

Meanderings

Many of my readers have commented that they like reading about the beasts that live at Kobbe’s Café and Cabana for Cats and Canines. Today I’ll talk about the Tailless Wonder, Eddie Fisher.

Eddie Fisher was a feral stray who showed up here several years

ago, late summer or early fall. I began feeding him. He kept coming around. My mom saw him one evening and said, “That looks like Fishers’ cat.” (it wasn’t) And the only Fisher I could think of was Eddie Fisher, and thus his name. Now, I warned him (as I do all cats who come around), “If you stick around long enough, you will be going to vet’s to lose what you deem important anatomy.” Eddie Fisher just looked at me and asked for food.

He’d show up for a few days, then disappear for a few. I never knew when he’d show up for a bite to eat. Initially, he’d

run when I’d go out the door. Then he became comfortable enough not to run but watched as I put the food down on the porch. All winter and spring this went on. I did set the live trap a few times, but he was suspicious enough not to go in.

Then came the Summer of Disappearing Cats. August of that summer, Eddie Fisher disappeared. Not for a few days. He was gone weeks. I was disappointed because he was a rather mannerly kitty, just very feral. I called and looked and called. No Eddie Fisher.

One morning about a month after he disap-

peared, he showed up at the backdoor one morning asking for breakfast. He’d never gone to the back door before. When I turned on the deck light to see what kitty this was, begging so loudly for food, I could see it was Eddie Fisher, BUT he was torn up pretty badly. I live-trapped him (as he was hungry enough to go in to the cage) and took him to the vet. His right jaw was ripped open, his tail was broken, and he had some large gashes on his torso. The pads on his paws were pretty worn and sore as well. Hundreds of dollars later, Eddie Fisher was brought home and put in the base-

ment. And he lived there for about 2 weeks while he was recovering. I’d take food down there, talk to him, try to get him to come out of whatever hole he was hiding in. He pretty well ignored me. But, when he found a way into the ceiling with the insulation, I knew it was time to let him out.

I opened the door at the bottom of the stairs and left it open. I wasn’t half way up the stairs, when he came flying past me. Around the house he flew, over furniture, up the walls, across cabinets. He was ‘hell-bent for leather’ trying to escape.

I just let him tire himself out. He did. It took a

couple of days before he was comfortable in the house. The first time I let him outside, he disappeared. He was back that evening, and walked in the house like he owned it. That was it. He was a house cat.

And now, all these years later, he’s my tail-less wonder, warm and snuggly, and still, always begging for food.

More next week.

Always reading,
and currently reading,
"Starcross"
by Philip Reeve,
Roberta

Tallgrass and Tumbleweeds by Gaille Pike

SUGGESTED TITLE: Flock Aggravation

Dear Readers,

I know I’m not the first person to find myself in a relationship where the few things I do “right” are taken for granted. And more often, everything I do is wrong. We all know what it’s like to try to do something nice but

things end badly because whatever you’ve done isn’t what the other party wanted or simply doesn’t suit them. It’s one thing if they just say, “No, thank you.” But (assuming they’re not toddlers) if they sulk or pout or act like the world’s ending throwing tantrums, you know you’re in trouble.

Before you start emailing me ways to get out of an unhealthy situation, I should explain that my toxic relationship is with ten ducks.

If my free-ranging ducks could talk, they’d probably say we’re NOT in a bad relationship because I’m not one of

them, so how could we be in a relationship at all? The Flock of Ten, who do everything in unison generally don’t want me anywhere near them, unless I have peas or am refilling their feed bucket or swimming pools. Even then they won’t come close. They wait about muttering until I back off or go completely away. The fact that my ducks have little use for me (or don’t like me) has not prevented me from enjoying their company because they’re tons of fun to watch. And if it weren’t for the pond, I’d say our relationship was satisfactory. More to the

point, the ducks refusal to go in the pond has been a perplexing “sore spot” and this week, it became an issue.

The pond is why I agreed to raise ducks and enthusiastically did so because a friend built a wonderful floating duck house for them to use...ON THE POND. I couldn’t wait to free-range them but was equally terrified because I’d been warned by every expert (including my wildlife biologist neighbor) that they’d likely run in the pond and I wouldn’t be able to get them out to keep them safe from predators at

night. As you may recall, my ducks showed so little interest in that acre of water that I questioned both their intelligence and eyesight. When attempts to show them (or shove them into it) failed, I gave up but I secretly kept believing that one day they’d love the pond. For a few days in August, my heart sang when they, for no discernible reason, “found” the pond . But three afternoons later, just as inexplicably, they waddled out of it and never dipped a webbed toe back in it.

Last week, I still believed I could get them to love the pond. So I

took away their land “water park.” And I turned the floating duck house into a floating swimming pool and covered the ramp with peas. Four moping, pouting, and hissy-fit-filled days later, I thought about wringing their necks. Instead, I reopened their water park, which made them happier than clams. Those ungrateful Goldilocks still haven’t said “thank you” and I bet they never will.

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

A Column by Dorothy Rosby

Raking for Humankind

Girl Scout cookie sales used to take place in the fall. I know this is so because I have a distinct memory of an autumn day long ago when “Sarah” came by delivering cookies while I was raking leaves. Sarah was a devoted Girl Scout and one of my neighborhood’s top cookie saleswomen at that time.

I went into the house

to get some cash. Then I paid Sarah for the Thin Mints and the Carmel Delights, set them on the step and went back to raking. Sarah watched me silently for a few minutes and then said, “Wouldn’t that be easier if you had some help?”

“Yes, it would,” I said, a little annoyed. I assumed she was wondering why my family wasn’t helping, because frankly that’s what I was wondering. We have a big yard with two giant cottonwoods and enough other trees to start our own arboretum. Raking leaves in our yard is like shoveling snow during a blizzard.

Sarah left and I went on raking alone. Much to my surprise, she returned moments later with a rake and went to work. As she raked, she explained that the Girl Scout mission is to help humankind. And besides, she actually enjoyed raking leaves. Wow, I thought, what a kid!

Things went quickly then. It was a beautiful day. And I had help. I noticed out of the corner of my eye that Sarah was a pretty good worker too. She was raking much faster than I was and I started thinking maybe I could slack off a little.

Then Sarah interrupted my reverie to tell me

that she made the raking go faster by daydreaming about the iPod she was saving money to buy. I might have imagined it, but it seemed like she added special emphasis to the words, “saving money.”

So much for the Girl Scout mission. So much for humankind.

It crossed my mind that Sarah might settle for milk and cookies, considering what I’d just paid for the cookies. But before I could ask, she told me how much money she’d already saved and how much she still needed for the iPod. Clearly milk and cookies wouldn’t do.

I decided to change the subject. I asked Sarah if she helped with the raking at her house. She said she did, but that she hated to rake in her own yard.

“You don’t get paid for it at your house, huh?”

“Nope.”

In fact, she said that she hated raking at home so much that when she found a leaf in her yard that, judging by its color or shape, had obviously come from the neighbor’s trees, she threw it back across the fence.

I told her that seemed like a lot of work. “Don’t you think the autumn winds will blow them right back into your

yard.”

“Not if they rake it up first.”

“Well, don’t you think leaves from your trees blow into your neighbors’ yards?”

“They have more trees than we do. And anyway, they like to rake.”

“How do you know?”

“Because they’re always doing it.”

I tried a different tack. “But what about the Girl Scout mission? What about humankind? Don’t your neighbors qualify as humankind?”

“Not all of them.”

Ouch! I suppose it’s just as well. It could cost them.

Poetry From Daily Life

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

Poetry from Daily Life: When we suffer, when we fail, a few words can elevate our pain

By Kalli Dakos

Today’s guest on “Poetry from Daily Life” is Kalli Dakos, who lives in Ottawa, Canada. She was named after her Greek grandmother. Kalli (rhymes with Sally) derives from the Greek muse of poetry. Kalli fell in love with writing in the 5th grade and her first book was published in 1990. Special areas of her interest include poetry, picture books, magazine articles, and teacher materials. Two of her favorite books to work

on were “Recess in the Dark, Poems from the Far North” and “If You’re Not Here, Please Raise Your Hand, Poems About School.” A unique fact about Kalli is that she taught in a town called Inuvik in the far north of Canada, sixty miles above the Arctic Circle. ~ David L. Harrison

Empowering words of poetry

Poetry can help us to both celebrate life and to face the challenges of this world.

