

The Cunningham Courier

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

photo by
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Thursday, April 2, 2020
Volume 30 Number 14

Cunningham City Council met Monday using Zoom

Note: The following is a draft of unapproved minutes of Monday evening's meeting of the Cunningham City Council. The City Council approved a resolution at the meeting declaring a local state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic and temporarily granting the mayor the authority to act on behalf of the City without the need for Council approval. The Council will be kept informed of any decisions made and will review and consider approval of those decisions at their next meeting.

The Council also approved following the recommendations made by the Kingman County Health Department and voted to close certain areas of the park to public use. Recognizing that our city park cannot be physically closed and wanting our residents and guests to enjoy the use of the walking path and open areas of the park, the Council approved the use of signs to indicate the areas closed. We encourage you to follow the guidelines recommended by the CDC, KDHE, and our county health departments.

David Steffen,
City Clerk

March 30, 2020

The Cunningham City Council met in regular session on Monday, March 30, 2020 using the computer application "Zoom". Notice of the meeting was posted at City Hall, the Post Office, and other locations downtown, on the city website (www.cunninghamks.net), as well as in the March 26, 2020 edition of The Cunningham Courier.

Present were Mayor Aaron Murphy; Council Members Bart Ricke, Jason Ruckle, Tim Schultz, and Matt Westerhaus; City Attorney Greg Graffman; City Superintendent Russ Rohlman, and City Clerk David Steffen.

Guests included Ben Henning, Todd Shelman, Molly Morgan, and Jackie Ruckle.

Mayor Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., welcomed guests, and stated that votes would be taken by roll call so than anyone using only audio to attend the meeting could hear the vote.

Agenda – Motion by Westerhaus, second by Schultz, to approve the agenda as written. Roll call: Ricke, yes; Ruckle, yes; Schultz, yes; and Westerhaus, yes. Motion carried, 4/0.

Minutes – Motion by Ruckle, second by Westerhaus, to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2020 meeting as written. Roll call: Ricke, yes; Ruckle, yes; Schultz, yes; and Westerhaus, yes. Motion carried, 4/0.

Public Comments & Communications – None.

Resolution R-2020-01, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CUNNINGHAM, KANSAS DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY; TEMPORARILY EXPANDING THE AUTHORITY OF THE MAYOR TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY; AND RATIFYING PREVIOUS DECISIONS REGARDING THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY.

City Attorney Graffman gave the Council a brief explanation of the resolution, which states in part, "The mayor is hereby vested, temporarily, with the

authority to make all decisions in regard to personnel and City operations without the need to obtain Council approval for said action. This grant includes the authority to close City Facilities or suspend City operations; the authority to temporarily amend, extend, or suspend policies and procedures, including purchasing and personnel policies, of the City in response to the emergency; the authority and discretion to make decisions concerning the grant of additional leave and/or benefits to City employees; the authority to make decisions and purchases exceeding previously established purchasing authority granted by the Council; and the authority to make other decisions deemed necessary to continue city operations and secure the well-being and safety of City employees and the public at large in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Mayor shall keep the Governing Body informed of the actions taken pursuant to this grant of authority by reporting them to the Governing Body at the next meeting after the action was taken. The Governing Body shall review and approve all decisions made pursuant to this resolution."

Motion by Westerhaus, second by Ricke, to approve Resolution R-202-01. Roll call: Ricke, yes; Ruckle, yes; Schultz, yes; and Westerhaus, yes. Motion carried, 4/0.

Fire Department – The Fire Department has had a couple of runs since the February meeting. The pump on No. 331 has been repaired and the truck is back in service. Two new sets of bunker gear were ordered. The fire station sign has been powder-coated and a new aluminum flagpole (purchased

with donations) has arrived.

Motion by Ruckle, second by Westerhaus, to authorize Chief Stark to remove any equipment on the 1979 Chevy brush truck, No. 324, and to sell the truck on PurpleWave Auction. Motion carried, 4/0.

Spring Clean-Up – Consensus of the Council was to postpone this year's Spring Clean-Up and to add the item to the April 27th meeting agenda.

Sidewalks – Consensus of the Council was to add consideration of replacement of sidewalks on the 100 block of N. Main Street to the April 27th meeting agenda.

Water Well No. 3 – Todd Shelman gave a brief update on the progress of the Well No. 3 project. The 6" pipe has been laid from 40' north of the new well site to connect to the 8" main at a point between Wellhouse No. 1 and the bulk water dispenser. The bulk water dispenser is temporarily out of service until a new electrical connection is made after work on the chemical buildings has been completed.

