" some treats that might be in an Easter basket.

uh-oh!

Here Comes the Easter Bunny

beans animal  
10 5 12 12 25 13 1 18 19 8 13 1 12 12 15 23

rabbit egg  
3 8 15 3 15 12 1 20 5 4 5 3 15 18 1 20 5 4

grass toy  
7 18 5 5 14 16 12 1 19 20 9 3 19 13 1 12 12

Alphabet key for secret message:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
H	I	J	K	L	M	N
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
O	P	Q	R	S	T	
15	16	17	18	19	20	
U	V	W	X	Y	Z	
21	22	23	24	25	26	

(Answers on page 10)

Newspaper Fun! Created by Animills LLC © 2024



### Track Season Opens

Track Coach Eric Kerschen expected about 30 to 35 athletes to join the CHS track team this spring, but when the track dust settles, it may only be 25. And then there are the CJHS athletes... All students but one are out for the events.

At the high school level, two juniors and one sophomore are returning state track participants-- Junior Will Wegerer who went to state in vault,

Junior Dagim Reed for the 3200, and Sophomore Kyra Morgan on the discus.

Other athletes who will be contributing to a winning high school team: Freshmen Stephen Kerschen in discus, 100m, 200m, and 4 x 400 m relay; and Jack Harden in 800m and 4 x 400m relay; Sophomores Kyra Morgan throwing the discus, shot put and javelin, Emily Ogg in the 100m and the 200m and Grace Hageman in the long jump and the 800m; Sophomores Skyler Thimesch in the 400m; Dylan Halderson in the discus, and Blake Swope, distance runner. Coach Kerschen is

expecting good things from Juniors Ada Adams in the trip jump and Ellie McGuire in the discus. Dagim Reed will also represent the school in distance running, Will Wegerer in pole vault, 100m hurdles, 300m hurdles, and 4 x 400m relay; and Junior Trent Schnittker will throw the shot put. Returning for their last track season are Maranda Lohrke on the high jump, Matilyn Jump throwing the javelin, Luke McGuire in triple jump, javelin, and 4 x 400m relay, and Jack Ruckle in the shot put circle.

Of his upperclassmen tracksters, Coach Kerschen said, "Our

top sport leaders are on the track teams. Luke McGuire and Jack Ruckle seniors both captions from the Football team along with Maranda Lohrke and Maddi Jump leading the girls to hopefully a league title in May."

Coach has set his expectations: First: Get out hard and have goals to show up and work.

Second: Get out strong and make some good, positive strides to our goal--which is to repeat the League title for the boys and acquire the League title for the girls, who won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in League last year.

Of the State meet,

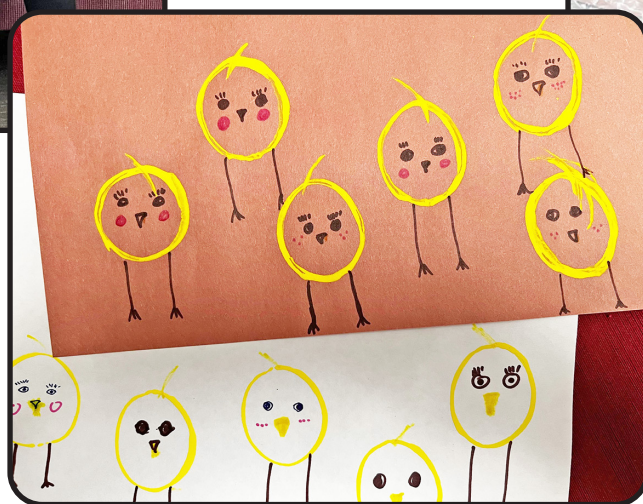
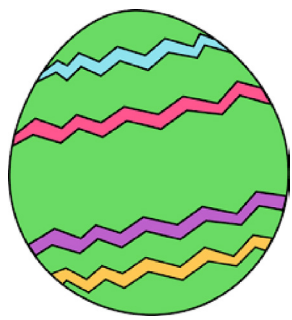
Coach Kerschen has "big expectations for State and hopes to bring a large group of boys and hopefully a good handful of girls to the meet."