When I was 12, my father died of cancer. In those days, people did not talk to children about death like they do today.

I found simple poems of grief and loss in the obituary section of our local paper, and I read them every day for years. They were poems like:

If you love someone,
cherish him with care.
You’ll never know the heartache,
till you see his vacant chair.

I learned at a young age that poetry can give us the words to face sadness and loss, and to help us become resilient in a challenging world.

I love to celebrate poetry with children in our elementary schools, and I know there are children, in every audience, suffering with some form of grief. I was working with a large group of third and fourth graders when a child came forward to tell her story.

“My mother died last year, and I want to be a songwriter,” she said. “I wrote a song about her.”

“Would you share it with us?” I asked her.

As she sang about the greatest loss in her life, I was in awe of the beauty of this child’s voice, the depth of the lyrics, and the feelings expressed.

I think it was Robert Frost who wrote, “Art doesn’t end pain. It elevates it.” The poetry of her words captured our hearts that day. Even the youngest children

in the audience knew we were in the presence of one of life’s greatest sorrows and their hearts were expanding with compassion for the grief of their playmate.

I have written over three thousand poems about life in our elementary schools, and I have learned that a short poem can have a huge impact on a child.

Failure has always been a topic that intrigued me. In a world where we fail more often than we succeed, I could never understand the focus on success in our schools. I write many poems on failure.

Don’t Tell Me

Don’t tell me I won’t fail,
for it might not be true.
Just tell me you’ll still love me,
even if I do.

In twenty-three words, this poem tells us that life is not so much about success and failure as it is about love. Our children need the strength to go into the world and risk failure, and they can do this best if they know they are loved.

As a writer, I’ve always believed in words and their power to make a difference. I taught above the Arctic Circle and met an elderly Inuit woman who told me, “I have never learned to read, and I feel like I am blind.”

We want our children to travel in the light of literacy in a world that can be very dark and challenging at times. I’ve seen this light flicker and then grow in the lives of so many children through the empowering and beautiful words of poetry.

Kalli Dakos has written many books of poetry. She was a 2022 recipient of the Excellence in Poetry for Children Award from the National Council of Teachers of English for “They Only See the Outside.” Five of her titles have been Children’s Choice Selections. She’s a former reading specialist and elementary school teacher. Her website is: www.k

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Community Bulletin Board

Thursday, October 31 KAY Halloween Party *** 2:00 Spook Parade Downtown	Monday, November 11 Veterans' Day *** JH BB vs Macksville at HOME
Friday, November 1 NO SCHOOL	Tuesday, November 12 Heart of the Plains League Mass Band Concert at Burrton
Monday, November 4 Scholars Bowl at HOME	Friday, November 15 HS Football 6-Man Sectionals
Tuesday, November 5 VOTE!!!! *** Parents meeting for Winter Sports	Monday, November 18 K-6 Health Screenings *** JH BB vs Argonia at HOME
Wednesday, November 6 KAY Regional Meeting *** 6:00 Shop Guild	Wednesday, November 20 7-12 Health Screenings *** 6:00 332 Shop Guild
Friday, November 8 HS FB 6-Man Regional Playoff	Thursday, November 21 Scholars' Bowl at South Barber
Saturday, November 9 HS Play	Friday, November 22 HS FB 6-Man Sub- State Playoffs

The Community
Calendar is sponsored by



nvalleybank.com


Member FDIC

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


Thank you for
advertising with
The Courier

Libraries


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



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



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




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



**Costume
parade
downtown
October 31st
at 2:00 p.m.**

Time to Sample Some Soup!




The Penalosa UWF will be hosting their annual Soup Sampling event on Saturday, November 9, from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the Penalosa Community Building. Come and sample a variety of delicious homemade soups and vote for your favorite. They will also be serving sandwiches, pie and other desserts. The cost is a freewill donation which is used to support various missions such as the Kingman Core Community, Samaritan's Purse, Hands of Hope, Kingman food bank, Cunningham and Kingman Project Prom and Christmas Angel gifts. If you have items to donate to local food banks, or the Children's shoebox ministry, we will collect those as well.

Health Clinics

Kingman County Health Department will be doing its monthly outreach clinics in October on the following dates:

Cunningham- Wednesday, November 6th
from 9:30am-12:00pm*
Nashville- Wednesday 6th
from 1:30pm- 4:00pm*
Norwich - Thursday, November 7th
from 1:30pm-4:00pm*
Free blood pressure checks at the Senior Center November 13th from 11:00am-12:00pm.
* We will have flu shots available at the outreach clinics.



**Save Our
Country!
Vote Red!
Vote Republican!**




paid for by Cunningham Republicans

4-H Elects New Officers

The Cunningham 4-H Club met on October 13, 2024, for the Annual Bonfire meeting. Roll call was "What is your favorite thing to do outside?" It was answered by 24 members.

Since this month begins the start of a new 4-H year, new officers were elected. The new Senior officers are
President-Andrew Schultz
Vice President-Kendall Rogers
Historian-Julia Hageman
Secretary- Emily Ogg
Treasurer- Weston Rogers
Reporter- Brody Bock
Council Reps-Ava Bock and Nate Sterneker.
To assist the Senior officers, Junior officers were elected as follows:
President- Ty Schultz
Vice President- Conner Helman
Reporter- Jessica Dittmer.
The Cunningham 4-H Club will attend 4-H Sunday at Zenda Methodist on Oct. 20th. At the Cunningham Fall Festival, we had Thank you's available to sign for first responders of local Fire Departments and EMT's, as part of our 48 hours of 4-H.
The county wide Achievement Celebration will be held at the Kingman Christian Church on Sunday, October 27 at 2 pm. Our next monthly meeting will be November 10, 6 pm at the Community Center.
Brody Bock
'24- '25 Reporter

Third Graders Visit Library



At a recent visit to the library, Cunningham 3rd Grade students learned about Doctor and Poet, William Carlos Williams through the picture book biography, A River of Words by Jen Bryant, illustrated by Melissa Sweet. The students asked good questions and shared their thoughts and ideas on this book and on passages from the book, Love That Dog, by Sharon Creech. Then the students imagined walking through the woods while listening to the poem, Finding the Scarf, from the book The Afterlives of Trees, by Wyatt Townley. The poem inspired their torn-paper art project featuring autumn trees which is on display in the window at the library. Thank you, Mrs. Reed, for bringing your students and thank you students, for letting us use your art to decorate for the Oct. 19th, Fall Festival in Cunningham. Thanks also to Jana Theis for helping with the program and with the window decorations.

submitted by Kerri Steffen

Kingman Historic Theatre
Saturday, November 2
FireHouse
LIVE in concert
7:30 p.m.
<http://www.outhousetickets.com>



Castrating Cats in Church

“No matter how much cats fight, there always seem to be plenty of kittens.”
Abraham Lincoln

I am not a cat person. I much prefer dogs. I hold no real animosity towards cats. They just aren’t my favorite. As a human, I like the way dogs look up to us. They are humble. Cats are sanctimonious. They look down on us. But I have a friend named Travis, and he has a cat. The following story is peculiar, but true.
One Sunday afternoon sometime back,

our family stopped at the local McDonald’s after church. While there we ran into our good friends Travis and Ashley, and their two kids. We had not seen them in church, but they had been there, hiding in the back I think, due to Travis’ disordered condition. He looked like he had been in a cage fight with Somali pirates. From the palms of his hands all the way up to his biceps you could see the damage. There were obvious scratches and dried blood. Random band-aids littered his arms. It appeared that medical attention had been attempted. Our immediate question was, “Travis, what happened to you?”
Travis’ response was, “Oh, it’s from my cat.” In the interest of privacy, we’ll call said cat Otis (not his real name).
My first thought, though not uttered aloud in front of small children, was “Travis, do you own

a .22 rifle?” But from the look on Travis’ face, I could tell he expressed no anger. Travis loved his cat, Otis.
Apparently, Travis had been in the habit of letting his cat out at night. The cat enjoyed his freedom, and it seems Travis was okay with Otis habitually impregnating the local female felines. The problem had arisen that morning when Travis expected Otis to return home and reside indoors. Evidently, Otis was not allowed to prowl the neighborhood by day on the Sabbath. Travis had attempted to carry Otis into the house before leaving for church. Otis had strongly objected. It appears that cats can go on testosterone fueled benders too.
This episode was responsible for Travis’ scarring and disheveled appearance this day. And this had not been the first altercation with Otis that Travis had endured.