The mayor and council discussed the exterior conditions of the well-houses. Consensus of the Council was for Mayor Murphy to contact Randy Thimesch about installing tin on the exterior of the buildings and closing in the windows in each wellhouse. The work will be separate from the Water Well No. 3 project and will be financed through the Capital Improvements Fund.

Swimming Pool – Consensus of the Council was for city maintenance personnel to drain, clean, and power wash the swimming pool and to paint it and make other repairs needed for opening the pool; although the opening date for

(con't on page 3)

Porch Angels to Help

A group of volunteers are working with Director of Emergency Management, Rich Schott, to make services available to those choosing to isolate due to concerns over COVID-19. These 60+ individuals have chosen to dub their effort "Porch Angels".

Currently, they are working with White's Foodliner to deliver groceries throughout the entire Kingman County. Each township has been assigned a facilitator and helper to drop goods purchased off at individual's homes. The facilitator for the City of Cunningham is Jennette Rogers and the helper is Barb Schultz. The volunteers will be wearing the "Porch Angels" shirts shown here. There will be no exchange of money nor will volunteers be entering homes, just simply dropping purchases off near

your entry.

If you are interested in a grocery deliver to your home, simply call White's Foodliner in Kingman at 620-532-3851. Place your order using your credit/debit card before 11 AM on your township's delivery day...

MONDAY
White; Galesburg; Evan; Dale; Vinita

TUESDAY
Eagle; Allen; Valley; Canton; Bennett

WEDNESDAY
Ninnescah; Belmont; Richland

THURSDAY
Kingman; Peters; Liberty; Rochester
Chikaskia

FRIDAY
City Of Cunningham; Dresden; Eureka; Hoosier; Union; Rural

Specify that your delivery option is PORCH ANGELS. If you live in the country, please tell them your TOWNSHIP name. If you are within Cunningham city limits, tell them you live within the CITY OF CUNNINGHAM. Your porch angel will deliver the order to your home after 2 PM that day (FRIDAY AFTER 2 PM FOR CUNNINGHAM). If you have any questions, please contact volunteer coordinator Kendra Harnden at 620-213-0469 or Jennette Rogers at 620-770-9265.

*So that people know who
the delivery drivers are when
they pull up to the house....*



Social Distancing Family Fun



In front of the Lance McGuire home



The Schultz children flying kites at the park.

CATHOLIC Masses

St. Leo
Saturdays
5:30 p.m.

St. John's, Zenda
closed

Saturdays
4:00 p.m.

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

St. Peter's, Willowdale
Sundays
10:00 a.m.

Fr. Roger Lumbre

CHURCH OF CHRIST
Penalosa
closed

Sunday
Bible Class
10:00 a.m.

Worship
11:00 a.m.

CHRISTIAN
Cunningham

Sunday School
9:30 a.m.

Worship
10:45 a.m.

closed

Bible Study
6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

LUTHERAN
St. John's
Nashville

Worship Service
10:30 a.m.

Sunday School & Bible Class
9:15 a.m.

closed

Trinity
Medicine
Lodge

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

Morning Worship
8:30 a.m.

620-656-7431

Pastor Dennis

UNITED METHODIST
Penalosa
Worship
9:15 a.m.

closed

Cunningham
Sunday School
9:45 a.m.

Worship 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Katelyn Zoglmann

UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH
Zenda
101 N. Main
Sunday
closed

Worship
9 a.m.

Sunday School:
Children 8:30 a.m.
Adult 10:00 a.m.

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

Community Bulletin Board

Our Community Calendar will resume at some point.

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- WANTED -
Old Photos for *Our Community Album*
Call (620) 298-2659 or email
cunninghamcourier@embarqmail.com or send
to PO Box 38, Cunningham, KS 67035

"People who smile while they are alone used to be called insane, until we invented smartphones and social media."
— *Mokokoma Mokhonoana*

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

No matter what is going on in the world, we always relied on movies to transport us to another place and time....

Although the theatre is closed due to the current health concern, we still want you to escape through the movies.

On Saturday, March 28th from 4pm-7pm, we will be offering curbside delivery of our great popcorn and combo concessions. We want to encourage our Kingman Community to stay home and watch your favorite movie, and still enjoy the delicious concessions of your local Kingman Historic Theatre!!!

Orders can be placed at the outside box office window, through our FB pages, or by calling 532-1253. (Our lobby will be closed to the public)

For those taking advantage of this great offer... send us a picture through FB messenger of your Stay at Home and Escape Through The Movies night while enjoying your Kingman Theatre Concessions and you will be entered into a drawing for (4) free tickets and (2) 2 person combo gift cards to the Kingman Historic Theatre.

