

The Cunningham Courier

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March 28, 2024
 Volume 34 Number 13



It's a Family Affair



Ty Schultz, a fifth grader at Cunningham Grade School, is shown on the left, shaking hands with Kansas Governor Laura Kelly. During spring break, Ty paged for his grandpa, Representative Joe Seiwert. Pictured above in the back row, is Everett Schultz, Ty's other grandpa, who led the prayer at the opening of the session on the day Ty was there; his dad, Tim Schultz, his mom, Barbara (Seiwert) Schultz and his Grandpa Joe Seiwert who led the flag salute after the prayer.

Approved Minutes from February City Council Meeting

February 26, 2024

The Cunningham City Council met in a regular session on Monday, February 26, 2024 at City Hall, 119 N. Main St.

Present were Mayor, Aaron Murphy; Council Members: Jason Ruckle, Craig Woodard, Bart Ricke, and Tim Schultz; City Attorney, Greg Graffman; City Superintendent, Mesa Sallee; and City Clerk, Molly Morgan.

Guests present: Jackie Ruckle, Property Officer; Leslie Schrag, Roberta Kobbe, Leah Lawrence, Tony Grant, Joan Ellefson, Jamie Hower, and Scott Strong.

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

Motion by Schultz, second by Woodard, to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried, 4/0.

Motion by Ruckle, second by Schultz, to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2024 meeting as written. Motion carried, 4/0.

Hearing for SU 24-01 – Special Use requested to establish a shipping container as a storage facility in the R-1 Residential District at 410 NW 170 Avenue. Following Form ZA-8A, Checklist for Consideration of a Special Use Case, Mayor Murphy opened the hearing at 6:33 p.m. The Special Use Report is attached to these minutes. No public comment. Motion by Ruckle, second by Woodard, to adopt the findings and factors and recommendation of the Planning Commission on Case No. 24-01 and approve the use of a shipping container as a storage facility at the proposed location (Southeast corner of lagoon property) with the tree row as a screen. Motion carried, 4/0. Mayor Murphy closed the hearing at 6:38.

Public Comments and Communications – No public comments.

Leslie Schrag, City of Kingman Economic Development – Leslie requested the location of the proposed EPIC project statue. Consensus of the Governing Body was to put the statue on the south side of Lion's Park on the

north side of the walking path.

Strong's Insurance – Scott Strong reported many changes with EMC's insurance policy including information on conditional renewals. Agent Jamie Hower submitted a quote from Continental Western Group. The Governing Body will make a final decision at the March 25th Council meeting.

Maguire Iron – Regional Manager, Tony Grant, gave the Governing Body background information on Maguire Iron. Joan Ellefson gave the inspection report for the water tower. The Governing Body will review the information given in the report and maintenance agreement options.

Farmer's Market – Governing Body discussed using the vacant lot at 106 N Main for a social meeting place and farmer's market.

Personnel Policy Update – Motion by Schultz, second by Woodard, to add the following paid holidays to the personnel policy: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, third Monday of January; President's Day, third Monday of February; Juneteenth Day, June 19th; and Columbus Day, second Monday in October. Motion carried, 4/0.

Procurement Policy – Council reviewed a sample procurement policy. They requested more information from Cities that are approximately the same size as Cunningham.

Liter Avenue – The Spring cycle of the Cost Share Program (KDOT) has opened. The City Clerk attended the informational webinar regarding applications. Mr. Graffman confirmed that engineering reports would be beneficial to the grant application, but would be costly. The City Clerk reported that some phone calls for new estimates were made, but no calls had been returned. T & R Excavating submitted a quote to grind millings to make maintenance easier. It was the consensus of the Council to invite the public to the next meeting to present options at that time.

Mower – At the end of the mowing season last fall, the front deck mower engine broke down and is not repairable. Consensus of the Council to have Mesa begin searching for a new mower.

Lead Service Line Inventory – Materials for mailing information about the LSLI were ordered from Taylor

Printing. At this time Mesa and Molly will begin collecting the data requested by the EPA. KDHE and KRWA have notified municipalities that the deadline to submit inventory is October of 2024.

Property Officer – Jackie Ruckle reported there were a few properties who would be served due to non-compliance.

Planning & Zoning Report – Motion by Ruckle, second by Woodard, to approve building permit 24-01 for a house on existing foundation at 320 S Douglas. Motion carried, 4/0.

Motion by Woodard, second by Schultz, to approve a building permit for a front yard iron fence and a backyard vinyl fence at 411 N Lincoln. Motion carried, 4/0.

Maintenance Report – Mesa gave the report. *Eight leaks were addressed with residents in February. *The Sensaphone battery was replaced. *The fuel pump on the John Deere tractor was replaced. *Water Loss Report has been completed and filed with the KDHE. *Water meter pits near North Dresden will be lowered.

Motion by Ruckle, second by Ricke, to approve Estimate #1197 from T&R Excavating in the amount of \$2815.00 to repair the alley behind the Cunningham Clinic and Fitzsimmon's Insurance. Motion carried, 4/0.

Motion by Woodard, second by Schultz, to approve Estimate #1198 from T&R Excavating in the amount of \$5055.00 to repair the road by the sewer plant to the lagoons. Motion carried, 4/0.

Motion by Ricke, second by Ruckle, to approve Estimate #1199 from T&R Excavating in the amount of \$922.00 to repair the north driveway at the fire station. Motion carried, 4/0.

Financial Report – Motion by Ruckle, second by Woodard, to set up auto-pay at \$59.00 monthly on the Flint Hills Web Design account. Motion carried, 4/0.

Motion by Woodard, second by Ricke, to accept the financial report and pay the bills as presented. Motion carried, 4/0.

Adjournment – Motion by Ricke, second by Ruckle, to adjourn. Motion carried, 4/0. Mayor Murphy adjourned the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

CPL Storytime Easter Fun



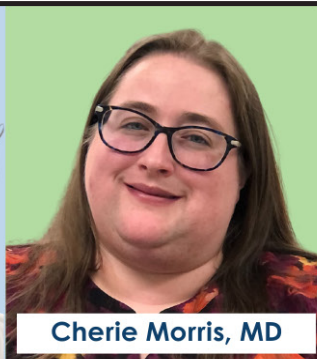
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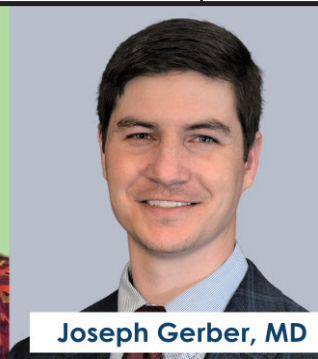
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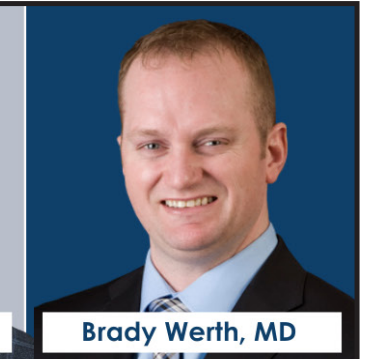
Erin Baxa, MD



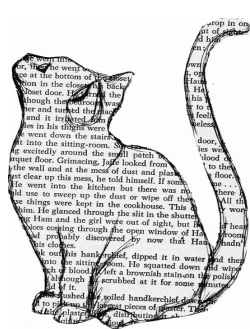
Cherie Morris, MD



Joseph Gerber, MD



Brady Werth, MD



Meanderings

I STILL have not been able to find one Earl Cooper. The first time I found a "Cooper" was in the January 22, 1909 edition of The Clipper. Henry was visiting relatives in Oklahoma. And then there was Mason Cooper. I read in January and February of that year, Mason traded his driving team, harness and buggy to Faunes Wilson, and he also helped Roy Higgins

shuck corn. A month after trading in his team and buggy, the paper stated that Mason 'is going to Wichita for the purpose of studying music and learning to sing.' HOWEVER, he didn't go, or didn't get far or didn't stay long because the end of March he was helping Roy Higgins "move J. Wilkersons barn from his lot in the north part of town to his place south of town". He and Roy also 'delivered some of the finest hogs to town we have seen for some time, in they were so fine that 12 in each wagon made no load whatever.' Then there was no mention of him until June of 1911 when he was part of a crowd who 'serenaded Cecil and Bessie Dodson" on a Monday night.