Thinking this cat needed some surgery along with an attitude adjustment, I said to Travis, “You need to get him fixed.”
Altering Otis had been a topic of family discussion, but Travis had decided the cost was prohibitive. Immediately I had a revelation and a practical solution. Glancing at my wife, she had the same idea. I asked Travis if he could bring his cat to our next Wednesday night prayer meeting at church. He said he could, and we promised to solve his problem.
At the time we were living out in the country surrounded by goats and were well practiced in some of the more necessary rural arts. This included castrating young male goats (kids) with the use of a banding tool (castration turns a young buck or billy to a wether). A banding tool or castrator is a simple device resembling a pair of pli-

ers that allows you to slip a strong elastic band over an animal’s *huevos*. This restricts the blood flow to said *huevos* and they soon die and drop off. It’s all pretty simple. Even though Otis was a bit smaller than your average young goat, we thought this would work. And it would save Travis and Ashley some money, and blood.
Wednesday soon arrived, and we had our banding tool ready. During the short service, there seemed to be some anxiety among those gathered. Somehow word had spread. A cat was to be castrated after the service. Immediately upon the pastors closing prayer, a crowd began to gather. Travis retrieved his cat from the foyer where he had been caged and waiting. With banding tool in hand, we retired to the back kitchen area.
A good-sized audience had now formed,

and a hush fell over the room. Travis gently coaxed Otis out of his box and cradled him in his scab covered arms. The cat was quickly banded without any fuss. Our good friend and expert goat rancher Gary did the honors.
After a few weeks Otis’ dried and withered testicles dropped off. I believe they were later found under the couch cushions in the family living room (*those aren’t raisins kids!*).
The whole incident was pretty funny. Perhaps most amusing was the amazement of those in the crowd that night, especially our assistant pastor. He was a bit of a city boy (criticism not intended) and he just could not believe we were doing this – castrating cats in church!
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typewriterweekly.com

Check the Blessing Box east of the Methodist Church. Anyone can give or take from the Blessing Box at any time.

Free Bread & Baked Goods at the Cunningham Methodist Church 2 to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays

FIGHT!
FIGHT! FOR OUR FREEDOMS!
FIGHT!

VOTE TO PUT GOD AND AMERICA FIRST!

VOTE RED!

PAID FOR BY LOCAL CONSERVATIVES

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
- 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)



The Little Boy

For the first time, a little boy in church watched as the ushers passed around the offering plates. When they came near his pew, the boy said loudly, “Don’t pay for me, Daddy; I’m under five.”

Awkward Wedding Colors

A little girl finally got to attend a wedding for the first time. While in the church, the girl asked her mother: “Why is the bride dressed in white?” The mother replied to the girl: “Because white is the color of happiness, and it’s the happiest day of her life today.”
After a little bit, the girl looks up at her mother and says: “But then why is the groom wearing black?”



Witty Kindergartener

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom as the children drew pictures. The teacher would occasionally walk around and see each child’s artwork. As she approached one little girl working especially hard, she asked what the drawing was.
The little girl told her: “I’m drawing God!”
“But sweetie,” the teacher replied, “no one knows what God looks like.”
Automatically, the little girl continued drawing and said: “Well, they certainly will in a minute!”

Prayer at Sea

As the storm raged, the captain realized his ship was sinking fast. He called out, “Anyone here knows how to pray?”
A pastor stepped forward. “Captain, I know how to pray.”
“Good,” said the captain, “you pray while the rest of us put on our life jackets – we’re one short.”

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
Saturday 4:00 p.m.. | St. John, Zenda
Sundays 10:00 a.m. |
| St. Leo
Sudnay 8:30 a.m. | St. Peter Willowdale
Saturday 5:30 p.m. |
| Father Daryl Befort 316-706-1627 | 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.
Pastor Mathew Ndambuki Musyoki 620-298-2090 | Cunningham
Worship 10:45 a.m. |
|---|---|



Zenda Methodist Church

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

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

W. A. Bradley / William Bradley

1929

Nov. 1 1929 - Seth Whitmore purchased the old Movie Hall this week, and will move it to his farm where he will build a house out of the lumber

1934

Oct. 26 1934 - Miss Bonnie Gibbens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Gibbens of Cunningham, and Mr. Glenn Patton, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Patton of Caldwell, were married Tuesday evening.

1939

Oct. 27 1939 - Cunningham Rural High School's baseball wound up an undefeated seven-game schedule last Friday, beating Isabel by a 14 to 6 score. Cunningham scored victories over Antrim (twice), Isabel (twice), Norwich, Langdon, and Sharon (whose team had five McGuire brothers). Members of the team were Lelland Harris, Austin Luce, Norman Schnittker, Donald Huhman, James Theis, Delbert Schwartz, Charles Cooley, Leroy Carter, Junior Neagle, Leo Zrubek, Grimes Pearson, John Schnittker, Junior Shelman, and Alvin Krug.

1949

Oct. 28 1949 - The new grade school building is nearing completion, and will be ready for occupancy sometime next month.

The eight-mile stretch west of Cunningham from the Pratt-Kingman County Line has been completed, and workmen are moving their equipment to the "Calista Gap."

1954

Oct. 28 1954 - Mr. and Mrs. Dean Mantooth announce the birth of a daughter, Friday, October 22, at the Nashville Hospital. She weighed six pounds, ten ounces, and has been named Cynthia Ann.

The Tully School community enjoyed a pre-Hallowe'en Party at the schoolhouse last Friday evening. Games were led by teacher, Mrs. Edith Haynes, after which refreshments of pumpkin pie, coffee, and cocoa were served to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Harris, Leaman and Rex; Mr. and Mrs. Herman Peterson, Ronald, Ray, and Sharon; Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Fitzsimmons, Caren, Melva, and Lynn; Mr. and Mrs. Gene Oller, Jerry, Lynette, and Ellen; Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Sellon; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Scott; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fitzsimmons, Gary and Kathryn; Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Bowers, Luella, Yvonne, and Ora; Ruth, Virginia, and Diana McClellan; Larry Shaffer; Bernie Lagree; Jack and Sue Jarboe; and Mrs. Haynes.

1959

Oct. 29 1959 - January wedding plans for Miss Jane Youngers and Mr. Jack Meyers are announced by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Youngers of Hutchinson.

Mr. Meyers, son of Mr. and Mrs. August Meyers of Cunningham, is a graduate of Pratt Junior College, and is employed at the First National Bank of Cunningham.

Miss Youngers is a graduate of Hutchinson Junior College and is employed at the Hutchinson Public Library.

The Cunningham Wildcats dropped a 37-0 decision to the Cheney Cardinals in a football game played at Cheney last Friday evening.

Taxpayers of Cunningham are people of distinction in Kingman County this year - that of having the high tax levy of any other city in the county. Cunningham tops the tax levy list with 67.15 or 67.12 mills, depending on whether you live in Dresden or Rural township. The 1959 city levy was 21.39 mills

1964

Oct. 29 1964 - 52 out of the 90 high school students had perfect attendance records for the first six-week's period of school, according to the office of

Superintendent Will Seacat.