To Donate or Loan items to the Cunningham Museum, please contact Donna Glenn

Fundraisers & Charitable Opportunities in our Community

Cunningham Public Library
4C Day Care Shop smile.amazon.com
(Kathy Albers 620-298-2725 or 620-388-0774)

West Kingman County Education Foundation
Use your Dillon's Card! [Shop smile.amazon.com](http://Shop.smile.amazon.com)
(Janet DeWeese 620-298-2717)

Hands of Hope (contact Fitzsimmons Insurance or any church)

Cunningham Schools Box Tops for Education

Cunningham Alumni Scholarship Fund
(send checks to the West Kingman County Education Foundation)

Community Center (leave donation at the bank)

Lions' Club (leave your old eyeglasses at the bank)

Cunningham Museum (to donate contact Donna Glenn)

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YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

William E. Bradley, Editor

1970

April 2 – That was no April Fool joke Cunninghamites woke up to Wednesday morning.

Area residents saw about four inches of snow on the ground, and more coming down. Some of the snow melted as it fell, as the temperature was about the freezing mark, but the wind came up before noon and the possible drifting conditions on roads forced the dismissal of school for the day.

The Cunningham Community Easter Egg Hunt, scheduled for last Saturday, was postponed due to wet grounds. The hunt, sponsored by the Cunningham Lions Club, will be held this Saturday, April 4, at the ball park, beginning at 2:30 o'clock.

The Cunningham City Planning Commission completed its first year of organization during the month of February.

The Senior Class of Nashville-Zenda High School will present their annual play, "The Curious Savage," Friday evening, April 3, at 7:30 o'clock in the school gym at Zenda.

Admission prices are adults, \$1.00; high school, 75¢, and grade school, 50¢. A slave sale will follow the play.

Plans are being made to honor Miss Cozette Taylor, long-time Cunningham school teacher, with a special recognition day and reception in Cunningham, Sunday afternoon, April 12.

A short program will be held in the high school auditorium at 2:00 o'clock, followed by an open house until 5:00 o'clock.

All former students and friends of "Miss Cozette" are invited and urged to attend.

Miss Taylor will retire at the close of the current school year, completing 46 years of school teaching, three at the Walnut Hill School, and 43 at Cunningham Grade School.

1965

April 1 – Column One – Our grateful thanks and appreciation to Editor Ray Nickle of the Hardtner Press for the loan of his "type-setting critter" to set last week's issue of the Cunningham Clipper, when our "type-setting critter" was broke down.

This issue of the Cunningham Clipper will enjoy the largest circulation of any previous issue of the Clipper.

Thanks for recycling The Courier on April 6th



Owner Lee DeWeese of the DeWeese Variety and Hardware in Cunningham, is having this issue sent to every postal patron in the communities of Preston, Penalosa, Nashville, Turon, Langdon, Zenda, Spivey, Isabel, and of course, Cunningham.

That's not very many, you say? We say it is – 1,996 in all, plus our regular subscription list.

The DeWeese Variety and Hardware in Cunningham begins a "Business Adjustment Sale" tomorrow (Friday) that owner Lee DeWeese states will be "the sale to end all sales."

As if the bargains of 25 to 30 percent off regular price in every department wouldn't be a drawing card, Mr. DeWeese is also holding a "Grand Prize Contest," with eight prizes totaling \$482.43, and featuring a first prize of a 2-piece Early American solid maple bedroom suite valued at \$225.00.

Word has been received here of the death of Fred (Pete) Morton, 81, a former Cunningham resident, who passed away Tuesday night at a hospital in Ventura, Calif., where he had been a patient for some time.

March 31, 1960 – Two new teachers have signed contracts to teach in Cunningham Rural High School next year, it was announced this week by the Board of Education and Principal Will Seacat.

Mrs. Elizabeth McCool, wife of Frank McCool of Cunningham, is the new Home Economics instructor. Mrs. McCool is currently teaching Home Economics at Norwich High School.

Merell Folsom, Industrial Arts instructor at Macksville High School the past four years, is the new shop teacher here.

Mr. Folsom is married, and the father of three small children.

Over 30 applications were received by the school board in regard to the industrial arts job here.

Burglars took about \$1,700 in merchandise from two Kingman County stores last Saturday night. Sheriff Earl Handkins and Deputy Sheriff Bob Lindt investigated the break-ins, which occurred at the Farmer's Co-op in Nashville and the Eshnour Grocery and Hardware Store in Norwich.

At the co-op, the burglars took adding machines, typewriters, tires, and tools.

Missing from the grocery and hardware store were such items as flashlights, cooking utensils, cigarettes, gum, and tools.