February 16, 1912, there was this bit: "Mr. Mason Cooper and Miss Katy Streller were united in marriage last Tuesday. The groom is a hustling young farmer living south of town and the bride is the (?) teacher at West Point. The Clipper joins with many friends n wish of a life of happiness to them." Then there were bits and pieces about Mrs. Mason Cooper and her social life. In February of 1913, "Mason Cooper moved onto the farm vacated by Shub Hayworth." In '16, I learned a bit more about this man. 'J.T. Spickard and wife went to Calista for a three or four days' visit with Mrs. Spickard's son, Mason Cooper and family.' And this is the last

information I could find about Mason Cooper, EXCEPT for August '12 when he attended a family reunion at the J.T. Spickard home. Those present were "Albert and Henry Cooper, Mason Cooper and wife and M.A. Neher and family. A fine dinner was enjoyed at noon and in the afternoon ice cream was served.' ** Now there was also that Henry Cooper, while Mason was doing his barn moving and hog hauling in April '09, Henry was with Jess Deweese 'hauling hay from the river.' Seven years later, in 1916, Bert Kuykendall, Elmer Loomis, Lee Garrison, and Henry Cooper drove to Kingman 'to witness a mat contest'. And other those three mentions of Henry, there

was nothing. WHICH cause me to wonder at these two bits of information. Feb. 1910: "Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Harris spent two or three days visiting the family of Mr. Cooper, near Nashville." (this couldn't have been Mason because he didn't get married until 1912.) BUT then.... In March of 1913, 'Messrs. Cooper and Marvin Wesner left Tuesday morning for San Francisco, California, where they intend to make their future home.' (I wonder if Henry went, but returned, as he had attended that 'mat' contest in 1916.) ** And the family grows: October of 1912, a Miss Lottie Cooper 'is no longer working at the

telephone office.' And in 1914, she went to Calista 'Wednesday morning to visit her brother Mason Cooper a few days.' Two years later 'Lydia Fox spent Friday night with Dora Cooper and attended the box supper' and then 'Dora Cooper spent the weekend with Lidia Fox.' The newspaper also mentioned 'a leap year box supper given at the opera house by the A.O.U.W. Lodge was a fair success and a dandy good time enjoyed.' I will continue this historical meandering next week. Always reading, and currently reading, 'Stitches' by Glen Huser, Roberta



Tallgrass and Tumbleweeds by Gaille Pike

Big Babies Dear Readers, The weather rollercoaster this past week hasn't bothered me all that much because this is not my first Kansas Spring. Even though Mother Nature has had a few tricks up sleeve (like an oddball wind from the northeast), I've had layers handy to pull on (or off.) So I'm not concerned about me and my

cats are equally adept in handling whatever March weather comes our way. Yet, I've watched the local TV weather reports each night as if they mean life or death...because I'm responsible for ducks and chicks who are sensitive to drops in temperature. Sure, they've got heat lamps. And I know the chicks stay toasty in their brooder. But the ducks had to be moved to the BIG HOUSE this week, They doing fine in the coop and seem ALOT happier. But I fret about them every night. And now the meteorologists say we may get snow...

what do these guys (and gals) REALLY know? I asked the internet today how often these guys and gals who study weather for years are right. And the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) gave them an "A" or a "B." In fairness, that's not EXACTLY what's posted on the NOAA website. But it does state that five-to-seven day forecasts are reliable and that it's POSSIBLE to accurately predict the weather for the next week, 80-90% of the time. That didn't make me feel any better because ornithologists

gave the same percentages that ducklings will be fine in a brooder for six weeks. Our Pekins and Rouens outgrew theirs in four days. Everybody everywhere says ducklings grow quickly. But when you're talking about speed, there's regular "fast" and Mach I - break-the-sound-barrier FAST. The speed with which our ducks have grown makes sprinter Usain Bolt look slow. I swear they get bigger by the hour, not just taller and longer, but bigger all around. Their legs keep getting thicker and their

webbed feet wider. To my knowledge, we did not buy biologically engineered or enhanced birds, nor is the non-medicated starter crumble we feed them imported from Bikini Atoll. However, they were hatched in the Show Me Mutants state, so perhaps they were exposed to radioactive ooze at birth. Just kidding, Missourians. But then again they are still babies. If they start showing an interest in turtles, Japanese martial arts or fighting crime when they hit adolescence, I may not think any of this is funny.

I'm not REALLY worried that my ducks are genetic freaks of nature or that, as some of my friends fear, they'll grow up with personality disorders caused by my singing. I just want to them to grow up. Thus, I must rely on meteorologists, at least until both the ducks and chicks outgrow their natal downs, to know when to turn the heat lamps up. Until next week—keep your eyes on the stars and your back to the wind.



The Great Eclipse – A Good Time for Earthlings

"That's one thing Earthlings might learn to do, if they tried hard enough: Ignore the awful times and concentrate on the good ones." Kurt Vonnegut Some will say that at present we are living in awful times (I would disagree). Many are stressed by everything from societal unrest to the high price

of eggs, and more. We have wars and rumors of wars, stomach churning political discord, crime in our streets, and trouble galore. But I would argue that even given the problems of this current world, now, right now, is a very good time to be loitering here on planet Earth, especially if you reside in the Texas Hill Country or thereabouts. For we are soon to have a front row seat for one of the greatest astronomical shows the universe has to offer. It promises to be spectacular! On Monday, April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse will be visible across a significant portion of North America. A solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes between the Earth and the sun, obstructing our view. When the moon's appar-

ent diameter is larger than the sun's, a total solar eclipse occurs. In a total solar eclipse, the moon blocks all direct sunlight, and the day is turned into darkness. Those who have encountered this say it is an emotional experience, something of almost Biblical proportions. In the U.S. totality will be visible on a path from Texas to Maine. The partial phase phenomenon is the time leading up to totality and immediately afterwards. This timeline is divided into contact points, labeled C1, C2, C3, and C4. C1 is first contact. This is when the moon first takes a bite out of the sun. C2, or second contact, is when totality starts, and the moon completely covers the sun. This will last approxi-

mately 3-4 minutes. C3 is when the moon begins to move off the sun and daylight returns. C4 is reached when the moon completely moves off the sun. Totality takes place between C2 and C3. It is important to note that during the partial phases of the eclipse it is not safe to look at the sun without protective glasses. If you look at the partial phases of the eclipse without safety glasses, you'll burn your eyes out! Be ready and obtain your viewing glasses ahead of time. To protect your eyes and be safe, glasses must be ISO certified and no more than three years old. Look for ISO # 12312-2 safety rating which should be printed on the side of your glasses. Glasses must be worn during all the partial phases of

the eclipse. It is safe however to remove them during totality, when the moon completely covers the sun, and it is dark. You will want to experience darkness with your own eyes. If you are afield, or in a natural environment, pay attention to your surroundings as the eclipse takes place. Listen for the sound of crickets. They will begin singing about 15 minutes prior to totality. As the sky darkens, you might notice birds flying to roost. If you have chickens, observe their behavior. They will prepare for bed. Notice shadows on the ground. It is a good idea to bring a sheet or white piece of cardboard to place on the ground. Shadow bands or shadow snakes will be visible, especially after C3, when

the moon moves away from the sun. Of special interest is something called the Purkinje Effect. During the eclipse, the color sensitivity of your eyes changes and you will notice that you see colors differently. Try wearing bright colors in order to observe this. This Great North American Total Solar Eclipse promises an amazing cosmic experience for those of us who will protect our eyes and wade outdoors. For many, it may prove to be the experience of a lifetime. It is surely something that you don't want to miss. For all of us Earthlings, this promises to be a good time. © 2024 Jody Dyer typewriterweekly.com

Poetry From Daily Life

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

Poetry from Daily Life: Everyone understands a kitchen drawer

By Bob Stephens This week's guest on "Poetry from Daily Life" is Bob Stephens, who lives in Springfield. He is a man of many talents and writing poetry is one of them. In the past two years Bob has combined his passion for poetry with his organizational skills to form The Bards of Queen City, a group of local poets, and book them to give poetry readings all over town, in April (National Poetry Month) and any other time an audience gathers. ~ David L. Harrison Starting with the mundane, poems can bring insight When David L. Harrison asked a number of us to write a column about "Poetry from Daily Life," I thought of Harry Bliss' New Yorker cartoon: He draws a lady introducing her son as a poet. The folks meeting him have thought bubbles, but no words: "A

poet? What do I say? I got nothing." Another is thinking "Thank God he's not our son," while a third is thinking, "Should I tell him Ben and Jerry's is hiring?" Sadly, that's the reaction many of us have to the word poetry. Our experiences with poetry in our high schools have been almost universally negative — to the point where we actively try to avoid it. We gag and cover our ears as we run from it. It doesn't have to be that way. Last week, a friend sent a note saying, "I love it that every time I have taken people who were pretty hesitant to attend a 'poetry reading' and they then walk away wanting to know when the next one is." While a lot of classical poetry is drawn from the major, over-arching themes of religion, love, war, god, and the end of the world, some of the most effective poems are about common, everyday topics. A poem I wrote that gets the most nods and smiles of recognition is entitled simply, "The Kitchen Drawer." It is about a very mundane topic that almost everyone can identify with. My favorite poem by a colleague is entitled "I Once Wrote the Word Apocalypse On a Railroad Tunnel." She was immediately outed as the graffiti artist because she was the only person in the school

who could spell the word "apocalypse." The poem was ultimately about two kids who had lost their dog — a not uncommon sort of apocalypse. In today's modern, fast-paced society, the classical forms of poetry we had to read in school (I'm looking at you, iambic pentameter!) have given way to poetry that uses natural rhythms of language as well as common, everyday topics. A friend wrote a poem about finding a dead gnat in her water glass. I wrote one about a bird flying into the windshield of my car. Another friend wrote about a wasp getting into a school bus. Common, everyday occurrences become appropriate and fascinating topics for poetry. Yes, poets write about love, about loss, about death, but poetry from daily life begins with some common occurrence and then morphs into the deeper discussions that make us human, that lead us to some type of insight, and, yes, even can cause us to question our own humanity. Bob Stephens is a former mayor who has previously authored two books of essays, published a poetry chapbook, co-authored a book of poetry with Lora Knight, and edited a poetry anthology by the Bards of Queen City – Springfield, Missouri. He's at work on a second anthology by the Bards of Queen City.