"On the boys' side I feel like Cunningham has the top 2 pole vaulters in the state for 1A with Will Wegerer and Skyler Thimesch. Along with that, Will Wegerer in the Hurdles, Dagim Reed in the distance, Stephen Kerschen in the Discus and sprints, Skyler Thimesch 400m runner, with Jack Ruckle and Trent Schnittker showing some dominance in the Shot and Luke McGuire doing really well in the Javelin. Jack Harden and Blake

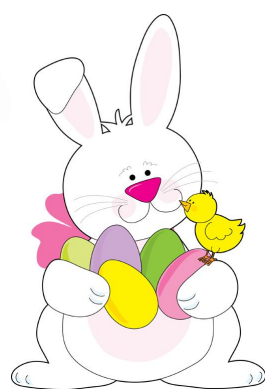
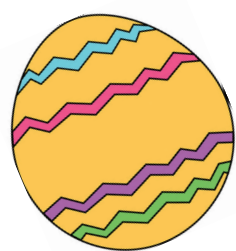
Swope also carry some great running abilities that will add to our 4x400 really being strong. I think Cunningham has a great chance for being in the running for a top 3 finish at state for 1A. The boys have been having some great success with a 2nd place finish in 6 man football along with a State Championship title in Division II Basketball. Let go Wildcats!"



### And Eggs-cellent Story Hour at CPL



The Cunningham Public Library was hopping last week with 37 patrons of many ages attending story hour.



### Upcoming Basket Weaving Class at Hansen Museum

Logan, KS. – Need a place to stash your red or white? The Hansen Museum will host a Basket Weaving class with Instructor Marsha

Jensen of Manhattan, Kansas, on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Hansen Museum Community Room, 110 W. Main, Logan, KS 67646.

In this workshop you will weave a basket with a divider that holds 2 bottles of wine. This basket uses a D handle that be-

comes part of the basket structure. There will be dyed reed available in a variety of colors for those who wish to include a color accent. A natural black walnut dip will be available as a finishing touch for your basket at the end of the class.

The cost to attend

is \$85 with discounts available for Patron & Sustaining Museum Members. Registrations are non-refundable. Call the Museum to register or find the registration form on our website ([hansenmuseum.org](http://hansenmuseum.org)) under Classes & Workshops. This enjoyable learning opportunity is brought to

you through the Hansen Museum Continuing Education Program, underwritten by the Dane G. Hansen Foundation. For more information, please call 785-689-4846.

The Museum is open weekdays 9-12 and 1-4; Saturdays 9-12 & 1-5; Sundays and holidays 1-5. We are

closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. The Museum is handicap-accessible and thanks to the generosity of the Dane G. Hansen Foundation, there is never an admission fee.

OPENING RECEPTION: 5PM SAT. JAN 27TH  
MEET THE CURATOR & ARTISTS  
CURATED BY QWIST JOSEPH

THE VERNON FILLEY ART MUSEUM PRESENTS  
**DUG DEEPER**  
JANUARY 27 - APRIL 6TH, 2024

Claudia Alvarez  
Shae Bishop  
Syd Carpenter  
Tyler Dallis  
Jennifer Ling Datchuk  
Raheleh Filsoofi  
Nick Lenker  
Sam Mack  
Armando Minjárez Monárrez  
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Kingman County Sheriff's Report

Sunday, March 10

- Traffic Stop 8
- Animal Complaint 8000 Blk SE 50 Ave, Kingman
- Fire / Grass SW 10 Ave & SW 20 St, Kingman
- Smoke Investigation 16000 Blk SE 50 Ave, Rago
- Traffic Complaint W Hwy 42 & SE 30 Ave, Spivey
- Non-Injury Accident 3000 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman

Monday, March 11

- Traffic Stop 2
- Civil Paper Service 6
- Check Welfare 11000 Blk SE 50 Ave, Rago
- Fire / Grass N Hwy 11 & NW 40 St, Kingman
- Traffic Complaint E Hwy 42 & SE 30 Ave, Rago
- Traffic Complaint 200 Blk N Pine St, Kingman
- Disturbance 400 Blk W H Ave, Kingman
- Theft 1000 Blk W D Ave, Kingman
- Damage to Property 120 N Spruce, Kingman

Tuesday, March 12

- Traffic Stop 3
- Civil Paper Service 6
- Disabled Vehicle E Hwy 54 & S Hwy 14, Kingman
- Trespassing 300 E A Ave, Kingman
- Miscellaneous 4000 Blk NE Sunset Lane, Cheney
- Miscellaneous 13000 Blk SE Main Ave, Rago
- Miscellaneous 1100 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
- Traffic Complaint 8000 Blk W Hwy 54, Cunningham