In the "Battle of the Wildcats" here last Friday night, Preston's Wildcats overwhelmed Cunningham's Wildcats by a 34-14 score.

The impressive halftime ceremonies were under the direction of Instrumental Supervisor Barry Price, and featured the high school band led by Drum Major Marleen Cooley.

The "Cunningham Football Queen for 1964", Miss Nancy Lagree, and her two attendants, Miss Pat Baber and Miss Teresa Rose, circled the field in a convertible, stopping in front of the home stands, where they were escorted to the center of a large "C" formed by the and by three senior football players, Don Kitson, Bob Witt, and Elmer Adelhardt, where the coronation took place. Nancy Stanley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Stanley was flower girl, and John Steffen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Steffen, was crown bearer. A dance was held in the high school recreation room following the game.

1969

Oct. 30 1969 - In Nashville-Zenda's 68-6 win over Wichita Collegiate, Steve Adelhardt scored four of the 10 touchdowns. Eddie Vierthaler and Randy Goetz accounted for two apiece, and Mark Danahy and Bob Smith each scored once.

Dennis Raney, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Raney of Cunningham, arrived home last Wednesday from a year's duty in Vietnam, and has received his honorable discharge following two years of service in the U.S. Army.

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

Publisher: Charles G. Barnes

Editor: Rex Zimmerman

Reporter: Marie Ann Mantooth

1974

October 31 1974 – Plan to attend the Lions Club Pancake Feed at the Cunningham Lodge Hall on Election Day, November 5. Serving will start at approximately 6 a.m. and last until evening.

Any individuals or organizations interested in donated money to the Cunningham Wildcat Den Fund could leave their donations at the First National Bank. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Western Power Division of Central Telephone & Utilities Corporation announced today that it will invest approximately \$60,000 to construct a new 34,500-13,200 volt Substation at Cunningham.

Kathy and Kim Johnston of Blue Rapids are spending a few days visiting their friends in Cunningham during the school vacation for the Teachers Convention. Kathy is a houseguest of Karla Rohr and Kim is a houseguest of Terri Simonson.

Dennis and Leann Fitzsimmons were overnight guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harold DeWeese on Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Schnittker, David Schnittker and Susan Prothe, all of Manhattan, Kansas, were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Don Schnittker and family. They all celebrated Mrs. Don Schnittker's birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Theis, Roger Theis and Mrs. Josephine Albers attended the Talent Show at Pratt unior College Wednesday, October 23. Debbie Theis presented a vocal solo. Linda Cunningham was her accompanist.

Hilltop: "Brownie Joe Northrop," our bulldog, visited his dog friend, "Ralph Lee Dafforn," Wednesday afternoon at the Dafforn Appliance. "Ralph" will spend this week visiting at the Charles Dafforn home at Medicine Lodge while Francis E. and Anna E. Dafforn are visiting their eldest son, Doctor Alan Dafforn, and his wife at Bowling Green, Ohio .



WANTED -

Old Photos for *Our Community Album*

Call (620) 298-2659 or email

couriernews@yahoo.com or send

to 320 North Stadium Street,

Cunningham, KS 67035

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

Publisher: Charles G. Barnes

Editor: Scott Newton

Reporter: Florine Kampling

1979

November 1 1979 – Mr. and Mrs. Roy Halderson of Glasco were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wetherall and visited with Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Halderson.

Mr. and Mrs. Delmar Crick attended the funeral services for Charles (Toot) Kimbell in Wichita at Resthaven Cemetery Monday.

The 5-D League teams are from the Murdock School, Cheney School, St Leo School, and St. Pat's number 1 and number 2, Kingman.

The tournament was held in the Kingman City Part on October 12, 1979. Good sportsmanship was a real inspiration throughout the games. Trophies were awarded to the winning teams: First place – St Leo, Second place – St. Pat's number 1, Third place-Cheney; Fourth place – Murdock.

The recently selected King and queen of the fall festival were Randy Hageman and Nancy Kerschen. The attendants were Renee Wegerer and John Witt.

Cunningham High School's Wade Ruckle was the Hutchinson News's prep player of the week for his performance in the Wildcats recent win over Haviland.

The CHS Junior scored touchdowns on runs of 57, 47, 22, 15, eight and eight yards and on a 26-yard pass play.

He carried the ball 14 times for 188 yards and caught four passes for 60 yards. He returned three kickoffs and a punt for 104 yards on the way to a 71-40 win for the Wildcats.

He also had 19 tackles on defense. Because of the score Ruckle didn't see much action the second half.

Ronda Simon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Simon of Nashville, was one of ten models selected for a luncheon fashion show. The presentation was held at Big John's Steak House in Salina under the coordination of Mr. Bill Dunn. Ronda is student at Brown Mackie College majoring in fashion merchandising. The models were selected from the fashion department of Dunn. The down town merchants supplied selected merchandise from their fall and winter lines for the show. Ronda modeled outfits furnished by SILENT STREET, a junior shop where Ronda is employed as the window designer and salesperson.

Those names being drawn for the Wheel of Fortune Contest at the Cunningham Grocery this week were Marjorie Lindemann, who had not had her card punched that week; Sharon Williams who received \$5 and Thelma Baber with \$15.

1984

November 1 1984 - Dr. Thornton L. Waylan, 78, Nashville, died October 28, 1984 at Nashville. Born July 24, 1906, at Herrington, he married Frances Steward Nov. 4, 1941, at Cunningham. He was a practicing doctor and had resided in the Nashville area for 45 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Oller entertained their son, Matt, for his 7th birthday with a trip to the Pratt Pizza Hut on October 27. Invited guests were the first grade boys, Ryan Ruckle, Orin Stillwell, Charles Thimesch, Dennis Fitzsimmons, and Matt's brothers and sister, Marvin, Mike, Marlene, and Melva.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bainum announce the birth of their daughter at Kingman Community Hospital October 24., 1984. She weighed 6 lb. 10 oz. and has been named Anne Therese. Mrs. Bainum is the former Donna Schaller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Schaller of Nashville.





Cozy's Pizza

115 N. Main

Cunningham,

KS 67035

620-298-7000

NEW Fall / Winter Hours

Mon., Tues., & Thurs. - 11:00 to 7:30

Friday and Saturday - 11:00 to 8:00

Closed Wednesday and Sunday

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)

USD 332 Staff Spotlight:
Sebastian Huelkamp,
Shop Instructor

STAFF
SPOTLIGHT

Sebastian Huelkamp

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT USD 332?

"I love the support this community has shown for the skilled trades programs at our school. The support here is so much better than at the other school where I have been a teacher. I want to thank the community for supporting the construction of our new high school and new shops. The kids are definitely taking advantage of the new facilities and producing some great projects."

ABOUT ME

experience:

26 years, 9 in
Cunningham

family:

N/A

pets:

2 dogs - Daisy and
Copper

hobbies:

Farm Simulator - model
railroading - working on
old car

FAVORITES

food:

Italian food - BBQ
ribs

place:


Home


book:


The Martian OR The
Bourne Identity

subject:

Woodworking -
Technical Drawing









submitted by Cody Dunlap


CHS Lady Wildcats
at the Regional Tournament




Elizabeth Paris




Ellie McGuire




Emily Ogg




Grace Hageman



Rylee Miller



K-STATE
Research and Extension

 Kingman
County

K-State Child
Development
Expert
Encourages
Youth to Visit
Older Adults

Children, as ‘social beings,’ benefit from interactions with previous generations

MANHATTAN, Kan. – It may seem that encouraging younger children to visit older folks is primarily for the benefit of the adults.

Kansas State University child development specialist Bradford Wiles says research does show that intergenerational connections reduces loneliness and boosts happiness for older adults. But, he adds, the same studies indicate that spending time with older adults helps younger children develop life skills and a sense of who they are.

“Children learn through interactions with other people. We’re social beings,” Wiles said. “The variety of contacts children can have can teach them about themselves – what they like, what they don’t like, what other people have experienced.