Community Bulletin Board

Thursday, March 28 JH Track at Skyline	Tuesday, April 2 Forensics at South Barber ***
Friday, March 29 Good Friday No School	Lions Club
Saturday, March 30 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Lions Club Breakfast at Community Center ***	Wednesday, April 3 NO SCHOOL JH HOPL Music Contest at Cunningham
10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt at the Football Field	Thursday, April 4 JH Track at Pretty Prairie ***
Sunday, March 31 Easter Sunday	HS Track at Pretty Prairie
Monday, April 1st JH Scholar's Bowl at Stafford	Friday, April 5 JH and HS Cheer Tryouts

The Community Calendar is sponsored by



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Libraries


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

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

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

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

C.H.S. Community Service Day
Friday, April 12, 2024
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Please call the school office if you have jobs the students to help you with.
620-298-2473



Spaghetti Dinner Served
St. John Lutheran Church
Nashville, KS
Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser
Saturday, April 13, 2024
5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

MENU
Classic Spaghetti
Bread, Salads, and Desserts
Carry-Outs Available
Free Will Offering
All proceeds will benefit St. John's Cemetery maintenance.



Upcoming Auctions
Saturday, March 30, 2024
Consignment Farm Equipment Auction
Carter Barker Corner, just east of Pratt 1 mile. 10:30 AM

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

Wednesday, April 3, 2024 - Farm Equipment/Food Plot Machinery Auction

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

107 NE State Road 61, Pratt, Kansas, 67124
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"But progress is always dangerous, isn't it? Most of the time, walls don't get dismantled brick by brick. Someone has to crash through them."
— Cristin Terrill,
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Kingman Historic Theatre
237 N. Main in Kingman
(620) 532-1253
<http://www.kingmantheatre.org/>

March 29 - 30

**Ghostbusters:
Frozen Empire**

All Seats are \$3.00 (cash or local check only)
Showtimes:
Friday 7:30 p.m.
No show on Easter Sunday

Rated PG-13

Thank YOU for supporting YOUR Kingman Historic Theatre.

Rick's Journey

By Marlene Custer
Rick reached for another lego and snapped it in place. His sister, Mary Jane, slipped into the room. She sat down beside him, then grabbed one of the colorful blocks. "Leave me alone!" He shouted. "Mom! Mary Jane is bugging me again!"

Recess was Rick's favorite part of the school day. He dribbled the bas-

ketball toward the elevated hoop, took his stance, and eyed his target. Just as he started to release the ball, the class bully swept by and knocked the ball from Rick's hand. "Leave me alone," Rick angrily spit out. But the bully was across the playground. The bell sounded and Rick had only enough time to retrieve the ball, and head back to the classroom.

Rick had been dating a special young lady.

He had conscientiously earned enough money to take her to her favorite restaurant for dinner. But alas, some of his friends were seated at a nearby table. Being normal teenage boys, they resorted to teasing Rick and his date. In exasperation, Rick finally pleaded, "You've had your fun—now leave me alone!"

It was a relief to be home following a busy day at the office. However, two little boys

had been waiting all day for him to get home. Excitedly they called out, "Daddy, come play ball with us."
Sinking into his favorite chair, Rick bargained, "Leave me alone until after supper. Then we will have a game of catch in the backyard."

Years passed. Life had been relatively good for Rick. But now he was watching his wife, ravished with cancer,

slip away. In spite of having a strong faith in God, he was struggling. He looked at his loving, supporting family, standing around the bed, and solemnly requested, "Please, leave me alone with her for a few minutes."

It was now no longer practical for Rick to live alone. His family had had that gut-wrenching conversation with him about where his health and safety needs could

be best cared for. He had long ago downsized his possessions. Now, following the sale of his house, he was moving into a small Assisted Living apartment. His emotions were raw as the last of his family prepared to depart. Losing the battle to be brave; a lone tear slipped down his cheek as he choked out, "Don't leave me alone."

Amen

By Donna Powers
Scene 1: The Boss' office

MR. WHITMAN: Hello, Jeremy. It's good to see you, son.
JEREMY: Thank you, Mr. Whitman. What can I do for you?
MR. WHITMAN: Listen, son. I'll get right to the point. I owe you an amends.
JEREMY: You owe me an "amen", Mr. Whitman?
MR. WHITMAN: Ha! Not an "amen," son. An amends. Look, son, I know it's no secret to anyone here I had me a doozy of a drinking problem, last year. But, that ain't my problem no more, son. See, I'm going to AA now.
JEREMY: U m , wow. If you say so, Mr.

Whitman. I mean ... that's your business. Why would you tell me that?
MR. WHITMAN: Well, hey, son. I can see you're uncomfortable. But part of AA means we haveta make amends to people we have done wrong. And I wronged you, son.
JEREMY: You... wronged... me?
MR. WHITMAN: Well, c'mon, Jeremy. I know you remember two years ago when you and my nephew Lemuel was up for the same promotion.
JEREMY: Well, yes. I remember that. You promoted Lemuel. He's your nephew, and that's your right. You're the boss and you had the right to promote whoever you thought of as the best person.
MR. WHITMAN:

Well, son, you're right. But I didn't do that. I knew you was the better man for the job, but I listened to my gosh darned sister-in-law, and promoted Lemuel.
JEREMY: Well, Mr. Whitman, like I said; it was your right to promote him.
MR. WHITMAN: Well, look, son. It wasn't just the promotion. I said some things to you that day that were mean-spirited. So, I owe you an amends. Those things weren't true, and I am sorry I said them.
JEREMY: Well, you don't owe me an explanation, Mr. Whitman. I forgot all about that stuff. It's all fine. Is that all, sir?
MR. WHITMAN: Why, no, son. Looky here: I know what everyone's been saying about Lemuel these two years.

So, I know everyone out there will be glad to know Lemuel's gonna be transferred to the Memphis office, next month. And when he does, I want you to take the job you shoulda had two years ago. Whaddya say, son?
JEREMY: Umm... wow, Mr. Whitman. Wow. Thank you. I mean... are you sure?
MR. WHITMAN: My gosh, son. Sure, I'm sure. I shoulda done this two years ago. You deserve it. You'll do a great job. I'll announce it this afternoon. Now, go on back to work, son.
JEREMY: Thank you, Mr. Whitman.

SCENE TWO – Outside the Main Doors
JEREMY: (to the audience, as a monologue) When I stepped out of Mr. Whitman's office,

I rushed down the hall until I could stand outside here for a minute. I had to catch my breath because I can't believe this. Of course, I remembered two years ago. Mr. Whitman was right. I did deserve that promotion.
Oh, I'd been so angry. Just madder than a wet hen, as Mr. Whitman would say. And I vowed to get even. Nobody knew, but I've been started skimming from the proceeds each month. Just a little at a time... but after two years it was a pretty nice piece of change.
Mr. Whitman didn't know. He couldn't know. But he had been so honest with me. So real. He hadn't had to explain his reasons.... yet, he did. Even though he couldn't know what I'd done, I felt humbled. For the

first time in the two years since that day, I felt guilty about my actions.
Look: I'll stop taking the money. Yes... I'll stop. That's what I'll do. I'll take the job I deserve, and put it back, a little at a time. He doesn't have to know....
Does he?
Oh, gosh. Don't ask me why, but I know what I have to do.

SCENE 3: The Boss' office
Mr. Whitman, excuse me. I need to talk to you again, please.
Why, sure, son! What is it?
I'm... Mr. Whitman... I'm afraid I owe you an "amen."

A Little Quiz

By Verna Cole Mitchell
Match what is said to the identity below. Though some might seem to fit several places, there is one correct answer for each question.
1. Leave the dishes on the table. I'll clean up the kitchen.
2. Leave me alone. Go away and don't bother me.
3. Leave your pencils on your desks.
4. Don't leave me behind. I want to go with you.
5. I will never leave you nor forsake you.
6. Leave your name and number.
7. Leave your burdens with the Lord.
8. Don't leave your muddy footprints where I just mopped!
9. Leave the nightlight on.
10. I will never leave you now forsake you.
11. Leave your troubles on the doorstep.
12. Leave your father and mother and cleave to your wife.
13. Leave me some cookies.

- A. Grumpy teenager
- B. Teacher
- C. Fearful child
- D. Song
- E. Good daughter
- F. Jesus
- G. Little sister
- H. Teacher
- I. Santa Claus
- J. Psalms
- K. Answering machine
- L. Genesis
- M. Mom

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 high school junior class presented the play, “And Home Came Ted,” to a capacity crowd last Thursday evening in the High School Auditorium. Members of the cast included James Hoagland, Carrie Poland, Clara Probst, Alva Poland, Marion Stanton, Curtis Caywood, Aaron Ball, Pauline Stanley, Joe Pelzl, Rozetta Kasterke, Elsie Crow, and Cecil Kasterke.

A Santa Fe Railroad work crew unloaded seventeen carloads of new ties here this week in preparation for re-building the Kingman-to-Pratt section of the railroad with heavier rails.

1934

March 30 – Production reports reveal that the oil wells in the Cunningham Oil and Gas Field are producing about one thousand barrels of crude oil daily, according to Paul Confer, Production Department Clerk.

1939

March 31 – Not much excitement or interest is being generated in the coming city election. Only one ticket, filed by the Women’s Club of Cunningham, will appear on the ballot, and it contains only two names different from the list of present officials. Candidates will be A. I. Jones, Mayor; Mason Wetherall, Police Judge; and Carde Cannon, Bedford Taylor, Frank Doty, Glenn Patton, and Sherman Kincheloe. Mr. Wetherall is replacing Norman Hart, and Bedford Taylor will replace Wayne DeLair.

Formal dedication services were held last Friday at the new Pratt Junior College in Pratt.