A "papering bee" was held at the home of

Miss Cecelia Leisman, Monday, when six ladies of the community gathered there and papered three rooms of the Leisman farm home.

Participating in the "papering bee" were Mrs. Elmer Glenn, Mrs. John Conley, Mrs. George Thimmesch, Mrs. Eugene Kitson, Miss Rose Heitman, and Miss Ann Probst.

1955

March 31 – Jack Miller, Sports Director of Television Station KAKE-TV in Wichita, will be the featured speaker at the April meeting of the Community Men's Club, it was announced this week by President Gary Rochell.

This is the club's annual Athletic Banquet, and it will be held in the Lodge Hall on Tuesday evening, April 19. Invited guests will be the high and grade school basketball teams.

Off the Record

A conscience may not keep you from sinning, but it will prevent you from enjoying it.

Experts are trying to figure out what kind of cars folks will be driving in 1999. Unless something suddenly happens to prices, a good many of us will be found driving the one we are now.

We know of one product where the supply is always bigger than the demand – that's trouble.

Success is the art of making your mistakes when nobody is looking.

1950

March 31 – Work was started on two new brick homes in the north part of Cunningham this week. Everett Hauser started construction of a blonde brick ranch-style home west of the grade school building, and George Rose broke ground on a blonde brick two-bedroom home in the northeast part of the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Floren Rose announce the birth of a son, Saturday, March 25.

1940

March 29 – The McGeorge Brothers, Roy and Paul, announced this week that they have sold the Cunningham Theatre to William Bonner of Leoti.

The contagious disease epidemic of Measles and Scarlet Fever, which has paid a lengthy visit to our community, seems to have subsided quite a bit with no new cases reported during the past week.

1935

March 29 – Mr. and Mrs. John Wymer are moving to Preston this week, where he will take over a rural route out of that postoffice. Wymer has carried Rural Route 2 mail out of the local post office for the past 27 years. With his departure, John Steffen and James Luce will combine the three rural routes into two routes.

Three tickets have been filed for the ap-
con't on page 3

City Council

(con't from front page)

the swimming pool could be postponed this year. Consensus of the Council was for the pool manager, Molly Morgan, to meet with the mayor to discuss personnel decisions and for the pool manager and lifeguards to paint the pool house and to recommend repairs to city maintenance.

Parks – The City Clerk read a letter received by email from Mary Schwartz, Kingman County Health Officer. The letter states:

“As you know, we are in the midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Several positive cases are being reported in the counties around us, and I fear Kingman County will get its first positive case in a matter of time.

“Last weekend Kansas Governor Laura Kelly issued an executive ‘stay at home’ order effective today to April 19, 2020 in order to hopefully keep the virus from spreading any more than it has already by restricting activities other than what is necessary to reduce exposure and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

“Outdoor exercise has not been restricted. However, proper social

distancing is required. I feel that some activities in our parks, namely public shelters, basketball courts, and playground equipment, does not allow for social distancing of 6 feet or more.

“Therefore, I recommend all picnic shelters, playground equipment, and basketball courts in the county be closed until further notice. The open spaces of the parks should be kept open for people needing exercise.

“This recommendation is for the safety of our children and our residents.”

Motion by Westerhaus, second by Ricke, to close the areas in the park recommended by the Kingman County Health Officer. Roll call: Ricke, yes; Ruckle, yes; Schultz, yes; and Westerhaus, yes. Motion carried, 4/0. City employees will post signs in the areas closed.

(Note: On March 31, 2020, Kingman County Health Officer Mary Schwartz added the recommendation that the baseball diamond be added to the list due to the close quarters in the dugouts and the need for proper social distancing among fans watching the game in the stands. Mayor Murphy added

this area of the park to the closures approved by the City Council).

Reports – Property Officer report – Jackie Ruckle was unable to give her report due to a computer microphone glitch. The Clerk informed the Council that Mrs. Ruckle was continuing to work on two cases involving trash and debris in residential areas and would be working with the City Attorney to determine what steps are necessary to ensure compliance.

Maintenance report – Russell Rohlman gave the maintenance report. Disposal of paper towels into the sewer system is still occurring and could cause a blockage and backup. City maintenance personnel continue to check manholes and flush the lines as needed. Todd is working on the Well No. 3 project. Russ has been grading roads. A truckload of asphalt millings was delivered and put to use. More are needed. Consensus of the Council was for Rohlman to order two more loads of asphalt millings to use as needed. Consensus of the Council was for Rohlman to help Mr. Theis with mowing this spring and to spray weeds as needed. Weeds

need to be cleared from the playground and sand volleyball court.