Wednesday, March 13

- Traffic Stop 1
- Traffic Complaint 8000 Blk E Hwy 54, Murdock
- Abandoned Vehicle E Hwy 54 & NE 150 Ave, Cheney
- Miscellaneous / Traffic 9000 Blk E Hwy 54, Murdock
- Domestic 300 Blk E D Ave, Kingman

Thursday, March 14

- Traffic Stop 5
- Civil Paper Service 4
- Found Property 120 N Spruce, Kingman
- Transport Inmate 120 N Spruce, Kingman
- Follow Up 1 00 Blk E 1st St, Cunningham
- Non-injury Accident 1900 Blk NE 80 Ave, Kingman

Friday, March 15

- Traffic Stop 3
- Civil Paper Process 1
- Miscellaneous 200 Blk S Main St, Norwich
- Miscellaneous 300 Blk N Main St, Kingman
- Funeral Escort 4900 Blk NE 150 Ave, Cheney
- 911 Accidental Dial 13000 Blk E Hwy 2, Norwich
- 911 Accidental Dial 14000 Blk E Hwy 2, Norwich
- Disturbance 700 Blk N Cedar St, Kingman
- Mental 12000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
- Harassment 800 Blk N Spruce, Kingman
- Traffic Complaint 18000 Blk W Hwy 54, Cunningham
- Injury Accident SW 120 Ave & SW 30 St, Cunningham
- Miscellaneous 700 Blk W B Ave, Kingman

Saturday, March 16

- Traffic Stop 12
- Burglary 300 Blk W C Ave, Kingman
- Disabled Vehicle 2000 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman
- Traffic Complaint 400 Blk E Leiter Ave, Cunningham
- Suspicious Activity 700 Blk W Sherman Ave, Kingman
- Animal Complaint 300 E B Ave, Kingman
- Traffic Complaint 18000 S Hwy 14, Rago



A Column by Dorothy Rosby

You're Getting Very Sleepy

I inherited sleep problems from my father. Yes,

I know. Some people inherit money. My dad tended to wake up for the day about the time your average night owl was going to bed. But he didn't take his sleep problems lying down. He figured that as long as he was awake, he might as well do something. And

it was usually something loud—like rototilling by moonlight. We lived next to a pasture and I don't think the cows minded but the neighbors on the other side of us may have. I know I did.

Back then, his early rising was a nightmare to me, but now I'm sympathetic. These days I'm the one waking up in the middle of the night feeling like it's time to start the day. Lucky for my neighbors, I don't have a rototiller.

I do love mornings. I just like them to start at a reasonable hour. So I've been studying insomnia, which, by the way, medical dictionaries define as someone who believes eternal rest really does sound like heaven.

As a public service, I'm going to share with you what I've learned. I guarantee that by the end of this discussion, you'll be ready to doze off—just like you are when you read my other posts.

First, we all have what's called a circadian rhythm. It's a precious thing, and not just because it's the only rhythm

some of us have. It's our internal clock, regulating our sleep-wake cycle. For many of us, the goofy time change business we go through every year disrupts our work, meal and sleep schedules. And you know what happens when you mess with a clock. It gets ticked off. Sorry.

To keep your clock ticking happily, sleep experts say you should go to bed and wake up at the same time every day. Yes that might make you seem like a boring person, but no more so than dozing off during dinner does.

Secondly, let there be light—during the day. Not so much at night. Light interferes with our bodies' production of melatonin, a hormone that helps us sleep. My husband could sleep in broad daylight at a shooting range. But he installed blackout curtains in the bedroom for me because he thinks I'm easier to be around if I've slept. He's right. But I think everybody's easier to be around if I've slept.

Blackout curtains are

useless if I stay up late staring at my computer. Electronic devices emit blue light that tells the brain to stop producing melatonin. As you know, they emit plenty of other things that interfere with sleep too. News, for example.

I downloaded a free app that adapts the light coming from my computer screen. Now my screen is bright during the day. Then towards evening it gradually turns a golden tone which the app makers calls "warm at sunset with a candle before

bed." And I don't have to worry about forgetting to blow it out when I go to bed.