1949

April 1– The Liberal Party made it’s entrance in the city election race last Friday afternoon, making the third political party to appear on the ballot. Liberal Party candidates are Donald Thompson, Mayor; Douglas Miller, Police Judge; and Glenn Patton, Floren Rose, Mark White, James Luce, and Carlos Cannon, Councilmen. Independent Party candidates include Frank Doty, Mayor; Faunnes Wilson, Joe Probst, and Raymond Zrubek, Councilmen. Progressive Party candidates are Gus Huhman, Mayor; and Herman Rohling, Donald Huhman, Lawrence Ebenkamp, Albert Wood, and Elmer Steffen, Councilmen

1954

- Trade at Home
- Save at Home
- Butter Nut Coffee, lb., \$1.05
- Cabbage, lb., 5c
- Lettuce, head, 15c
- No. 1 Potatoes, 10 lb., 29c
- Velveeta Cheese, 2 lb. box, 89c
- All, 10 lb., \$2.25
- Charimin Toilet Tissue, 4 rolls, with coupon, 29c
- Sunshine Marshmallows, 8 oz. pkg, 19c
- Hoagland Market

1959

April 2 – The annual Spelling Bee for Kingman County grade school students was held in Kingman Wednesday. Twenty-six students, including two from Cunningham, participated in the spelling contest.

Gene Patton won first place, and Connie Rose finished in ninth place. By winning first place, Gene will go to Topeka, April 25, to compete in the State Spelling Bee.

In a business transaction last Friday, Mrs. Mildred Cannon sold the Cannon Variety Store to Mr. and Mrs. Victor Rohling.

Mr. and Mrs. Rohling assumed the management of the store the first of this week.

Column One
By Editor Bill Bradley

The generous nature of Mrs. Frank Allbritten was once again manifested this week in the form of a living memorial to the Cunningham Methodist Church. Mrs. Allbritten gave the church a beautiful new Steinway grand piano which was placed in the church sanctuary, Wednesday afternoon.

1964

April 2
Column One
By Editor Bill Bradley
“You look happy tonight, my dear,” said the wife

of a country editor as he sat down to supper. “Did you have a stroke of good fortune today?”

“I sure did,” replied the editor. “Jim Jones, who hasn’t paid his subscription in 10 years, came in today and stopped his paper.”

The High School Kay Club, under the supervision of Merrell Folsom, and with the cooperation of the City Council, is painting red safety zones around the fire hydrants, stop signs, and no-parking zones around town.

1969

April 3 – The City of Cunningham Planning Commission, recently appointed by the City Council, is at work developing a plan for the entire community to further economic, social, and cultural development.

Committees have been chosen to brainstorm and gather ideas. They include Recreation, Kent Williamson, Chairman; Housing, Mrs. Pauline Leiter, Chairman; Industrial Development, Loren Cooley, Chairman; Streets and Utilities Improvement, Harry DeArmond, Chairman; Park and City Improvement, Mrs. Dean Mantooth, Chairman; and Publicity, Dan Cusenbary, Chairman.

Any citizen who has an idea for community development is invited to present it to one of the above chairmen or to Milton Brooks, Chairman of the City Planning Commission.

One hundred and eleven voters, a big turnout for an off-election year and probably a record turnout for a blank ballot, cast their votes in the biannual city election in Cunningham, Tuesday.

The voters re-elected incumbent Mayor, Francis Dafforn, to his fifth two-year term, and two incumbent Councilmen, Ivan Cain and Floren (Shorty) Rose, and chose three new Councilmen, Marion Lackey, George Urban, and Joe Rohling.

Column One
By Editor Bill Bradley

Our hat is off to the election board in Cunningham at Tuesday’s City Election. In pretty quick counting time they determined a Mayor, among 12 write-in candidates, and five Councilmen, among the 47 write-in candidates.

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

Publisher: Charles G. Barnes

1974

April 4 - Cory Shane is the name of the new son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lee Stark of Arvada, Colorado. He was born March 12 and weighed seven pounds, seven ounces. Mrs. Stark is the former Jill Rose, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Rose of Cunningham. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stark of Inman.

Great grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Roland Dixon of Little River, Mr. and Mrs. Davis Stark of Lakin, Missouri and Mr. and Mrs. Irl Abbey of Cunningham.

Tuesday evening, April 2, Mr. and Mrs. James Patton honored their daughter, Susie, on her fifth birthday. Those present for the celebration were Mr. and Mrs. Art Patton of Kingman and Mrs. Bonnie Patton of Cunningham. After the party home movies were shown.

Reverend and Mrs. Henry Dutcher of Manhattan were Saturday overnight guests of Mrs. Bill Bradley. The Dutchers were here to attend Dedication Services at the United Methodist Church Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Cooley visited Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bailey, Aleisha and Ronnie in Greensburg on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Jarmer and Eddie visited in Salina Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Tom Jarmer.

Mr. and Mrs. Danny Theis moved Saturday into the Joe Theis property in the south part of town, recently vacated by the Dennis Theis family.

The (school) board gave it authority to raise employee salaries approximately 5 percent and instructed the superintendent to begin offering contracts for employment in the near future.

The winner of the County Spelling BEee is Miss Karen Fischer, an eighth grader of St. Leo School. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Fischer of St. Leo. The second runner up is Miss Karen Simon, a seventh grader from St. Leo School. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Simon of St. Leo, and the third runner up was Connie Youngers, from St. Patrick’s School, Grade 8, at Kingman. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Youngers of Kingman.

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)**

1979

April 5 – Karl Werner of Zenda won over Loretta Holcomb by a narrow margin in the bid for U.S.D. 332, position 7.

The Pratt County voters made the difference in the final tabulations. Norman Schnittker was unopposed for position 1 and Jack Crick won over Rex Moore by a margin of 57 votes. Larry Ruckle received 89 votes for mayor with write-in Ivan Cain receiving 66 votes. Those elected to the city council of Cunningham were Eva Cundiff, Larry Lubbers, Monte Rose, Mike Scripsick, and Curt Rakestraw.

In the annual Kingman County Spelling held at St. Leo on Saturday, March 31, Lori Jarmer of St. Leo and a seventh grader was declared champion.

On Wednesday, March 28, the Cunningham Senior Government class attended the Pratt Social Science Congress at Pratt Junior College. Nineteen students participated in the practice legislative session. Other schools attending were Hoisington, Dodge City, Asland, Wichita South, Skyline and Pretty Prairie. Eleven students – Terri Dupee, Annette Freund, Leah Eck, Karen Cornelius, Lori Rohr, Mary Depenbusch, Melva Oller, Roberta Thimesch, Joe Strohl, Chris Meyers, and Richard Cain participated as members of the House of Representatives. Terri was elected by the Republican Party in the House as the majority whip who is in charge of pushing party legislation through the vote.

Melva Oller was appointed as the chairperson for the Foreign Affairs Committee. Berry Bortz and Kevin Huffman served as Senators. Berry was elected the majority leader of the Senate Republicans. Karen Simon and Ronda Simon served as lobbyists trying to push the bills introduced by our delegates through the back corridors of Congress. Bill Osner, Tim Mertens, Dale Panek, Kris Moore, and Tom Crawford watched the proceedings from the gallery and added ‘strong-arm’ tactics when that type of lobbying was necessary.

What this session is about is to education students in the operation of diplomacy, compromise and knowledge used in the American legislative process.

Our delegation introduced four bills: one dealing with a commemorative coin for the 1980 Olympics; second a bill restricting the power of the President in invoking price controls; third, a bill to legalize prostitution for tax purposes and an attempt to stop the practice by government regulation and red tape; and last, a bill to categorize underground water as a mineral owned by the landowner the same as gas, oil and coal. The last bill was the most successful but was vetoed by the President.

1984

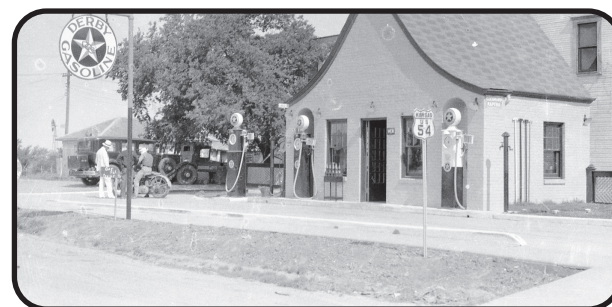
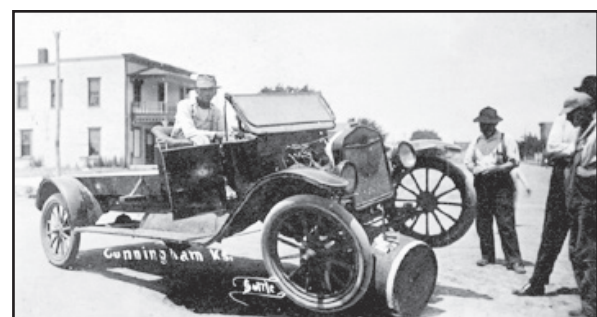
April 5 - Twenty-two local Cub Scouts competed in their annual Pinewood Derby Tuesday evening at the Community Center. The winners of the Tiger Cub Derby were: 1st Place Travis Deviney; 2nd place Eric Webster; 3rd Place Neil Campbell.

Winners of the Cub Scout division were: 1st Place Rusty Ormiston; 2nd Place Aaron Wiesender; 3rd Place Nathan Zongker

Winners of the Outlaw Division Derby were: 1st Place Rusty Ormiston; 2nd Place Justin Scripsick; 3rd Place Aaron Wiesender.

Winners of the best design were: 1st Place Heath Webster; 2nd Place Jeremy Lynch; 3rd Place, Jason Zimmerman.