“That’s all part of growing up, particularly in early childhood. They’re really starting to develop their understanding of other people’s beliefs, thoughts and de-

sires. As they’re working with a variety of people – in particular, older adults – it helps them have an understanding of the passage of time, different experiences, and provides them with another adult with whom they can connect, learn and teach.”

Wiles said younger children develop life skills by better understanding other people’s talents and perspectives. While they get some of that from interactions with parents, teachers and perhaps coaches, many of those relationships are with people of similar ages and experiences.

“When you add an older adult, you get a radically different perspective,” Wiles said. “Younger children are generally demonstrating different talents and different ways of engaging than they do in the more structured environments of family and school.”

Older adults also can often offer their undivided attention that, Wiles says, reaffirms the value of the older adult to the community, as well as providing the attention that children crave more than anything.”

“So often we know that the solution to some of the issues in early childhood is attention. We can’t always provide that. If we’re in the middle of fixing our plumbing, we can’t stop and play ball with our kid. It’s

important to recognize that as parents we can’t give our undivided attention all the time.”

Wiles said intergenerational relationships benefits older adults by providing cognitive practice and engagement.


“We know that social engagement, more than anything, is the most protective factor against age-related declines in cognition, thinking and mobility,” Wiles said. “So the more opportunities we can provide for children to engage with older adults, the better off the older adults will be, and the children benefit as well.”

Wiles encourages older adults to connect with a local preschool or K-12 school system to ask about opportunities to visit classrooms and share experiences. A national program –

Generations United – is an example of opportunities available to help bring older adults and children together with structured activities.

More information on child development is available online from K-State Research and Extension, and at local extension offices in Kansas.

ITS CANDY CORN
SEASON
FOR ALL U
CRAYON EATING
PSYCHOPATHS



Will Halderson Runs in Regional Meet



Will Halderson ran a personal best at regionals today running a 19:56! He placed 41st. What an awesome freshman year he's had. Thank you to everyone who came to support him today and all of my runners this year. We appreciate you!! Congratulations Will Halderson!! -- Coach Ingrid Rieke



CHS FFA Members Attend National Conference



Pictured above: Mrs. Bailey Hansard, sponsor, Kaylee Mertens, Whitney Mead, Ada Adams, Nate Sterneker, Kollin Fischer, Cole Hageman. Not pictured, Kayla Fiegel, sponsor.
The students, along with their two sponsors, travelled to Indianapolis, Indiana to attend the national FFA convention last week.

CJHS Lady Wildcats at League Tournament



Alyssa Osner



Carly McGuire



Leah Rogers & Katie Ogg



Vaughn Preisser



Sage Thimesch



Katie Ogg

Kingman County Sheriff's Report

Sunday, October 20	
Traffic Complaint	NE 20 Sr & NE 80 Ave, Kingman
Disabled Vehicle	6000 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	9000 Blk E Hwy 54, Murdock
Non-Injury Accident	4000 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman
Monday, October 21	
Traffic Stop	1
Civil Process Service	1
Disturbance	400 Blk S Main St, Norwich
Disabled Vehicle	16000 Blk W Hwy 54, Cunningham
Non-Injury Accident	W Hwy 42 & SW 180 Ave, Isabel
Non-Injury Accident	4300 Blk NE 50 St, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	NW 20 St & NW 170 Ave, Cunningham
Tuesday, October 22	
Civil Paper Service	10
Traffic Complaint	2000 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman
Non-Injury Accident	SW 10 Ave & SE 70 St, Kingman
Fraud	400 Blk E Leiter Ave, Cunningham
Theft	100 Blk E 3rd St, Cunningham
Transport Prisoner	120 N Spruce St, Kingman
Miscellaneous	8600 Blk SE Burns Ave, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	NE 40 Ave & NE 35 St, Kingman
Miscellaneous	700 Blk NW 170 Ave, Cunningham
Non-Injury Accident	NE 10 St & E Hwy 54, Kingman
Wednesday, October 23	
Non-Injury Accident	15000 Blk SE 20 Ave, Harper
Traffic Complaint	1700 Blk NW 50 St, Kingman
Alarm	16000 Blk SW 10 St, Cunningham
Disturbance	120 N Spruce St, Kingman



Thursday, October 24

Traffic Complaint	NE 40 Ave & NE 50 St, Kingman
Non-Injury Accident	SE 70 St & SE 80 Ave, Murdock
Non-Injury Accident	13000 S Hwy 14, Rago
Animal Complaint	NE Hwy 14 & E Hwy 54, Kingman
Fraud	200 Blk N Vail St, Spivey
Welfare Check	E Hwy 2 & SE 170 Ave, Norwich
Susoicious Activity	SW 50 St & SW 10 Ave, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	SE 100 St & SE 50 Ave, Murdock
Disturbance	13000 Blk SE 40 Ave, Rago
Non-Injury Accident	1400 Blk NW 170 Ave, Cunningham

Friday, October 25

Traffic Stops	2
Civil Paper Service	15
Traffic Complaint	E Hwy 54 & NE 150 Ave, Cheney
Traffic Complaint	8000 Blk E Hwy 42, Rago
Miscellaneous	120 N Spruce St, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	9000 Blk E Hwy 54, Murdock
Traffic Complaint	10000 Blk SE 70 Ave, Rago
Disabled Vehicle	100 Blk S Main St, Kingman
Animal Complaint	SW 170 Ave & W Hwy 42, Nashville
Disabled Vehicle / Arrest	E F Ave & Fabpro Way, Kingman
Disabled Vehicle	1200 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman

Saturday, October 26

Traffic Stops	3
Miscellaneous	9600 Blk NE 10 St, Murdock
Traffic / Arrest	1300 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
Miscellaneous	120 N Spruce St, Kingman

Old Kansas Politics

I’ve mentioned a little about Sockless Jerry Simpson. I have more.

Jerry, like most white people of this time era was born out of Kansas and died somewhere other than Kansas but left some interesting actions while in Kansas. Jerry came to Kansas in the 1880’s and farmed near Medicine Lodge.

At this time the Populist Party was taking hold in Kansas. I compare the Populist Party of that time to the Tea Party of our time. After the Tea Party started in Kansas and most of the US, I liked their rhetoric. They spoke of not enough representation for the grass roots. They also said politicians that made life-long jobs from being elected to sweet positions. After listening more closely, I started to hear the Tea Party talking about not wanting anymore immigration allowed in our country and eventually sounding more like the Ku Klux Klan than a grassroots

organization.

The Populist Party of the 1890’s was nearly a cookie cutter model of the old Populists. The Populists of 1880’s and 1890’s also elected a Governor, Senators and US Representatives. Sockless Jerry was one of these as he represented our area for several terms. The reason he was nicknamed Sockless was because he stated while running for office that his opponent wore silk stockings because he was so rich, and Jerry couldn’t even afford any socks.

However, once Jerry was elected to the US House of Representatives, he soon became one of the most dapper dressers in Washington, DC. I feel that I’ve seen the same behavior in the elected Tea Party members. I’ve mentioned William Allen White before in my writings. William Allen started thinking that the Populist had some good ideas. For one, they were saying that the farmers needed better representation. After a short

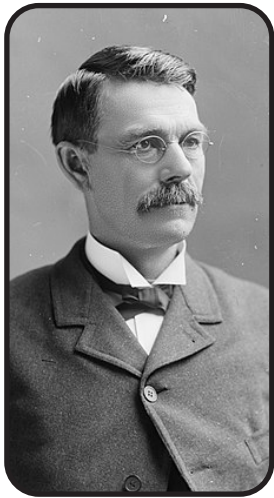
time, William Allen saw some of the lesser-spoken-about ideas of the Populist become more visible. The anti-immigrant Ideas became more known. The immigrants that they were trying to keep out of Kansas were the German and the Irish. The Populist support for the KKK was also offensive to William Allen.