Have these tricks worked? Sometimes. And when they don't, I take comfort in the fact that many sleep experts say a short nap early in the afternoon is fine for the body clock. Frankly I wouldn't trust their judgment if they said otherwise. I figure if Mother Nature hadn't intended us to nap, she wouldn't have made us so sleepy in the afternoon.

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

Comfortably Dumb by Bruce Quast



...from the makers of Good & Plenty

Statepoint Crossword Theme: Finish the Lyrics

**CROSSWORD**

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ACROSS

- Swell up
- Pendulum's path
- Type of salmon
- \*Steve Miller Band: "I want to fly like an \_\_\_\_"
- Simon & Garfunkel, e.g.
- Popular winter boot brand
- Ohio city
- Lodge
- Squirrel away
- \*Glenn Frey: "The pressure's high just to stay alive 'cause \_\_\_\_ is on"
- \*John Travolta in "Grease": "I got \_\_\_\_, they're multiplyin'"
- Automated teller
- Clarified butter
- Bad-mouth, slangily
- Stag
- Tartans
- "I'm \_\_\_\_ you!"
- Commies
- Monocot's alternative
- Road's edge
- Living room centerpiece?
- Prefix meaning "left"
- Deadly snake
- Sasquatch's cousin
- Court petitioner
- Blood infection
- Indian flatbread
- Opposite of post-
- Sound of impact
- \*Duran Duran: "Her name is \_\_\_\_, and she dances on the sand"
- \*The Beatles: "Take a sad song and make it \_\_\_\_"
- \*Elvis: "We're caught in a trap, I can't \_\_\_\_"

DOWN

- \*The Go-Go's: "They got the \_\_\_\_"
- 100,000, in India
- Cameron Diaz' Fiona, e.g.
- Hula dancer's hello
- These are held to be true
- Miners' passage
- \*Tainted Love: "Once I ran to you, now I \_\_\_\_"
- "Lord of the Flies" shell
- Like the other side of the pillow?
- Certain kind of exam
- Not his
- Antiquated
- Protection from a sword
- To death, in French (2 words)
- \_\_\_\_ B vaccine
- Manna from heaven
- \*Bon Jovi: "Tommy used to work on the \_\_\_\_"
- Habituate
- Spaghetti \_\_\_\_
- \*Don McLean: "Drove my chevy to the \_\_\_\_"
- Pains
- Frost over (2 words)
- Capital of Delaware
- \*Tennessee Ernie Ford: "I owe my soul to the company \_\_\_\_"

36. Geishas' sashes

- "\_\_\_\_ good example"
- Royal topper
- \_\_\_\_-tattle
- Pronoun
- Refused to act, archaic
- City-related
- Giraffe's striped-legged cousin
- \*Bruce Springsteen: "Tramps like us, baby we were \_\_\_\_ to run"
- Change a manuscript
- Small amounts
- Make sharper
- Newspaper piece
- Applications
- Midterm, e.g.
- Wharton degree, acr.
- Back then

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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



KCHS Pets Ready for Adoption

Shadow

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Shadow This golden-eyed, shorthaired beauty is Shadow. She is about 7 months old and weighs about 7 pounds. She has been at the shelter since February 13 and her adoption fee is \$40.00.

Alan

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Alan is ALL EARS! On a windy day, he might be able to fly. He's a very friendly little guy and he already knows sit and stay and he walks well on a leash. He gets along great with other dogs, but has not been around cats. He came in as a stray and is not yet housetrained but he is still young (just over a year old) and shouldn't have any trouble catching on quickly! This handsome 35-pound guy is a Border Collie / German Shepherd Mix, just over a year old and has been at the shelter since September 5, 2023. His adoption fee is \$180.00

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

"Perhaps the greatest gift an animal has to offer is a permanent reminder of who we really are."

— Nick Trout, Love Is the Best Medicine: What Two Dogs Taught One Veterinarian about Hope, Humility, and Everyday Miracles

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.