The Kingman County Spelling Bee, hosted by Melvin Ormiston, was held at the Cunningham Gymnasium Saturday, march 30. Winner of the first place trophy in Division A was Mark Neises, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Neises, R.R. #1. Nashville. Mark is a 6th grade student at St. Leo Elementary School is the 1984 Kingman County Champion.



- WANTED -
*Old Photos for Our Community
Album*
Call (620) 298-2659 or email
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to 320 North Stadium Street,
Cunningham, KS 67035

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and an equal opportunity provider

Minutes from the Kingman County Commission

Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. March 18, 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; Jordon Smith,

INAalert.

Online Visitors: User 01; Caller 01; Shanna Henry; Dale; DE and Heather

Staff: Ron Leroux, Noxious Weed Director; Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director; LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer; Sheriff Brent Wood; Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse and Charles Arensdorf, Public Works 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 was surprised to see that he was quoted in the paper and thanked Bob Morris.

Ron Leroux, Noxious Weed Director was in with the Noxious Weed agreement with the State for the spraying of chemicals.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the agreement for Spraying the State right-of ways at the same rates as 2023. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Leroux asked the Commissioners if they

would like for him to do the Household Hazardous Waste pickup day during the City Cleanup week.

Commissioners agreed to have him do a Household Hazardous Waste pickup day to help with that part of the cleanup.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session with Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 8:42 a.m. 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 9:02 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was ap-

proved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:02 a.m. with no decision made.

Chairman Henning read correspondence received from KCCA for 2024 dues.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to pay membership dues for KCCA 2024 in the amount of \$365.16. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning read correspondence received from the company that has done the Economic

Development website with the Commissioners. MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to have the Economic Development website information put on the County Website. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners signed abatements.

Stan Goetz, was in with two new hires for the 911/Dispatch office.

Commissioners signed the new hire forms.

LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer was in to review the February financials with the Commissioners.

Ms. Stegman had a list (con't on page 9)

It's fun to share laughter with your...

... family and friends. Tell them a joke.



Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com

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Kids: color stuff in!

April Fools' Day and Fun!



April is a month of surprises. People play pranks while enjoying its first day - April Fools' Day! Clouds pop up and rain down on us. Breezes tug and break kite strings. Kites float quickly away or spiral down and crash! Fish pull on fishing lines and then swim away. Hey...are they laughing? Well, so shall we!

Ask someone with a good sense of humor to work with you to finish my puzzles!

- The _____ day of April is known as April Fools' Day.
- It is a day of fun. People like to play jokes and _____.
- Make sure that any pranks you might pull are _____.
- This fun day used to be called "All Fool's Day" and is thought to have started in _____ a long time ago.
- In those times, the date of the New Year was March 21st. People had _____ and fun for about a week, right through the last day of the celebration, April 1st. On that day people would visit and exchange gifts.
- In the 16th century (1500s) a new _____ was adopted and March 21st was no longer the beginning of the New Year. This meant that April 1st was no longer the day to visit others and exchange gifts.
- _____ traveled slowly and some people still celebrated on April 1st.
- Some people didn't like _____ and they refused to follow the new calendar.
- People who clung to the old ways were called "April _____" by others.
- In some areas, on April 1st, you might hear people call "Poisson d'Avril"! They have fooled someone and are calling that person an "April _____."
- This means that the person who was fooled "took the bait" and was easily _____, like a fish.
- April Fools' Day is for fun and small tricks that hurt no one. It is a time to share _____.

I love to make people laugh!

But, I never laugh at people.

My playful trick on Forest is to put this sign on his bedroom door!



Only 2 letters are needed to finish spelling these fun words. Can you figure out which 2?

crossword puzzle grid with words: caught, laughter, France, pranks, first, news, calendar, parties, change, fish, wet paint

- pr_n_s
- tric_
- g_g
- jo_e
- _ntic

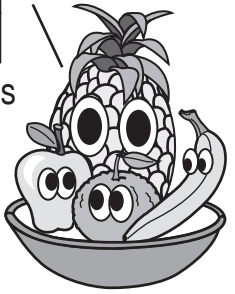
Jesters were people who would entertain crowds at marketplaces or festivals.

They wore pointed, three-colored caps, brightly colored clothing, floppy collars and bells.

Today, we have costumed clowns who learn many skills to entertain us!



Pssst...a harmless prank - put googly eyes on the fruit!



The One That Got Away!

dot marker activity with a scale: one inch = one foot

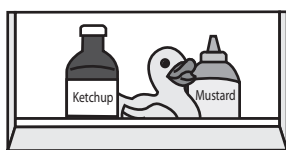
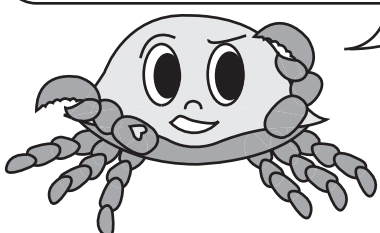
Have you ever noticed how the "big ones" always seem to get away? Follow the dots to see the one that didn't get caught.

dot marker activity with a juggling ball illustration

I may be a jester, but I am no April Fool. I'm going to entertain the King and Queen. I need to put on the best show that I can. Help me find my set of juggling balls.

Maze activity with a jester illustration

Do you like to play harmless tricks on your family and friends on April Fools' Day? I do. So, I scratch my head and try to think of some fun things to do that will let us be a little silly without hurting anyone's feelings. See if you can figure out my five favorite ideas...



1. Place gummy _____ or bugs on top of apples and other fruit in the fruit bowl.

Tricks, Pranks and Sillies!

2. Put a rubber _____ in the refrigerator.

3. Put a clean toy mouse on top of the _____.

4. Set the alarm _____ so that it goes off at the wrong time. (Do this only when it won't cause problems and Mom is in on it.)

Word search activity with a box of gummy worms and an alarm clock illustration.

5. Turn the _____ to the wrong date.

Successful (and Very Funny) Squad Goals



Katie Ogg as Jones



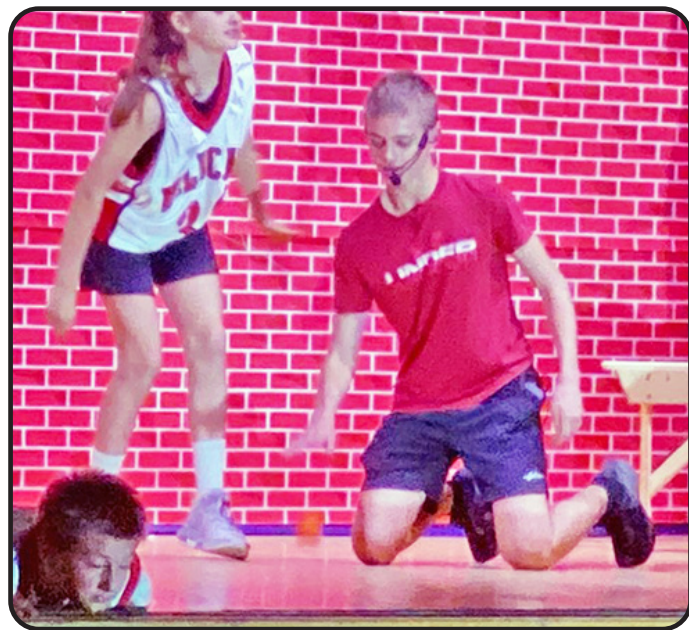
Hank Adams as Watkins



Grady Smyth as Thompson



Maelyn Jump as Lulu



Weston Rogers as Brad



Carly McGuire as Blake



Harlee Barber as Tammy

photo by Jennette Rogers



Team members Will Halderson, Lux Thimesch, Vaughn Priesser, Brody Halderson, and Bryer Barber join the coaches in a team cheer.



Stage crew: Gunner Glenn, Caleb Lohrke, Adam Sterneker, Ethan Kostner
Not pictured: Mackley Glenn & Jeremiah Slayden



Liam McGuire as Miles



Kane Reid as Alex



Andrew Kerschen as Coach Morrison

Sage Thimesch as Coach Weebly

This little play put on by the junior high students was remarkable. These are hard working, talented students. I look forward to seeing them perform in future years. Well done, kids, well done!
Kudos to Mrs. Huelskamp for her direction and dedication.