Planning & Zoning – Permits since the last Council meeting were 1) Sessions & Sons, 315 W First St., install fence; 2) Carl & Kim Balding, 215 E. First, raze barn, install fence, install carport. The City Planning Commission did not meet in March. If the commission meets in April, the Zoom app will be used and notices will be posted downtown and on the city website and in the Courier when possible.

Animal Control – No report.

Financial Report and Payment of Bills – The Council reviewed the month’s bills and financial report. Motion by Westerhaus, second by Ricke, to approve the financial report, including transfers, and pay the bills as presented. Roll call: Ricke, yes; Ruckle, yes; Schultz, yes; and Westerhaus, yes. Motion carried, 4/0.

Adjournment – Motion by Ricke, second by Schultz, to adjourn. Roll call: Ricke, yes; Ruckle, yes; Schultz, yes; and Westerhaus, yes. Motion carried, 4/0. Mayor Murphy adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.



Meanderings

How are all my readers doing? Staying safe? Healthy? Sane?

I am having a hard time putting a paper together. I think my creativity is lying dormant and I can’t seem to find the right amount of sunshine and rain to get it going. Worry doesn’t help anything, but worry I do.

I don’t quite know why I’m feeling a bit down and uncreative. I am a person who enjoys my own company and that of my books and my beastly companions. Sometimes they (beasts and books) can be good company.... And sometimes not.

My old Valentino is a talker. He talks to me all the time. He asks questions, he demands, he makes observations, but unfortunately in his old age, he only wants to talk about food:

"Can I eat now?
What about now?
Is it time to eat yet?
What’s for breakfast?
Can I have a snack?
I want dinner!
Food would sure taste good right now.

That chicken you are eating sure looks delicious.

I really would love you if you give me a bit of that ham."

I am tired of Valentino’s conversations.

Boris, the most undemanding of all my kitties, has a very limited vocabulary:

"I’m here.
Here I am.
I’m following you.
Can I go out?
Can I come in?
Are you going somewhere?
You are the best and I love you."

And then there’s Ned. Ned Nederlander. He has a loud and rather raucous voice:

"I’m annoying!!!!
Am I annoying you?
How can I annoy you?
Oh, there’s the dog!
Hey, Dog, am I annoying you?
Valentino, am I annoying?
What more can I do to be annoying?
Boris, can I annoy you?
Lady, pet me! No! Don’t! Does that annoy you? I am sure it does."

I guess it could be worse.... I could have companions that didn’t converse at all. How dreary that would be.

I am also keeping questionable company with a book.

I am currently reading “The Goldfinch” by Donna Tartt. For whatever reason, I have a large print copy of the book... I have no idea where I got it or how long I’ve had it. I can say I’ve not had it for more than seven years as it was published in 2013. It has been on a shelf in one of my closets, and my friend, Fred, in Indiana, told me he had a copy and was considering reading it. I also learned a movie

based on the book was made last year, so I got down my copy from the top shelf of the closet... no small feat. The large print edition is over 1248 pages and weighs a ton or so. (okay, I do exaggerate, but it is heavy enough my arms get tired while reading in bed.)

Even though this book won numerous awards, including the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 2014, I would like to say I am not recommending this book.

Okay, maybe if you are a person who loves to read or one who just needs to wile away a few hours and have nothing better to do than follow a teenage boy through hundreds of pages filled with angst of relationships, dying parents, drugs and drinking and smoking

There is a passage toward the front of the book, that reminded me of my column a couple of weeks ago:

"Why did I obsess over people like this? Was it normal to fixate on strangers in the particular vivid, fevered way? I didn’t think so. It was impossible to imagine some random passer-by on the street forming quite such an interest in me. And yet it was the main reason I’d gone in those houses with Tom. I was fascinated by strangers, wanted to know what food they ate and what dishes they ate it from, what movies they watched and what music they listened to, wanted to look under their beds and in their secret drawers and night tables, and inside the pockets of their coats. Often, I saw interesting looking people on the street and thought about them restlessly for days, imagining their lives, make up stories about them on the subway or the crosstown bus.

I liked that bit; however I do NOT want to break into people’s homes, though.... That’s rather creepy.

Stay healthy. Stay safe. Send me news. Send me stories. Send me photos. Send me book reviews. Send me conversations with your pets.

Always reading, And currently reading, “The Goldfinch” By Donna Tartt Roberta

“A cat has absolute emotional honesty: human beings, for one reason or another, may hide their feelings, but a cat does not.” — Ernest Hemingway

“Hard to put things right. You don’t often get that chance. Sometimes all you can do is not get caught.” — Donna Tartt, *The Goldfinch*

Don't Forget: Why has Cunningham thrived when other towns have not? Why is our community strong and stable and growing and others aren't? Let me know: Email: cunninghamcourier@embarqmail.com or write to P.O. Box 38 Cunningham 67035 or call 620-298-2659.