William was a Republican, but he didn’t feel the Republicans or the Democrats were doing enough to oppose the hate rhetoric of the Populist and the KKK. He started his own political party, the Progressive Movement. William ran for Governor of Kansas in 1924 but lost. The negative attention that he brought to the KKK and the Populist Party soon caused these harmful organizations to end. So, the KKK was soon made illegal, and the State and the Populist parties being exposed for their radicalization also ceased to exist.

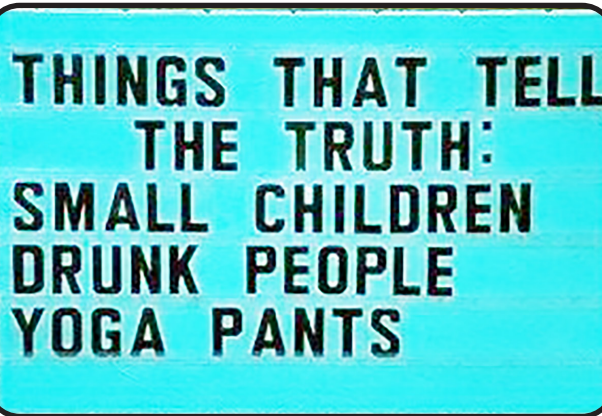
The Emporia Gazette was the main form of William’s protest about radical politics in Kansas

showing the power of the press. In my view the Tea Party has morphed into what is better known today as the MAGA movement. The Populist never intended to destroy American democracy. They never had a presidential candidate who stated he will be a dictator on day one or that if we vote him in one more time we won’t need to vote again as he will have it controlled after that (Project 2025). So, you evaluate what a difference your vote cast next week will mean!

-Alan Albers-



Jerry Simpson



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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.

Statepoint Crossword

Theme: Famous Buildings

CROSSWORD

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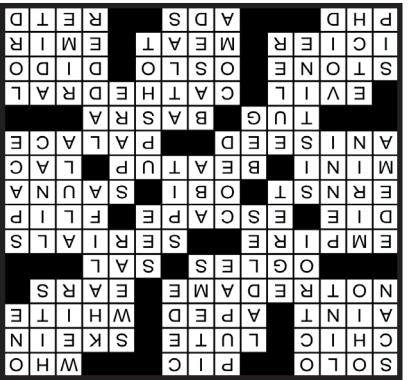
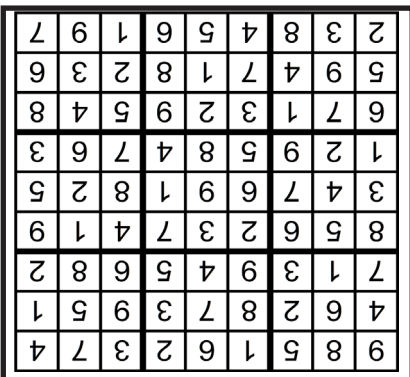
- Performer’s time to shine
- Selfie, e.g.
- One of five Ws
- Très ____, or very stylish
- Mandolin’s cousin
- Knitter’s unit
- Aren’t, colloquially
- Mimicked
- *Like House with Oval Office
- *The Hunchback’s home (2 words)
- Listening devices
- Flirtatious stares
- Salt, in Spanish
- *__ State Building
- TV shows, e.g.
- Will Ferrell’s “Funny or ____”
- Steve McQueen’s “The Great ____” (1963)
- Toss a coin
- ____ & Young financial services company
- Kimono tie
- Sweating room
- Short skirt
40. Batter (2 words)
- Lake, in French
- Anise seed (1 word)
- *____ of Versailles or Buckingham ____
- ____ of war
- Sinbad the Sailor’s home
- Not good
- *St. Basil’s in Moscow or St. Paul’s in London
- *The Parthenon in Athens is made of this

- Capital of Norway
- Aeneas’ lover
- More slippery
- Animal protein
- Independent chieftain
- High degree
- TV program interruptions
- Retired, abbr.

DOWN

- CAT or PET, e.g.
- *Key Tower, tallest building in this Buckeye state
- Laundry room fire hazard
- Type of local tax
- Pupa, pl.
- Things
- Give up a state
- Dam-like structure
- Not misses
- Football’s extra point
- Soup scoopers
- Make a solemn promise
- *Burj ____, tallest building in the world
- Wading bird
- “Monkey ____, monkey do”
- Bodily swelling
- Rice wine
- 1/100th of Finnish markka
- Rotisserie skewer
- Spurious wing
- Cancer-treating machine, acr.
- *____ Needle, Seattle
- For boys and girls
- Lawyers’ org.
- *____ Chapel, Vatican City
- Flat replacement

- “____, borrow or steal”
- Eventual outcome
- Leonhard ____, Swiss mathematician (1707-1783)
- Portable stairs
- Headquartered
- Road-tripping guide
- Carve in stone
- Emptiness
- Vegetative state
- Ice crystals
- Passage in a coal mine
- Voldemort’s title
- Small amount of drink



Photos Sent in by Readers



photo by Martha Hellar

We spend our life, it's ours, trying to bring together in the same instant a ray of sunshine and a free bench..."
— Samuel Beckett, *Stories and Texts for Nothing*



photo by Josh Theis

"Life is a storm, my young friend. You will bask in the sunlight one moment, be shattered on the rocks the next. What makes you a man is what you do when that storm comes." — Alexandre Dumas

Minutes from the Pratt County Commission

The Pratt County commissioners met in regular session Monday, October 21, 2024, 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 Eisenhower, county counselor, Lori Voss, county clerk and Mark Graber, IT director.

Heather Morgan, Economic Development consultant, announced Everygy has plans to build two new natural gas stations in Reno County and Sumner County. There will be five hundred construction jobs in Reno County and forty to fifty jobs created when

the project is finished in Reno County. They will have to get approval through KCC. They plan to be operational by 2030. Department of Commerce has opened another round of grants to revitalize downtown businesses. They are a match grant up to \$175,000.

Heather is contacting the new owners of Woody's. They might be able to apply and qualify. The applications due by January 31, 2025. City of Sawyer gas situation received a letter from KCC that Hardtner and Sharon did not receive. They need to do the rate study to qualify for the grant. The gas that is feeding the city of Sawyer is from an untreated gas field. It's not the safest, most reliable source of natural gas.

Mark Graber, IT di-

rector, presented quotes for a new server from Dell Technologies for \$17,755.55 and storage server for \$1,347.00. The quote is good for another week. He presented an invoice from layered security solutions an antivirus program that is compliant with new HIPPA regulations for \$1725.75. He presented quotes from KnowBe4, for security awareness training for the county employees for \$2,522.80. He reported the elevator has a working phone line. The state inspector notified him that door restrictors must be on the elevator doors. He will be getting a quote for the restrictors. He discussed the camera in the elevator. He has contacted the elevator company and INA security about the camera needing to be installed. He stated the Spyglass contract was

coming up for renewal. They look at all of our internet and phone lines, checking to see if they are being billed correctly. He asked if they wanted to do that again. He should be getting a new contract and will forward to Tyson for review when it is received. He reported the backup city dispatch will work at the new building. He stated there was no ground wire on the tower. He would like to order the new server and get started the first quarter of next year. Chairman Shriver made a motion to approve the purchase of the server and server storage from Dell Technologies for a total of \$18,902.55. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Shriver made a motion to approve the KnowBe4 contract for security awareness

training at \$2,522.80. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the minutes from October 14, 2024.

Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve hiring Jonathan Popovich from part-time to full time detention officer for the sheriff's office at \$17.75 per hour. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to recess into executive session at 2:26 for fifteen minutes for non-elected personnel. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones made a motion to return

from executive session at 2:36 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Shriver brought up Christmas days off. They discussed December 24. Commissioner Jones made a motion to give the employees December 24, 2024, off as a paid holiday. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the payment vouchers for October 21, 2024. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn at 2:42 p.m. Chairman Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Kansas Nonprofit Expands Giving Women a Safe Space and Bridging the Gap In Substance Abuse Treatment

Kingman, KS: On November 2, 2024, from noon until 4pm, The Omega Project will hold an open house to meet and greet the community. The Omega Project, a

nonprofit that operates structured sober living for people recovering from addictions, is expanding outreach with a recovery home for women in Kingman. The program already serves more than 60 men and women in sober living houses in McPherson and Buhler, and this new facility will provide 10 women with the same resources in Kingman. Residents will enjoy a structured living environment and access to counseling, career services, life skills, and more. Purchased through donations from

local supporters and area churches, the women's home will be located at 1111 North Main Street Parkway, the space that formerly housed Main Place Youth.