Kingman County Sheriff's Report

Sunday, March 17

Traffic Stop	4
Non-Injury	SE 150 St & SE 70 Ave, Rago
Miscellaneous	12000 Blk SW 100 St, Zenda
Fire / Ditch	16000 E Hwy 54, Cheney
Suspicious Person	400 N Coronado St, Kingman
Suspicious Vehicle	SW 30 Ave & SW 30 St, Kingman
Check Welfare	16000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney

Monday, March 18

Traffic Stop	2
Civil Paper Service	11
Agency Assist	300 Blk E D Ave, Kingman
Disturbance	200 Blk N Sunflower Dr, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	13000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
Miscellaneous	120 N Spruce, Kingman
Disabled Vehicle	NW 90 Ave & W Hwy 54, Kingman
Check On Control Burn	2000 Blk N Marquette St, Kingman
Check On Control Burn	4000 Blk NE 10 St, Kingman
Recovered Property	300 W 3rd Ave, Kingman

Tuesday, March 19

Traffic Stop	9
Civil Paper Service	1
Non-Injury Accident	6000 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
911 Accidental Dial	16000 Blk N 4 St, Cheney

Wednesday, March 20

Traffic Stop	4
Disturbance	1100 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
Transport Prisoner to Court	130 N Spruce, Kingman
Alarm	2300 Blk N Hwy 14, Murdock
Non-Injury Accident	10000 Blk SW 90 St, Spivey
Traffic Complaint	11000 Blk W Hwy 54, Cunningham

Thursday, March 21

Traffic Stops	1
---------------	---

Control Burns	25
Fire - Outside	6000 Blk SE 140 Ave, Norwich
911 Hang Up Dial Alarm	100 Blk S Elliott St, Cunningham
Traffic Violation	700 Blk W D Ave, Kingman
Traffic Violation	E Hwy 54 and NE 40 Ave Area, Kingman
Suspicious Vehicle	14000 Blk SE 20 St, Cheney
Suspicious Vehicle	E D Ave and N Defonte St Area, Kingman

Friday, March 22

Traffic Stops	8
Civil Papers Served	5
Control Burns	1
Fire - Outside	16000 Blk NE 20 St, Cheney
Fire - Outside	SE 100 St and SE 100 Ave, Kingman
Trespassing	200 Blk N Main, Spivey
Traffic Violation	16000 Blk SE 20 St, Cheney
Theft	2600 Blk SE Viney, Murdock
Suspicious Vehicle	300 Blk E Ave A, Zenda
Suspicious Vehicle	17000 Blk SE 90 Ave, Harper
Assist Other Agencies	1900 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
Assist Other Agencies	SE 50 Ave and SE 180 St Area, Harper

Saturday, March 23

Traffic Stops	5
Civil Papers Served	2
911 Call Hang Up	13000 Blk W Hwy 54, Cunningham
Traffic Violation	10000 Blk W Hwy 54, Cunningham - mm 162
Traffic Violation	10000 Blk W Hwy 54, Cunningham - mm 161
Theft	500 Blk SW 90 Ave, Cunningham
Suspicious Vehicle	17000 Blk SW 100 St, Nashville
Suspicious Vehicle	2400 Blk N Hwy 11, Kingman
Suspicious Vehicle	5000 Blk S Hwy 14, Kingman
Suspicious Vehicle	500 Blk N Chariton St, Kingman
Suspicious Vehicle	2600 Blk SE 140 Ave, Cheney
Suspicious Vehicle	SE 20 St and SE 130 Ave Area, Murdock
Suspicious Vehicle	SE 20 St and SE 140 Ave, Cheney
Disturbance	400 Blk E Leiter Ave, Cunningham



Letters TO THE Editor

It's good to see others trying to figure out the gun problem that I see in our country. This week the kicker for the Kansas City Chiefs wrote his ideas about the gun violence that we are experiencing in our country. I'm pleased that others are trying to solve this problem.

Mr. Butker presented his idea that it was a problem of weak fathering. The point being that the shooters have not been strongly influenced by a strong father figure in their life. Mr. Butker has spoken about his strong Christian faith in his life, and it is a valued point.

As someone who has taught in both Christian and Public Schools I've seen the results of poor parenting. If we throw in divorce rate, single parenting, alcohol, drugs and abuse the picture becomes overwhelming. I think this is part of the problem that leads to the mess being swept under the rug. Our society is a major contributor to the

problem.

But what I'm trying to do is see what I can do to alleviate the problem, not blaming others. Following Mr. Butker's lead about being a better father I would suggest we all need to be better citizens. We, as United States citizens, need to be more active about who is making the important decisions in our country. We need to vote for people who want to solve our country's problems. After these mass shootings I mostly hear about thoughts and prayers and little more. We tend to vote for candidates by what Political Party they work for and not about their ideas about making our lives better.

Mental illness is often the point some of the politicians make, and this is a contributing factor. What I've seen though is that the government officials who want to blame mental illness as the cause are the same ones who vote to cut spendings on help for the mentally ill. Being a

good parent, grandparent, mentor, Big Brother, Big Sister are all things that we can do and many reading this have done.

So, the more I delve into this problem the more I understand why it hasn't been solved. We, the People, haven't been willing to hold our elected officials up to the standards we say we value. We don't want our friends and family harmed by dangerous people, but do we ask

our elected officials what they will do to solve this threat? I don't know how many people are taking the time to read what I've been writing the last few weeks. I've received a few comments, all positive. I'm trying to do this slowly and let my brain wrap around what I can do, and I hope this leads to others also trying to do what is best for our town, and the U.S.

-Alan Albers

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© StatePoint Media

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



Dance of the McChickens

Statepoint Crossword Theme: Shakespeare

CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

- Type of help center
- Fake tooth
- What geysers do
- Lagoon wall
- Acronym, in brief
- Syrup producer
- Papal court
- It often comes with Aloha!
- External
- *Richard III: "A horse! A horse! My ___ for a horse!"
- *Romeo and Juliet: "Parting is such sweet ___"
- Animal's nose
- Fail to mention
- Capone's family
- *Hamlet: "O, this is the poison of ___ grief"
- Soap froth
- Iris holder
- "He ____, She Said"
- ___ Apso
- Cheap form of payment?
- Bert's roommate
- Not in favor
- Hipbone-related
- The Destroyer, in Hinduism
- Thomas the Engine's warning
- "Heart of Darkness" author
- Brewer's kiln
- Beer choice
- Not a verb
- Comic cry
- *The Tempest: "We are such stuff as ___ are made on"
- *As You Like It: "All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely ___"
- Primatologist's concern, for short

- "This land is your land"?
 - *Macbeth: "Our ___ master's murder'd!"
 - Scoundrel
 - Hi ___ monitor
 - Wombs
 - "A Visit from St. Nicholas" beginning
 - Teacher's favorite
 - Got ready for a close up
- DOWN
- Nordstrom's outlet
 - Purse for the red carpet
 - Cape on Tierra del Fuego
 - Set straight
 - Like a knife
 - Comes before a storm?
 - The "place with the helpful hardware folks"
 - Spectrum maker
 - Wild ox of India
 - Plotting (2 words)
 - Multitude
 - Having Everything Revealed, singer and songwriter
 - *Hamlet: "When we have shuffled off this ___ coil"
 - Corpulent
 - Tin Woodman's "medicine"
 - "Two cents"?
 - *Twelfth Night: "If ___ be the food of love, play on"
 - Convex molding
 - Nigeria's western neighbor
 - Listening devices
 - *Hamlet: "To be, or not to be: ___ is the question"
 - Capital of Vietnam
 - Bar by estoppel
 - Indian restaurant condiment

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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

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



KCHS Pets Ready for Adoption

Catmandu

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Catmandu is a handsome male shorthair cat He is about 2 years old. He has been at the shelter since March 6, 2024 Adoption fee is \$40.00

Mia

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Mia is a Beagle / Retriever, Labrador mix She weighs about 50 pounds and is about 3 years old, and she has been at the shelter since October 15, 2023. She gets along with other dogs, and this little wiggle-butt loves everyone! \$180.00 adoption fee

Minutes from Kingman County Commission

(con't from page 6) of stale warrants to have removed from the books from 2021. MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to remove stale dated warrants from 2021 in the amount of \$197.03. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners. Sheriff Brent Wood introduced Katherine Tracy as a new dispatcher for the Sheriff's Department. Commissioners welcomed Ms. Tracy to the County. Sheriff Wood presented a corrected document for the Commissions signature as the replace-

ment for the 2023 Dodge Durango was actually a 2024 Ford Explorer for the Loan Agreement with the bank. Sheriff Wood presented his department report to the Commissioners. Sheriff Wood was in with quotes for new vehicles from the following: SUPERIOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE VEHICLES 2024 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor \$58,024.54 2024 Ford F-150 Responder \$63,947.12 Total Cost for (2) F-150's and (1) Explorer \$185,918.78 JRAUDIO 2025 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor \$61,445.00 2024 Ford F-150

Police Responder \$67,958.00 Total Cost for (2) F-150s and (1) Explorer \$197,361.00 SPECIALTY VEHICLE SOURCE 2024 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor \$62,266.32 2024 Ford F-150 Police Responder \$68,940.61 Total Cost for (2) F-150s and (1) Explorer \$200,147.54 MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to accept the quote from Superior Emergency Response Vehicles in the amount of \$185,918.78. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners. Jordon Smith,

INAalert representative was in to show what INA security system could provide for Kingman County. MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the quote from INAalert in the amount of \$59,166.00. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners. Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse was in with a department update for the Commissioners review. Ms. Schwartz let the Commissioners know that they are doing school health screenings in Cunningham. Ms. Schwartz submitted her Aid-to-Local Grants SFY 2025 application for a signature that is due by April 1, 2024.

Ms. Schwartz let the Commissioners know about upcoming conferences and who will be attending. The County Clerk submitted the March 11, 2024, Commission meeting minutes for approval. MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the March 11, 2024, Commission meeting minutes with the changes made. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners. Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in with a permit for the following: Haviland Telephone-Lay fiber optic cable along sections 22,26,27,24,35, Township 30, Range 05 (Bennett).

Mr. Arensdorf submitted the February 2024 Budget reports to the Commissioners to review. Mr. Arensdorf submitted the Schwab Eaton construction contracts for FAS 607 HMO to be signed by the County Commissioners. Mr. Arensdorf let the Commissioners know that the Spring Cost Share project has been submitted to KDOT. Commissioners discussed with Mr. Arensdorf about roads that could use work in the future. MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:38 a.m. Chairman Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.