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

William E. Bradley, Editor

(con't from page 2)

proaching City Election. Candidates for Mayor are A. I. Jones and Frank Doty; E. C. Dafforn and Norman Hart are candidates for Police Judge, and Councilman candidates are Donald Thompson, Pat Benningfield, Wayne

DeLair, Carde Cannon, Marvin Bahling, Charles Franks, Glenn Patton, Carlos Cannon, Charles Lakin, Perry Luce, and Roy Wetherall.

Sharon High School’s basketballers won the State Class B Basketball

Tournament at Salina last week-end. Cunningham and Sharon split games during the past season.

1930

March 28 – Charles Lakin announced this week that his business firm is the new Chevrolet Agency for Cunningham. Lakin made his first sale to Roy McNamee last Friday.

Bedford Taylor, pro-

prietor of the North Barber Shop, has installed complete shower bath equipment at the shop. He says he has plenty of hot and cold water with lots of pressure, and urges prospective customers to try a shower bath.

Mr. and Mrs. John Steffen announce the birth of a daughter, Monday, March 24.

Photo of Maud Creek School



One of the advantages to working across the street from FitzSimmons Insurance is the wealth of information I can get from Marily Mavity. She sometimes has old photos on her table that shares with me. This is one of them. It was taken outside the Maud Creek School that was south and east of town. (I hope there were windows on the side of the building!) The photo is undated.

Next week I will have another photo taken inside the school.

Oh, Yes! Beware of Scammers!!

There are currently many alerts and warnings put out by various law enforcement agencies, cautioning people about

dishonest and lazy people taking advantage of the COVID-19 scare and the governments emergency funds for people. No one is going to call you and ask for your bank account number so your check

can be directly deposited. No one should come into your home to test you for the virus.

I think the best advice is: If it sounds too good to be true, it isn't true. If it sounds too easy, it won't

be. Protect yourself. Be wary of every good deal. Be wary of the phone calls.

Stay safe. Keep your money and home safe. Be careful. Be cautious. —Roberta

Libraries

<p>Cunningham Public Library Monday - Wednesday - Friday 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. Tuesday Thursday - Saturday 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Zenda Public Library Hours Monday & Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Thursday 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Sat. 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 620-243-5791</p>	<p>Kingman Carnegie Library 620-532-3061 Mon. : 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Tues. : 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Wed. : 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Pratt Public Library Mon. - Thurs. 10:00 - 7:00 Fri. - Sat. 10:00 - 6:00 Closed on Sundays</p>
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County Commission Meeting March 23rd

The Board of Kingman County Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Kingman County Courthouse, Kingman, Kansas on March 23rd, 2020. Those present: John Steffen, Chairman; Fred Foley, Commissioner; Jerry Henning, Commissioner; Carol Noblit, County Clerk; John Caton, County Counselor

Visitors: Roy Riggs, The Law Company and Colin Arndt, The Law Company.

Staff: Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director; Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director; Richard Schott, Emergency Manager; Sheriff Randy Hill and Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse.

Chairman Steffen called the Board of County Commissioners Meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Chairman Steffen asked if there were any additions to the agenda. MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Larry Landwehr discussed that he had talked with a township about the funds from FEMA for the roads and if they could see when they would be

receiving those funds.

The connection was lost with go meeting and the meeting stopped until connection was made.

The County Clerk submitted the minutes of the March 16th, 2020 Commission Meeting and the March 18th, 2020 Special Meeting for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve the minutes of the March 16th, 2020 Commission meeting. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve the minutes of the March 18th, 2020 Special Commission Meeting. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in and let the Commissioners know that the windfarm has no activity due to the COVID-19 Virus.

Mr. Arensdorf received official notice that KDOT is closed until at least the 3rd of April.

Mr. Arensdorf discussed that NextEra had a crane in at the Skyland Coop in Calista before notification was given to Public Works.

Commissioner Henning

let Mr. Arensdorf know that he saw the crane with seven axles and wasn't sure when they put the counter weights on it. The cranes and trailers are tearing up the roads.

Commissioner Henning said that he had called the Law Enforcement to document the trailers and cones were placed around the trailer to protect people driving down the road.

John Caton, County Counselor said he would get a resolution together about the roads being damaged.

Chairman Steffen asked the Board about possible appropriations to the townships for road repair.

The Commissioners would like to talk with the auditor about the road repairs.

The Commissioners discussed titling of vehicles and equipment as KINGMAN COUNTY KANSAS.

Stan Goetz was in to let the Commissioners know that he will need an executive session later in the meeting.