Bird Safety: K-State Wildlife Expert Shares Tips for Reducing Window Collisions

Nearly 1 billion birds die each year from impact with windows, says K-State's Ricketts  
 MANHATTAN, Kan. — Homeowners who plan to make shiny windows part of spring cleaning chores may want to re-think how that's done. That is, at least, if they also enjoy the variety of backyard birds that populate many urban, suburban and even rural areas. Kansas State University wildlife specialist Drew Ricketts said an estimated 1 billion birds die each year as a result of impact with windows.

of bird strikes," Ricketts said. "One is where the bird doesn't know the window is there and just runs into it. The other is when birds see their reflection in the window and sort of beat their beak on it because they're trying to get at a competitor." Ricketts cited a study in which researchers tested window films to determine the best way to ward off danger for homeowner's fine-feathered friends. "A lot of times when I'm helping homeowners, I will suggest films that have a character of an animal or some sort of picture that allows the bird to see that the surface is not open," he said. "Or, sometimes we think of putting newspaper or other object, but a lot of people don't want to obstruct their windows." A pair of industrial products could be a better solution, he said. A bird shield is a film that has a pinstripe design that is

barely visible to humans, but more easily seen by birds. Another product, a bird shade, is a film that uses a wavelength of light that humans can't see, but birds can. "If you want your window to look clear, these sorts of films could be very effective," Ricketts said. "They're generally made for industrial applications, but you could purchase them for a house." Researchers also report that where you place the films matters. When the films were applied to the outside of the window, "the bird shades increased window avoidance by about 50% and the bird shield increased avoidance by about 40%," Ricketts said. "Fifty percent may not sound like all that much, but when you think that half a billion birds could avoid dying, then that's a lot." When films are applied to the inside of

windows, "researchers saw a drastic reduction in effectiveness," Ricketts said. "And so even though it may not be convenient when we're thinking about applying something to a window to keep a bird from hitting it, it's going to be important to apply that to the outside—rather than the inside—of the window." More information on managing wildlife in Kansas is available online from K-State Research and Extension. Drew Ricketts 785-532-1949 arickett@ksu.edu



Upcoming Auctions

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



"Every election is a sort of advance auction sale of stolen goods." — H.L. Mencken

Happy Easter!

We are decorating Easter eggs for the egg hunt using dyes, paint, sparkles and mini stickers!

Whew! One gazillion and one... almost done!

Here Comes the Easter Bunny

I am a baby rabbit. I am a kit or kitten. Later, I can be called a bunny or a rabbit.

In two shakes of a lamb's tail the weather turned as gentle as a lamb.

J E L L Y beans  
 10 5 12 12 25

M A R S H M A L L O W animal  
 13 1 18 19 8 13 1 12 12 15 23

C H O C O L A T E rabbit  
 3 8 15 3 15 12 1 20 5

G R E E N P L A S T I C grass  
 7 18 5 5 14 16 12 1 19 20 9 3

D E C O R A T E D egg  
 4 5 3 15 18 1 20 5 4

S M A L L toy  
 19 13 1 12 12

1 B O N N E T S  
 2 S E R V I C E S  
 3 G  
 4 L  
 5 C H I C K  
 6 M E A L S  
 7 C  
 8 B  
 9 B U N S  
 10 F A M I L Y  
 H U N T S

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## Minutes from Pratt County Commission

The Pratt County commissioners met in regular session Monday, March 4, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. in the commissioner room, 1st floor of the courthouse. The following members were present: Thomas W Jones III, Rick Shriver, Dwight Adams was absent, Tyson Eisenhauer, county counselor, Lori Voss, county clerk and Mark Graber, IT director.

Heather Morgan, economic development/COVID consultant, reported she is working with city of Sawyer on utility issue that is impacting businesses. She is going to monitor the issue and will watch for any help. She reported there is still a tax plan in the works to give relief for local tax payers.

Chairman Shriver made a motion to approve the minutes from February 26, 2024. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to recess into executive session for ten minutes at 2:03 p.m. for an attorney/client matter concerning road usage. Chairman Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. Commissioner Jones made a motion to return

from executive session at 2:13 p.m. with no action taken. Chairman Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Tara Pagenkopf, *RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program)*, presented a new hire for David Cramer as a bus driver.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to hire David Cramer as part time bus driver at \$10.10. Chairman Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

BJ Hayes, emergency management, presented the severe weather plan & storm spotter operating guide. Chairman Shriver made a motion to approve the guide as presented. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the payment vouchers for March 4, 2024. Chairman Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Chairman Shriver made a motion to recess into executive session at 2:36 p.m. for five minutes for an attorney/client matter concerning a possible contract. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. Commissioner Jones made a motion to return from executive session at 2:41 p.m. with no action taken. Chairman Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Commissioner Jones

made a motion to approve the contract with Firstwireless, Inc. for \$1,305.00 to perform an audit on the towers used by fire and EMS services. Chairman Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Jason Winkel, recycling/landfill, presented repairs needed on a loader. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the quote from Foley Tractor to repair the loader for \$5757.99. Chairman Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Jason presented a contract with Clean Harbour. Chairman Shriver made a motion to approve a two-year contract with Clean Harbour Services. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to recess into executive session at 2:49 p.m. for five minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Chairman Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. Commissioner Jones made a motion to return from executive session at 2:51 p.m. with no action taken. Chairman Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn at 2:53 p.m. Chairman Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0.