Smoke in the Spring Greg Doering, Kansas Farm Bureau A gust of wind sent a blizzard of white flakes past the picture window last weekend. The wall of white wasn't snow, rather the fluttering petals from the blooming Callery pear tree in the front yard. Also known as a Bradford pear, it's about as welcome today

as a spring snowstorm. The flowers are beautiful and Callery trees provide good shade in the summer, and it grows relatively quickly, which are all reasons it was planted in yards, parks and along roads throughout the eastern United States. Its blossoms can also emit a foul odor, and its fruit can stain whatever it happens to fall on, but neither is the reason why the Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA) has taken the first step preventing the sale of the tree beginning in 2027. The hope is to eventually eliminate the tree from the state's landscape.

At least its urban landscape. It turns out the qualities that made the Callery pear a good landscape tree also make it tough to keep it confined to where it's planted. The white flowers it puts off in spring are a beacon to see just how far it's spread. You can spot them easily along fence rows as you drive down the highway. They've become an invasive species that out-compete native species, especially in grasslands. I've already spotted a couple of other plumes of white smoke on the horizon, and I know there will be many more on the calmer days ahead as

ranchers burn their pastures ahead of grazing season. These fires speed the breakdown of dead plant material releasing essential nutrients like nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium. Removing this blanket of vegetation also helps warm the soil, promoting new growth. And, perhaps most importantly, the periodic burning of grasslands controls the encroachment of invasive species like Callery pears or eastern red cedars. Prairies have evolved to need fire, and without it the landscape would quickly be transformed into a scrub forest of

low-value shrubs and trees. Initially sparked by lightning strikes, mankind soon discovered the value of fire. Native Americans were the first to use prescribed burns to attract bison. Prescribed burns, like the ones ranchers use every spring, are an example of using a tool provided by Mother Nature to preserve a vital ecosystem quickly and efficiently. Burning also helps create more high-quality growth that allows grazing cattle to add weight faster, making it an environmentally friendly practice that also boosts the bottom line.

Black patches will soon dot the prairies, followed by a carpet of green grass reaching out through the ash and soot. There will be fewer Callery pears and other invasive species because of purposely set fires. Smoke billowing on the horizon is yet another sign of spring in Kansas. We can look forward to increasing warmth, new growth and, hopefully, ridding ourselves of the things that just don't belong. Copyright © 2024 Kansas Farm Bureau, All rights reserved.

April Fools' Day and Fun

- Place gummy worms or bugs on top of apples and other fruit in the fruit bowl.
- Put a rubber duck in the refrigerator.
- Put a clean toy mouse on top of the cereal.
- Set the alarm clock so that it goes off at the wrong time. (Do this only when it won't cause any problems.)
- Turn the calendar to the wrong date.

Tricks, Pranks and Silbies!

Pssst...a harmless prank - put googly eyes on the fruit!

Yummy O's

11:59 pm ALARM SET

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

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Minutes from Pratt County Commission

The Pratt County commissioners met in regular session Monday, March 11, 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, Tyson Eisenhauer, county counselor, Lori Voss, county clerk and Mark Graber, IT director.

Heather Morgan, economic development/ COVID consultant, reported KDOT made their announcement. The Kingman bypass was approved. Kingman was less expensive than the Pratt bypass. She stated the Pratt bypass might happen in five to ten years. She reported the city of Sawyer will potentially get funding from the state to hook to a new gas provider. She reported on the League of Municipalities HB 2815 to abolish some taxes. It could lower the 20 mills for school districts and freeze amount going forward. She stated some parts of that bill could affect the county budget.

Chairman Shriver made a motion to approve the minutes from March 4, 2024. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Clerk Voss presented a quote from INA

Alert for the elevator camera. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the quote from INA Alert for the elevator camera in the amount of \$2,368.44 to be paid out of the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act of 2021) funds.

Clerk Voss presented quotes for tree trimmings and possible removal of trees in the Courthouse lawn/ LEC lawn from Brady's Tree Care & Removal for \$850.00, Maes Tree Service, LLC for \$1,000 and CR Services Lawn & Landscape, LLC for \$1,600. Commissioner Jones made a motion to accept the quote from Brady's Tree Care & Removal for \$850. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Tyson reported the court had ordered the tax delinquent funds to be distributed. He reported he has started on the next sale.

Tara Pagenkopf, RSVP, (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program) presented checks for signatures. She reported they are doing the volunteer tax service. Chairman Shriver made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 2:16 p.m. for fifteen minutes to discuss RSVP services. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones

made a motion to return from executive session at 2:30 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Jim Lohmeyer, BCBS representative, gave an update on the health insurance renewal. The increase is the smallest in seven years.

Doug Freund, road/ lake, would like to purchase playground equipment at the lake. He presented two options. Commissioner Jones made a motion to purchase the playground equipment from Recreations Installations, LLC for \$23,396.00. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

He updated on the crack sealing on the ethanol road, cracks and variations that might not have been figured correctly. Kirkham Michael has been contacted and will come out and re-evaluate.

George Stevens, American Legion Riders, asked for a donation from the county for the 4th of July fireworks to be held Friday, July 5th at the Pratt County Lake. He is asking for \$4000. Commissioner Adams made a motion to donate \$4000 to the American Legion Riders for the fireworks at the lake for the 4th of July. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

DJ McMurry, appraiser, presented raise slips for Diana Orona and Cheryl Budge. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the raise for Diana Orona in the amount of .50. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve a raise for Cheryl Budge in the amount of .50. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. DJ reported the traverse has a cracked windshield but the deductible is higher than replacement cost, so he will get it replaced and not turn into insurance.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn into executive session for ten minutes at 3:16 p.m. concerning an attorney/client matter discussing the crack seal contract. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones made a motion to return from executive session at 3:24 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the renewal contract with BCBS for the years 2024-2025 with no changes. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to ap-

prove the payment vouchers for March 11, 2024. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams

made a motion to adjourn at 3:31 pm. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

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 6th 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

Public Notice

First Published in The Cunningham Courier, Thursday, March 28, 2024 (3t)

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

BRUCE TIMMONS, Deceased.

CASE NO. KM-2024-PR-000014 (Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on March 22, 2024, a petition was filed in this Court by Dustin Goetz, a devisee, legatee and Executors named in the "Last Will and Testament of Bruce Timmons," deceased, dated March 17, 2014, praying the will filed with the petition be admitted to probate and record; Petitioner be appointed as Executor, without bond; and Petitioner be granted Letters Testamentary.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before April 16, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the District Court, Kingman, Kingman County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.

All creditors of the decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within the latter of four months from the date of first publication of notice under K.S.A. 59-2236 and amendments thereto, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, 30 days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Dustin Goetz, Petitioner

Matthew W. Ricke
Ricke & Ritcha Law Office
349 N. Main, PO Box 113
Kingman, KS 67068
Attorney for Petitioner



*"I got the sneaking suspicion that the vampire was a couple of Peeps short of an Easter basket."
— Jim Butcher, Proven Guilty*

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Troy Maydew, OD
Seth Thibault, OD
Andrew W. Piester, OD
216 S. Oak
Pratt, Kansas 67124
620-672-5934
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. M - F
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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Emergency after hours call
Merlin McFarland 620-532-3855

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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.
Classified Ad Rates
\$5.00 minimum charge for one-week run.
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AgriPro Alfalfa Seeds
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Cunningham Auto Service
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620-298-2029
cunninghamautoservice@gmail.com




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Use the Courier to say "Thank You".
\$.10 per word
(\$6.00 minimum)

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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!

Miscellaneous

STOP OVERPAYING FOR HEALTH INSURANCE! A recent study shows that a majority of people struggle to pay for health coverage. Let us show you how much you can save. Call Now for a no-obligation quote: 1-888-519-3376

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NEED NEW WINDOWS? Drafty rooms? Chipped or damaged frames? Need outside noise reduction? New, energy efficient windows may be the answer! Call for a consultation & FREE quote today. 1-866-766-5558

Help Wanted

City of Cunningham
is hiring a seasonal maintenance worker with the potential to become a permanent full time employee. Applications available Applications available at Cunningham City Hall, 119 N Main Street, or print at www.cunninghamks.net.

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.

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

Cunningham Liquor
OPEN — 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. — Monday thru Thursday
11 a.m. to 10 p.m. — Friday & Saturday
12 noon to 8 p.m. — Sunday
"Cold Brew... Warm Spirits" 298-2033

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Micheal Bright

Pratt - Micheal Jon Dean Bright, 1 week old, passed away Monday, March 18, 2024. He was born on March 11, 2024 in Kansas City, Missouri to Angel Irene Beckenholdt and Kevin Eugene Ferguson.

Micheal had a short life but was a fighter and was loved by many.

He is survived by his mother, Angel Beckenholdt of Pratt; father, Kevin Ferguson of Cunningham; grandparents, Essa and Clayton Beckenholdt of Pratt and Amanda and Jon Cluchey of Cunningham; great-grandmothers, Laura Bright of Pratt and Vicki Oliver of Independence; great-grandfather, Clay Beckenholdt of Howard; great-great grandmother, Joan of Chautauqua County; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and other family members.

Micheal is preceded in death by his great-grandfather, Kevin Jon Bright.

Funeral service was Monday, March 25, 2024 at Larrison Mortuary, Pratt with Pastor Perry Johnson presiding. Burial will follow at Greenlawn Cemetery, Pratt.

Memorials may be made to Larrison Mortuary. Online condolences may be made at www.larrison-mortuary.com.



Eleanor Banks

Eleanor Maxine Banks, 101, passed away Thursday, March 21, 2024 at South Wind Home. She was born on May 12, 1922 in Peck to Hugo and Stella (Moomau) Thom. Eleanor married Ray Banks on September 26, 1948. He preceded her in death on January 8, 1987.