Mr. Goetz discussed the NextEra crane problem with the Commissioners.

Commissioner Henning let Mr. Goetz know that they are tracking 600-ton crane across the road in Barber County.

Mr. Goetz needed signatures for Breanna Swindle and Seth Taber hire sheets.

Mr. Goetz let the Commissioners know that they are interviewing for a Communications Officer but no one has been hired yet.

Mr. Goetz submitted Emergency Leave Policy and Family Medical Leave Policies. President Trump has enforced these policies.

Roy Riggs and Colin Arndt, The Law Company were in with the upcoming schedule for the next three weeks.

Mr. Arndt let the Commissioners know that they will have someone here tonight to keep an eye on the building so no water gets into the building.

Mr. Riggs went over the weather delay days.

Mr. Arndt discussed the brick laying that is being done.

Mr. Riggs discussed the 250KW Generator and \$3985.00 would be an added to go from the 200KW Generator initially planned.

Commissioners agreed to go with one 250 KW Generator.

Mr. Riggs has a policy for COVID-19 and no non-essential personnel will be on the job site.

Sheriff Randy Hill was in with the lease documents for the Commissioners signatures. The amount is \$92,295.00 for four interceptors.

Sheriff Hill discussed all the precautions that he is doing for his department and the training.

Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse and Richard Schott, Emergency Manager were in with updates.

Ms. Schwartz let the Commissioners know that Kingman County doesn't currently have any confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Ms. Schwartz let the Commissioners know that I am recommending the gyms close for at least 2 weeks.

Mr. Schott went over the entry procedures with the County Commissioners that will be put in place starting tomorrow for employees.

Mr. Schott if the County Commissioners would like to put in place something for the employees that would keep them from traveling to hot spot areas.

Mr. Schott discussed a project that is being put together to help individuals who can't get out to purchase items or pick up medications.

The Commissioners discussed an email they received for purchasing masks.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to provide \$5000.00 for personal protection equipment out of the General Fund. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Stan Goetz requested executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Foley moved to go into executive session with Stan Goetz, HR and John Caton, County Counselor at 3:55 p.m.

to discuss an individual employee's performance pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act. The County Commissioners returned to regular session at 4:20 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Steffen

moved to extend the executive session with Stan Goetz, HR and John Caton, County Counselor at 4:21p.m. to discuss an individual employee's performance pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act. The County Commissioners returned to regular session at 4:30 p.m. no binding action was taken.

The County Commissioner signed one abatement

MOTION: Commissioner Henning approved the appropriation for the fair board and if they do not have a fair this year it must be used the next year. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve purchasing election envelopes, confirmation cards and notice of disposition cards from Bolen in the amount of \$1,000.00. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

The County Commissioners reviewed the Kingman EMS Director annual report.

The Commissioners discussed holding the meeting at 8:30 a.m. next Monday.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 4:56 p.m. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion.

West Kingman County BOE Held Special Meeting

The West Kingman County Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. on Monday, March 30, 2020, by President

Scott DeWeese.

President, Scott DeWeese; Vice-President, Brent Hansen; Members, Joyce Gridley, Brent Miller, Kurt Preisser, Travis Thimesch, Vicki Oldham; Superintendent, Robert Reed; and Clerk, Stacy Webster.

Motion made by Brent Hansen, seconded

by Kurt Preisser, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Guests: None. No requests were made to Zoom in.

Superintendent Reed reviewed with the board the Continuous Learning Plan document. He also visited with the board

regarding internet access for students and continuing to feed students as well as teach them. He shared with the board information regarding the resolution to continue wage payments.

Motion made by Brent Miller, seconded by Vicki Oldham, to approve the Continuous Learning

Plan as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Joyce Gridley, seconded by Brent Miller, to approve the Wage Payment resolution. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Kurt Preisser, seconded by Brent Miller, to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Motion carried 7-0.

The next regular meeting of the West Kingman County Unified School District No. 332 Board of Education will be at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 13, 2020, in the Board of Education Office at 104 W 4th, Cunningham, Kansas.

American Legion Boys State of Kansas Leadership Academy 2020 Session Cancelled Due to COVID-19

Due to continuing developments concerning COVID-19 (coronavirus), the American Legion Boys State of Kansas

Leadership Academy has cancelled its 2020 session, which was scheduled for May 31 through June 5 at Kansas State University in Manhattan. The decision to cancel

this year's session, which would have been its 83rd, was made to ensure the safety of the delegates, staff and American Legion volunteers.