## Warkentin's Wheat

Greg Doering, Kansas Farm Bureau

Bernard Warkentin couldn't have known that when he planted wheat in central Kansas in 1874 he was sowing Kansas' legacy as the Wheat State. Allegedly, Warkentin was the first to plant Turkey Red wheat, a hard winter variety that was well conditioned to the Kansas climate and soils.

Born in 1847 in what's now Crimea, Warkentin came to the United States in 1871 with other German-Mennonites fleeing Russian persecution. He chose to settle in Halstead, which in many important ways, like temperature and rainfall, was similar to the steppes of Ukraine.

And, as legend has it, Warkentin brought with him a chest of Turkey Red seed wheat that radically altered the agricultural practices at the time, which mainly featured soft wheat varieties planted in the spring. Turkey Red was planted in the fall, went dormant over winter and was ready for harvest before Kansas' hot, dry, pest-filled summers.

In 1910, F.D. Corburn, the secretary of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, remarked in the "Saturday Evening Post" that Warkentin's variety had powered the state's wheat production: "Thirty years ago, Kansas was not much of a wheat-

growing state. At the present time, and for 10 years past, Kansas has led in wheat growing, and much of the credit for making Kansas a great wheat state belongs to one man, the late Bernard Warkentin. It was through his efforts that the variety which has made the Sunflower commonwealth famous and rich, known as Red Turkey, or Russian hard winter wheat, was introduced..."

Warkentin was instrumental in persuading other farmers to plant the Turkey Red variety, building the state's legacy as the world's breadbasket. Kansas went from growing less than 2.5 million bushels of wheat in 1870 to more than 30 million just 20 years later.

An industrious man, Warkentin wasn't content with simply raising Turkey Red on his farm near Halstead. He converted a former steam mill to a roller mill to grind wheat into flour. He owned another mill in Oklahoma and had interests in banking, warehousing and cement companies. Additionally, Warkentin and his family were among the founders of Bethel College. The farm in Halstead, along with the mill and a home in Newton, are all listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Warkentin's work left a legacy not only in Kansas but in American agriculture as a whole. The widespread adoption of Turkey Red wheat benefited farmers economically and had broad impact on the prosperity of the Great Plains and the nation's food production capabilities.

This year will mark the sesquicentennial, or 150th anniversary, of the introduction of Turkey Red to Kansas. Agriculture has changed drastically over the course of those 15 decades, but Kansas is still among the top growers of wheat in the U.S.

As innovative as Turkey Red was, it still pales in comparison to modern varieties. Typical stands of Turkey Red averaged just shy of 15 bushels per acre, or about a quarter of the state's record average of 57 bushels set in 2016. Kansas farmers and ranchers have diversified into corn, sorghum and soybeans, but wheat is still a staple in many of their rotations. Today, Kansas doesn't always top the nation in wheat production, but it's usually close.

Thanks to the legacy of Warkentin and other farmers who found a safe haven in central Kansas and started growing Turkey Red, it will forever be the Wheat State.

"Insight" is a weekly column published by Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm organization whose mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service.

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News from Kansas Farm Bureau



*"Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it whether it exists or not, diagnosing it incorrectly, and applying the wrong remedy."*  
— Ernest Benn

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620-886-3222  
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1:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
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Andrew W. Piester, OD  
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Kingman, KS 67068  
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1-800-371-3154  
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Monday - Thursday  
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Effective June 1, 2022: Ads are \$6.00 per column inch. Front page ads are \$10.00 per column inch. All ads are subject to approval of this paper, which reserves the right to edit, reject, or properly classify any ad. Note: The views and opinions expressed in advertisements in The Cunningham Courier do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of the Courier or staff. Errors will be corrected when brought to my attention.  
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**Thanks for recycling**  
**The Courier on March 18th**  
*Recycle - Reduce - Reuse - Repurpose*