Eleanor graduated from Isabel High School. She was a homemaker. She was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Nashville as well as EHU and Friendly Neighbor Club for 50 years. She made a lot of garments and did handwork. She was an excellent cook.

She is survived by her sons, Roger (Linda) Banks of Isabel and Galen (Carolyn) Banks of Pratt; grandchildren, Kenny Banks of Wichita, Karen (Mark) Kuntz of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, Kevin Banks of Pratt, Chad (Julie) Banks of Medicine Lodge, Kyle Banks of Isabel and Gala (Joe) Smysor of Lawrence; and great-grandchildren, Kadin Banks, Ryan Kuntz, Nathan Kuntz, Ava Kuntz, Kyler Banks, Boyd Banks, Samuel Smysor and Natalie Smysor.

Eleanor is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Ray Banks; and brother, Wayne Thom.

A graveside service was held Saturday, March 23, 2024 at Isabel Cemetery, Isabel with Pastor Michael Schotte presiding.

Memorials may be made to St. John Lutheran Church, South Wind Home or Isabel Senior Center in care of Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt.



Levi Ziegler

Levi M. Ziegler, 82, died March 24, 2024 in Wichita.

He was born Feb. 5, 1942, in Kingman the son of Andrew P. and Katherine Thimesch Ziegler. A lifetime resident of Kingman, he retired from the Kingman County Public Works Department.

Levi was a member of the St. Patrick Catholic Church; was a 4th Degree Knights of Columbus; and was a U.S. Army veteran.

On Aug. 26, 1967, he married Theresa Kennedy in Wichita. Other survivors include three sons, Gary and wife Michelle, Bob and wife Ali, Ray and wife Terry; daughter Brenda Burdick and husband Mike; brother Albert; sister Joan Boor; 8 grandchildren; and 5 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by brothers Wilfred, John and Leo; and sisters Marge Detmer and Lucille Vierthaler.

Mass of Christian Burial was Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at St. Patrick Catholic Church. Burial was in the Walnut Hill Cemetery.

Memorials have been suggested to St. Patrick Grade School and Wheatlands Healthcare Center, both in care of Livingston Funeral Home.



Bob Belt

Robert L. "Bob" Belt, 78, died March 25, 2024 at his home.

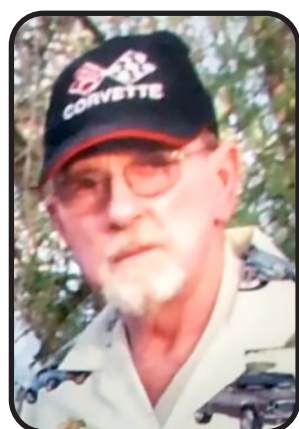
He was born Aug. 25, 1945, in Kingman the son of Byrhl H. and Maxine Walters Belt. A lifetime resident of Kingman, he was a retired farmer and custom harvester.

Bob was a member of the Ninnescah Lodge #230 A.F.&A.M., the Scottish Rite Bodies and the Midian Shrine; the U.S. Customer Harvesters, Southwind Corvette Club, the Heartbeat of Kansas Corvette Club; and was a veteran of the Kansas Air National Guard.

On May 6, 1967, he married Jeanne Tatro in Kingman. Other survivors include twin sons Justin and his wife Cindy, and Jason and his wife Jamie; sister Janet Jones; 7 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at the Livingston Funeral Home, Kingman. The family will receive friends on Monday, April 1, 2024 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Burial will be in the Hoosier Cemetery.

Memorials may be made with Gentiva Hospice in care of Livingston Funeral Home, 1830 N. Main, Kingman, KS 67068.



Myron Graber

Myron E. Graber, 80, died March 19, 2024, at his home in Andover.

He was born July 8, 1943, at Pretty Prairie, Kansas the son of Edwin and Edna (Graber) Graber.

A longtime resident of the Cheney community, he was a retired teacher in the Wichita #259 School District.

In 1987, he married Marchella Fanimokun in Wichita. Other survivors include a son Mark, and his wife Gretchen; daughters Moji Rosson and her husband Shane, and Lola Mitchell and her husband Chris; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Myron was preceded in death by a son Bradley; and a brother Gerald.

Graveside services were Saturday, March 23, 2024 at the Pleasant Hill Cemetery, north of Cheney.

Memorials have been suggested to the American Heart Association or the Union Mission, both in care of Livingston Funeral Home, 1830 N. Main, Kingman, KS 67068.



Irene Steppe

Irene Harriett Steppe, 96, passed away Sunday, March 24, 2024 at Parkwood Village. She was born on November 20, 1927 in Iuka to Eugene and Eulah (Lawrence) Helsel. Irene married Walter Steppe on November 9, 1944 in Greensburg. He preceded her in death on December 13, 2002.

Irene attended Pratt High School. She was a member of Iuka Methodist Church, American Legion Auxiliary, Big Well Campers, Pratt Camper Club, Eastern Star and Iuka Ladies Club. She was a known seamstress in Greensburg, Pratt and Iuka. She enjoyed quilting, sewing, knitting, camping and spending time with her family and friends.

She is survived by her daughter, Clydie Prince of Pratt; grandchildren, Eric (Lesia) Steppe of Snohomish, Washington, David Steppe of Billings, Montana, Scott (Dena) Steppe of Billings, Montana, Justin (Christina) Steppe of Laurel, Montana, Terry Steppe of Billings, Montana, Dana Hart of Billings, Montana, Susie (Lee Witham) Prince of Denver, Colorado and Mindy Prince of Kansas City, Missouri; 16 great-grandchildren; and daughter in-law, Diana Steppe of Laurel, Montana.

Irene is preceded in death by her husband, Walter Clyde Steppe; parents; son, Danny Eugene Steppe; brother, Harold Helsel; sisters, Mary Louise Kleiman and Thelma Helsel; and son in-law, Ronald Taft Prince.

Visitation will be Thursday, March 28, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt. Funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m., Friday, March 29, 2024 at Iuka Methodist Church. Burial will follow at Iuka Cemetery, Iuka.

Memorials may be made to Iuka Methodist Church in care of Larrison Mortuary.



Jason Nelson

Jason Lee Nelson, 47, passed away Sunday, March 24, 2024. He was born on June 19, 1976 in Manhattan to Jim Nelson and Susan (Downing) Jacobs. Jason married Megan (Kangiesser) Nelson on July 27, 2016 in Las Vegas, Nevada. They were married for 7 years.

Jason graduated from Rock Creek High School and earned his Associate Degree from Garden City Community College. He worked most recently as a paramedic for Pratt County EMS since 2018 and was the Director of Caldwell EMS. He previously worked at Harper Co., Mulvane, Medicine Lodge and Kansas Heart Hospital. He spent many years as a flight paramedic for LifeTeam where he met the love of his life, Megan. He was a member of Kansas EMS Association (KEMSA) and KSHSAA where he was an official for High School Basketball. He worked for Grant Co Fire/Rescue and Jackson Co Fire/Rescue as well. Prior to his EMS career he was a Certified Pipefitter. He enjoyed everything KU especially watching basketball and all other sports, going on cruises, fishing, hunting, his dogs, watching ID Channel and going to the Casino and winning every time. As a child he attended many KU home games with his grandparents. He had the biggest smile and was a great pool boy. He especially loved spoiling his nieces and nephew.

He is survived by his wife, Megan Nelson of Wichita; daughters, Kenzie, Kylie and Kinley Nelson all of Hiawatha, Liberty Kay Aranda of Kansas City, Missouri; bonus kids, Brenden and Brilynn Horn of Wichita; mother, Susan (Jim) Jacobs of Junction City; father, Jim Nelson of Topeka; sisters, Heather Williams of Horton and Crystal Martin of Texas; brothers, Kyle (Erica) Nelson of McPherson and Jared Nelson; grandparents, Margaret Nelson of St. George; parents in-law, Mark (Cheryl) Kangiesser of Zenda; brother in-law, Cooper (Kylie) Kangiesser of Attica; best friend, Dave (Amanda) Harbour of Pratt; and his EMS family.

Jason is preceded in death by his infant twins, Jordon and Jessica Nelson; grandparents, Orlin and Lona Downing and grandfather, Francis Nelson; and best friend, Nathan Cowger.

Cremation has taken place. Visitation will be Thursday, March 28, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. with family receiving friends from 5-7 at Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Rd, Pratt. A Celebration of Life will be held at 2:00 p.m., Friday, March 29, 2024 at Larrison Mortuary with Pastor Tom Walters presiding. The family requests that everyone wear their KU attire.

Memorials may be made to Pratt County EMS in care of Larrison Mortuary.



Everett Flickner

Everett Eugene Flickner, 88. Died March 25, 2024 at his home.

He was born Oct. 12, 1935 in Kingman the son of Dave and Margaret Graber Flickner. A lifetime resident of Kingman, he was a farmer.

Everett was a member of the Cornerstone Fellowship Church.

On March 28, 1959, he married Sharon Fallon in Kingman. Other survivors include a son Greg and his wife Gail; daughter Lori; brothers Ellis and Elbert; brother-in-law Robert Brenner; grandchildren Ethan Flickner, Alison Flickner and Abby Smith and her husband Preston. He was preceded in death by his parents; and sister Cheryl Brenner.

Memorial services will be 11:00 a.m., Saturday, March 30, 2024 at the Cornerstone Fellowship Church.

Memorials have been suggested to the Cornerstone Fellowship Church in care of Livingston Funeral Home, 1830 N. Main, Kingman, KS 67068.



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