Of the new home, Omega Project Founder and Director, Pastor David Case, said, "There's an overwhelming need for recovery resources in Kingman County and the neighboring community. Providing a structured sober living environment alongside a comprehensive program of counseling and education is what has made the Omega

Project successful with both men and women in McPherson and Buhler, Kansas, and our satellite program, Alpha Ministries in Waterbury, Connecticut."

The Omega Project provides people recovering from addiction with affordable housing and a stable substance-free environment. The Omega Project provides residents with valuable resources such as assistance with budgeting, job search, court fee payments, reclaiming a driver's license, and more. Additionally, the

Omega Project residents regularly attend recovery classes and contribute to their community by volunteering with local organizations and churches. The Omega Project is part of a broader effort to support people in recovery. The program is a ministry of Live Free Ministries (LFM), alongside Heart Change U, a teaching ministry that equips individuals, churches, and ministries in effectively supporting people in their congregations and communities battling addiction.

Women seeking to

apply for housing at the new Omega Project in Kingman should fill out an application on the Omega Project website.

Kingman outreach contacts:

Richie Cannon, Assistant Program Director (620-480-3538) Angie Simmons, Community Liaison (620-960-5118)

Reach out! 620-241-1371
www.OmegaProjectKS.com

SCTelcom Partners with other Local Business and USD 254 to Bring "Smart Poles" to Barber County

MEDICINE LODGE, KS – October 9, 2024 - SCTelcom has teamed up with Southern Pioneer and the Medicine Lodge School District to begin testing solar-powered light poles in Medicine Lodge. This unique and innovative project is one

of the first solar powered projects of this type to be deployed in the South-Central Kansas for public use and safety.

The first pole has been placed at the Medicine Lodge headquarters. SCTelcom will be equipping the pole with our own SmartTown access point to extend our own safe and secure public Wi-Fi. Southern Pioneer provided the labor to dig the holes for the light poles and Medicine Lodge High School students in welding and art gained a learning opportunity and experience in the construction and pro-

tection of the site.

While the first pole is close to the Medicine Lodge office, future deployments will be in remote locations where commercial power doesn't exist. SCTelcom is not in the business of taking anything away from Southern Pioneer and its ability to deliver electricity. We are simply looking for an economical solution that extends our safe, secure, and reliable network efficiently and creates a partnership that benefits the entire community.

Our focus at SCTelcom will continue

to be on underground fiber deployment to connect as many customers to reliable, fast internet as possible. However, this solar-powered initiative gives us the opportunity to continue to innovate and lead the way for our communities when it comes to their broadband experience.

SCTelcom has been providing fiber internet services in South Central Kansas and Northern Oklahoma since the early 2000's. SCTelcom was originally South-Central Telephone which was started in 1953 as a cooperative. Today, SCTelcom

offers fiber broadband services in north central Oklahoma and multiple Kansas counties including Barber, Harper, Kingman, Pratt and Reno. We are proud that our team members live and work in the counties they serve.

For more information please contact Wendy Crenner, Marketing Director for SCTelcom at 877-723-6875 or email wcrenner@sctelcom.com or Shelly Hansel, Public and Government Relations Director at 620-440-0941 or shansel@sctelcom.com.



KCHS Pets Ready
for Adoption

Callie

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Callie is a mixed breed of Retriever and Black Lab. She is about 2 years old and weighs about 50 pounds. She has been at the shelter since October 2.

She is gets along with other dogs, is housetrain/ crate trained and people friendly, especially to those who give her belly rubs. She is great with kids, but not with cats.

Her adoption fee is \$180.00.

Orchid

Sponsored by Baker Accounting



This pretty little girl is Orchid. She is about 5 months old and weighs about 4 pounds. She has been at the shelter since July 30 and really wants to be loved by a special little girl. Her adoption fee is \$85.00.



Colors of
Harvest

Kim Baldwin,
McPherson County farmer
and rancher

I've spent a lot of time in the cabs of tractors this month as we continue our marathon of fall harvest.

Spending so much time operating the grain cart during fall harvest has allowed me ample time to get caught up on podcasts, opportunities to start and end new audio-books, and hear the latest songs on the radio over and over and over again.

While I've had this extra tractor time, I've also been away from other important tasks. The laundry needs attention. I've been slow to respond to my emails. October birthdays will be celebrated later in

November. And I've officially told my kids they need to conserve the grocery hauls I bring home on the weekends because I can't make special grocery trips during the week. If we run out of milk, drink water.

If I'm not in a tractor, I've been driving through the countryside in a truck pulling equipment to the next field waiting to be harvested. I've spent a lot of time on the backroads navigating to the next field.

The other afternoon my daughter was in the truck with me while I was pulling the fuel trailer to a field. She was chatting away about her day, testing me on her latest jokes and riddles she'd been working on, and keeping me up to date on the latest book she'd been reading.

As we approached a tree lined portion of the dirt road, she stopped talking and just looked out the windows until we

drove through the trees full of changing leaves.

"You know, Mom," she said. "I think this is the most beautiful time of the year."

I couldn't argue with her. The trees are at just the right point of the season where the green summer leaves have turned to the bright yellows, reds and oranges that are synonymous with autumn. They glisten in the afternoon sunlight while moving with the wind, still clinging to the tree branches suggesting there's plenty of life remaining before winter arrives.

Everywhere I look right now, there's a warm and fiery palette presenting itself to viewers.

There are people who pay a lot of money to go see the changing of colors in other states. Individual vacations, bus tours and train rides are scheduled around this particular season. Many

people either head to the mountains to view the aspens turning or travel back East to see the maple, birch and cherry trees showcasing their peak fall foliage.

But me? I'm perfectly happy enjoying my views from a tractor cab or while driving down the dirt roads as we continue to harvest our fall crops. The background colors of those most beautiful leaves compliment the natural, warm hues of the soybeans and sorghum fields still awaiting harvest.

I know it won't last for long, so I'm making sure to appreciate all of these peak views now before the leaves dry up and release themselves from their trees to usher in winter.

It truly is the most beautiful time of the year.


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photo by Martha Hellaar

"My feet will tread soft as a deer in the forest. My mind will be clear as water from the sacred well. My heart will be strong as a great oak. My spirit will spread an eagle's wings, and fly forth."

— Juliet Marillier,
Daughter of the Forest



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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
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Kingman Real Estate

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Lexi Miller 532-5204
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Dixon's
True Value Hardware

Heating & A/C
325 N. Main, Kingman, KS
532-2631

Effective October 1, 2024: Ads are \$6.50 per column inch. Front page ads are \$11.00 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
\$6.00 minimum charge for one-week run.
DEADLINES: 2:00 p.m. Tuesdays

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This advertising space
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BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 855-219-8849

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Pratt Army Airfield – 82 Curran Road
Visit them on Facebook at www.prairie-bombers.org for more information. If you would like to visit the museum at another time call
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October 28

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Public Notice

First published in The
Cunningham Courier,
Thursday, October 17,
2024.

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL
DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT OF
KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF:
SHANE LUTES, Deceased.
CASE NO. KM-2024-PR-43
(Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO
ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that
on October 9, 2024, a Petition
for Issuance of Letters of
Administration was filed in this

Court by Katherine A. Ridge.

You are required to file your
written defenses thereto on
or before November 5, 2024,
at 10:00 o'clock 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.

The time for creditors to exhibit
demands against the estate
has expired.

Katherine A. Ridge,
Petitioner

Matthew W. Ricke

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

Gun Show


WORLD'S LARGEST GUN SHOW – November
9 & 10 - Tulsa, OK Fairgrounds. Saturday 8-6,
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Trash and recycling schedules are available
at City Hall.