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

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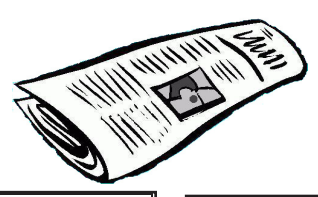
Retired gentleman with farming background is looking to rent a home in or near Cunningham. Please call in the evenings 620-860-9073

**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](http://www.cunninghamks.net). Applications due by March 25th.

**City of Cunningham**  
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](http://www.cunninghamks.net).

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**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 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

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*Do you need extra copies of The Courier, but can't catch me home, or don't want to drive clear to the edge of town? You can purchase additional copies at Fitzsimmons Insurance there on Main Street.*

**Public Notice**

First Published in The Cunningham Courier, Thursday, March 21, 2024. (3t)

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:  
DOUGLAS W. HENSIEK, Deceased.  
CASE NO. 2023 PR 20  
(Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Steven V. Hensiek, Administrator of the Estate of Douglas W. Hensiek, deceased, praying that: the following Kansas real estate owned by the decedent, situated in Kingman County, Kansas be sold. The real estate is described as:

*The East Half of the Southeast Quarter (E/2 SE/4) of Section Twenty (20), Township Thirty (30) South, Range Ten (10) West of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., Kingman County, Kansas.*

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before April 9, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., in the District Court, Kingman County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

*Steven V. Hensiek, Petitioner*  
Matthew W. Ricke  
Ricke Law Office  
349 N. Main, PO Box 113  
Kingman, KS 67068  
Attorney for Petitioners



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**Service Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.**  
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### Fred Garten

Fred L. Garten, 91, died March 15, 2024 at the Arbors in Hutchinson.

He was born Aug. 6, 1932, in Barber County, Kansas the son of Harvey and Doris Smith Garten. A longtime resident of the Norwich and Rago communities, he was a retired educator and principal of Norwich High School.

Fred attended the Christian Church; was a fifty-year member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the American Quarter Horse Assn., Kansas Angus Assn., the Registered Herford Assn.; and was a United States Air Force veteran.

On April 21, 1950, he married Virginia Newport at Sun City, Kansas. Other survivors include two sons, Travis Garten and Curtis Garten; grandchildren Crystal Moots, Tyler Garten, Casey Garten, Dayla Garten and Destani Miller; and 12 great-grandchildren Dylan, Kolbi, Tanner, Taite, Paisley, Easton, Hadley, Blakely, Truitt, Bear, Kayne and Decklyn. He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother Lonnie and sister-in-law Otie; and daughter-in-law Diana Garten.

Funeral services were Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at the Livingston Funeral Home, Kingman. FGraveside services was in the Sunnyside Cemetery, Sun City, Kansas.

Memorial donations have been suggested to Reno County Hospice, the Alzheimer's Association or USD #331/Norwich Schools, all in care of Livingston Funeral Home, 1830 N. Main, Kingman, KS 67068.



### Ellen Bishop

Ellen Y. Bishop, 70, passed away March 14, 2024, at Wheatlands Health Care Center, in Kingman, Kansas.

Ellen was born March 8, 1954, in Kingman, Kansas to Bydus H. and Anna Marie Dixon Taber. She spent her early years living in Kingman, graduating from Kingman High School in 1972. Ellen later went on to her master's degree in human resources from Friends University, leading her to a long career in Human Resources and her membership in the Society for Human Resources.

Ellen was a member of Kingman Methodist Church. Survivors include her husband of 42 years, Howard (Herb) Bishop, three sons Michael Bishop (Jamie) of Michigan, Corey Bishop (Heidi) of Texas, Eli Bishop (Cindy) of Arkansas; her eight grandchildren, Lukaz, Jordan, Taylor, Emma, Evan, Jenna, Ashlynn, and Ciara; three great-grandchildren Lily, Lucy, and Kylie; her siblings Alan (Debra) Taber, Darren (Jody) Taber and Bryan (Randy) Taber, all of Kansas.

Ellen was preceded in death by her parents and great-granddaughter Lily Reagan Costello.

Funeral services was Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at the Kingman Methodist Church. Burial will be held at the Cleveland Cemetery.

Memorials may be made with the Kingman Healthcare Center Oncology Department in care of Livingston Funeral Home, 1830 N. Main, Kingman, KS 67068.



### Harold Forcum

Harold Albert Forcum passed away on March 12, 2024.

He was born in Drumright, OK on November 7, 1944. He was raised in Ponca City OK where he met his high school sweetheart Paulette. He graduated from Ponca High in 1962.

He and Paulette were married the following year on September 27, 1963.

In 1965 they moved to Kingman KS where he began working for Don Dye Co. the following year. He worked from 1966 until he retired in 2012. Harold was involved in the Boy Scouts of America for many years while he lived in Kingman. He also had a love for baseball and spent many summers coaching baseball. He was an avid target rifle competing shooter in both Black powder cartridge rifles and 22 rifles. He competed every year in the national championships and even gained the title of NRA BPCR National Champion in 1992.

While living in Kingman Harold and Paulette raised four children.

Harold was a beloved figure to his family and church community as well as everyone he met. Harold's desire and calling in life was to tell everyone he met about who Jesus is and to know the love of God.

He is preceded in death by wife Paulette. Surviving family include Destrly Forcum and wife Aimee, Stacey Lyon and husband Dennis, Corey Forcum, and Josh Forcum and wife Cassandra; grandchildren Shelby, Gunner and wife Rayna, Taylor, Eric, Gabriella, Braxton, Lilly, and Taela; and great-grandchildren Leland.

A Celebration Of Life will be at 10:30 a.m. March 23 at Cornerstone Church 1620 S. Main Kingman Ks with lunch following.

Memorials may be sent to Cornerstone Fellowship or Youth Core Mentoring.




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**Check the Blessing Box east of the Methodist Church.**

**Anyone can give or take from the Blessing Box at any time.**



*"Now the Earth with many flowers puts on her spring embroidery"*  
— Sappho photo by Martha Hellar

**Best Anniversary Wishes to Stevi and Jesse McGinnis!**



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### Polaroid Exhibit at Sterling College

"You are never going to do anything interesting if you're always trying to make sense." That quote sounds like a mantra, life's philosophy, or admonition – maybe all in one. It is also the title of the latest art exhibit at the Sterling College Art Gallery. An exhibit of Polaroid photographs by artist Caitlyn Frazer of Hays will be on display now through April 19.

Frazer has her MFA from Ft Hays State University and currently works as the Graphic Designer for the Marketing Office there. She recalls the first day

of her psychology class when she was a student at K-State remembering her professor starting the hour with, "You are never going to do anything interesting if you're always trying to make sense."

Frazer said, "His words instantly struck a chord with me. I made it my life motto then and there. I've always been fascinated by the idea of exploration and experimentation, almost as if life is a constant science experiment."

Explaining her interest in Polaroid photography, Frazer said, "Polaroids have always fascinated me simply for the reason that they cannot be replicated, and they are a moment in time that 'stands still.'"

She remembers her graduate school photography teacher encouraging her to try new things. She found an old Polaroid SX-70 on eBay and had it completely refurbished. "After messing around with colored filters, I found inspiration in cap-

turing movement. Hence what started my movement series and while working on that series— I would take random Polaroids and see what I could capture. Hence all the other Polaroids in the exhibition." Frazer said.

She continued, "This exhibition, 'You are never going to do anything interesting if you're always trying to make sense,' is a nod to the idea of never giving up your drive to ask the 'why.' To keep exploring and evolving your creative toolbox. Art is not perfect; it's supposed to set you free and let you be limitless in your creation. You don't need to make sense; you need to create!"

Frazer hopes that visitors to her exhibition will "walk away with the urge to just create – try something new or just fall in love with being creative again."

"As a graphic designer, concept is everything. Usually, we are great with thinking in the third degree but sometimes

it's nice to get back to the basics and just create something to create! So that's what I'm hoping visitors can get from my exhibition," Frazer said.

Frazer's Polaroid exhibit is open at the Sterling College Art Center Gallery, 306 West Washington, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm weekdays through April 19. Frazer will be on hand for the Artist Talk and Reception on Friday, April 5 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the Gallery. There is no charge for the exhibition or the Artist Talk/Reception.

Sterling College is a Christ-centered, four-year college located in Sterling, Kansas, with a mission to develop creative and thoughtful leaders who understand a maturing Christian faith. For more information, visit [www.sterling.edu](http://www.sterling.edu).