If you have large, bulky items for pick up
(i.e. appliances or furniture) please call Nisly at
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Mary Lynn Ormiston

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Mary Lynn Ormiston of Goddard, Kansas. She was born on November 27, 1946, in Pueblo, Colorado. Mary Lynn passed away on October 24, 2024, surrounded by her loving family.

After graduating from East High School in Pueblo, Colorado in 1964, Mary Lynn went on to attend Southern Colorado State College where she graduated in 1969. She worked as a teacher in Pritchett, Colorado where she met her husband, Melvin Ormiston. They were married on August 14, 1971 and enjoyed 53 wonderful years together. After their marriage, she became a homemaker and mother of their 6 children. She later served as a substitute teacher for Cunningham School District. Mary Lynn was a CCD teacher at Sacred Heart Church in Cunningham for over 25 years. Mary Lynn also donated much of her time to the school volunteering in classrooms and spending time with residents of the local nursing home.

In her free time, Mary Lynn enjoyed harvesting monarch butterfly eggs, raising them to chrysalis and donating them to schools, so the kids could see the butterflies hatch. This later became a gift that she gave to her grandchildren. She had a passion for education and sharing the wonders of nature with others. Mary Lynn also spent much of her time following her children to all of their activities including sports, 4-H, band, school events and many more, and later following her grandchildren. Family was the most important thing to her.

Mary Lynn was an active and caring grandmother to her nine grandchildren, always keeping them busy with new books, crafts, cooking, and shopping for the perfect gifts. She will always be remembered for her fierce independence and strong love of her family. She often shared that her children and grandchildren were her greatest life’s work.

Mary Lynn is preceded in death by her parents, John and Lena Mauro. She is survived by her husband, Melvin, her children Dustin Ormiston (Mindi), Russell Ormiston, Melissa Follis (David), Cassandra Sporleder (Greg), Randall Ormiston (Rachel), and Martin Ormiston; grandchildren Jenna Ormiston, Allison and Lauren Follis, Nicholas and Zachary Sporleder, Wyatt, Aubriella, Bernadette, and Eleanor Ormiston; brothers Frank Mauro (Jane) and John Mauro (Jenny) and sisters, Linda Veltri, Joy Janiszewski (Robin), and Cyndi Mauro.

The Rosary will be at 6:30 PM, Monday October 28, 2024 at Culbertson-Smith Funeral Home, 115 S Seneca St, Wichita, KS.

The Funeral Mass will be at 10:30 am, Tuesday, October 29, 2024 at Christ the King Catholic Church, 4411 W. Maple St, Wichita, KS.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.



Minutes from Kingman County Commission Meeting

(con't from front page)

her and her staff to attend training.

Commissioners approved that she may close the office on October 30’, 2024.

Ms. Schwartz submitted a Medical Consultant Agreement to be effective November 1, 2024, between the Board of County Commissioners of Kingman County, Kansas, acting as the Kingman County Board of Health (hereafter called County), and the Kingman Healthcare Center, of Kingman County, Kansas (therein after called KHC).

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

Commissioners.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk submitted minutes for October 7, 2024, and October 15, 2024, Commission meetings for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve October 7, 2024, Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve October 15, 2024, Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Vicki Mader, Horizons Mental Health Administrator was in with a quarterly update on the services they provided for Kingman.

Ms. Mader went over Horizons Mental Health financials with the County Commissioners. Ms. Mader let the Commissioners know that they are fully staffed

in Kingman County.

Commissioners signed County Vouchers in the amount of \$109,774.59. Commissioners signed Road and Bridge Vouchers in the amount of \$156,391.16.

Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director and Steve Bachenberg, County Engineer were in to update the Commissioners on the 3-year CIP program-Transportation projects. Mr. Arensdorf gave an update on the guardrail projects and the FAS 607 repairs.

Mr. Bachenberg discussed Leiter St. in Cunningham with the Commissioners. The City has discussed doing curb and guttering. If work is done they will need to know where the drainage will go before work being done.

Commissioners discussed the facade request from Walker Family Dentistry.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the facade request for Walker Family Dentistry.

Commissioner Elpers

seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

CommissionerThimesch read correspondence received from Zenda City for request of \$5,000.00. MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve \$5,000.00 for Zenda City improvements.

CommissionerThimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Carson was in to discuss his property with the County Commissioners.

Commissioners let Mr. Carson know that they will discuss his issue next week when all the Commissioners are in attendance.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:06 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.



To Carve a Pumpkin – Jack-o’-Lantern History

“Way out in the country tonight he could smell the pumpkins ripening toward the knife and the triangle eye and the singeing candle.”

Ray Bradbury

With the arrival of October, we are surrounded by pumpkins. They fill shop windows and store fronts. Large bins of them are found in every supermarket. In some parts of the country, you see them afield, warm and orange in the sun. As Halloween nears, many are cut and turned to Jack-o’-Lanterns. Their cheerful and ghoulish faces remind us of childhood fun and memories past. Jack-o’-Lanterns are a part of our Halloween history.

Modern traditions of Halloween, including our fascination with carving pumpkins and creating

Jack-o’-Lanterns, can be traced back to the Celtic holiday called Samhain. Samhain was celebrated in Ireland and throughout Europe every October 31 – November 1. It marked the end of summer and the final harvest of the year. The pagan holiday was believed to usher in a period of supernatural intensity, darkness, and decay. To combat evil spirits that might be rampaging through the countryside during this season, ancient Celts would start large bonfires. Fire was believed to ward off evil spirits.

After Christianity took root in the Middle Ages, Samhain became All Hallows Eve. Later, raging bonfires were downsized and placed inside vegetables – turnips, potatoes, and gourds. First just cut to emit light, carving became more ornate and common over time. Scary faces were carved to scare off other scary things.

All Hallows Eve was imported to North America, carried by immigrants, especially the Irish who flocked here in the mid-19th century during Ireland’s potato famine. With turnips scarce in the New World, pumpkins became a better option. Carved pumpkins and the Jack-o’-Lanterns

that we know today are linked to the old Irish myth of Stingy Jack.

According to this legend, Stingy Jack was an Irish blacksmith of questionable character who tricked the Devil to save his soul from hell. After his death, the story goes that God denied Stingy Jack entrance into heaven based on his unsavory behavior. There is some incorrect theology here (perhaps they never read Galatians). In any case, barred from heaven, and denied entrance to hell, Stingy Jack was forced to walk the Earth with only a burning coal to light his way. Jack put the coal in a carved-out turnip and is said to have roamed the Earth ever since. The Irish began referring to him as Jack of the Lantern, and then simply Jack-o’-Lantern.

To celebrate Halloween, and in honor of Stingy Jack, you might want to carve a pumpkin or two this year. If you decide to do so, here are some tips:

1 – Choose a good pumpkin. You want one that is fresh (not mushy), with a good sturdy stem and a flat bottom so it won’t roll.

2 – When carving out your lid, cut on an angle so that when you put the top back on it won’t drop

inside.

3 – Use a large metal spoon or ice cream scoop to scrape the inside. Make sides nice and thin so pumpkin is easier to carve.

4 – Use a sharp knife or toothpick to outline your design before cutting. If you are carving a fancy design, draw on paper first and use toothpicks to hold the pattern in place.

5 – Hold pumpkin in your lap when carving. It will be easier to carve a face when it is looking up at you. Small sharp kitchen knives work best for carving. And be careful (first aid tip for bad bleeding cuts – keep jar of cayenne pepper handy – sprinkle liberally on wound and press to stop bleeding).

6 – Seal your pumpkin with petroleum jelly to make it last. Spread on all cut edges and open flesh. This will keep your Jack-o’-Lantern from decaying quickly.

7- Place candle(s) in pumpkin before lighting – be careful with fire. Better to use Christmas lights or battery operated votives.

Enjoy your Jack-o’-Lantern.

Happy Halloween!
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Cleo's Flower Shop

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