"On behalf of the entire American Legion Boys State of Kansas Leadership Academy staff, I am saddened that we had to make the decision to cancel this year's session due to COVID-19," said

Executive Director Shane Wilson. "However, for the health and well-being of the delegates, staff and Legionnaires, as well as the Kansas State University employees who assist our program, we felt this was the right call to make with the unknown future of this pandemic. And by cancelling the 2020 session now, this allows everyone involved to make alternate plans as needed."

This year's attendees will receive information in the coming weeks regarding the impact of this decision, including refunds to those who have completed the registration process.

For more information about this year's cancellation, visit ksbstate.org. Delegates/families with specific questions, comments or concerns can contact the ALBSKLA

at info.1937@ksbstate.org or (866) 241-9920. Sponsors, such as American Legion posts, civic organizations, businesses and clubs, should contact Troy Fowler, ALBSKLA director of operations, at troy.fowler@ksbstate.org.

The ALBSKLA is for individuals who will enter their senior year of high school in the fall. It provides a relevant, interactive, problem-solving experience in leadership and teamwork that develops self-identity, promotes mutual respect

and instills civic responsibility. Boys State is a "learning by doing" political exercise that simulates elections, political parties and government at the state, county and local levels, providing opportunities to lead under pressure, showcasing character and working effectively within a team. It's also an opportunity to gain pride and respect for the price paid by members of the military to preserve democracy.

Public Notice

First Published in The Cunningham Courier on Thursday, April 2, 2020 (3t)

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

DONALD K. BETT, Deceased. CASE NO. 2020 PR 7

(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 26, 2020, a Petition for Issuance of Letters of Administration was filed in this Court by Toni Robinson, an heir.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before April 20, 2020, 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.

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.

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

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Attention CHS SENIORS!!

The Courier is planning a Spotlight page for you! You should have received an email from Mr. McGuire a couple of weeks ago. He has forwarded a form to fill out and return to The Courier. I will also need a senior photo. You can send to cunninghamcourier@embarqmail.com. Please don't lollygag about; don't procrastinate! Don't dillydally! Send ASAP! Thanks!

"a moment of isolation is a miracle sometimes! to wonder... to ponder... to reflect... to realize... to dream... to decide... to reminisce... to remember... to feel... to find... to wish... to miss... to love... and to live... a moment of isolation is a miracle sometimes!"
— Ashmita Acharya, Aquiver



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Miscellaneous

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Effective June 1, 2019: Ads are \$5.50 per column inch, \$6.00 for full-color ads. Front page box ads are \$9.00 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. DEADLINES: 2:00 p.m. Tuesdays

NOTICE

The West City Park in Cunningham is closed to vehicle traffic during construction of the water well and buildings. Traffic along the south side of the ball diamond from Stadium Street to the public restrooms is allowed.

Cunningham Blessings

Cunningham residents: during this time of the Covid-19 social distancing, if you are in need of supplies or groceries, please contact Barb Shultz or Jennette Rogers. We will help get what you need so you do not have to leave your home. Call OR text 620-318-6022 OR email cunninghamblessings@yahoo.com



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5 to 7 p.m.
Friday evenings through Lent:
April 3

Spay and Neuter Those Pets!!

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To reserve the **Cunningham Community Center**, contact **Ruth Shelman**, (620) 770-9153 or 318-6042

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Help Wanted

City of Cunningham is accepting applications for a full-time maintenance worker. For application or more information, contact City Hall (620) 298-3077 or email clerk67035@gmail.com or visit our website at www.cunninghamks.net

NOTICE

Stop and listen in the evenings at 7:00. The Methodist Church's bells will be ringing. The nightly bell toll is to remind us to think of all the health providers in our country who are putting their lives on the line right now.

This is also a reminder to pray for all those who are suffering through this difficult time.

On Sunday morning at 10:00, the bells will also peal to remind us that even with our Church services cancelled, it is the Lord's Day and many need our prayers.

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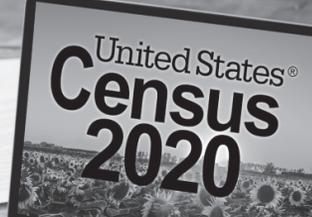
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Celebrations of Life

Stephen Eck

Stephen John Eck, 98, of Sharon, KS, died Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at Pratt Rehabilitation and Residence Center, Pratt, KS.



He was born on November 19, 1921 in Sharon, KS, the son of Peter John Eck and Mary (Ast) Eck. On January 15, 1947, he married Helen (Scripsick) Eck in Sharon, KS. She survives.

Steve was a farmer and member of the St. Boniface Catholic Church in Sharon, KS, the Knights of Columbus and the American Legion. He was a U.S. Army Veteran of World War II.

Surviving in addition to his wife, Helen Eck are ten children, Jeanette (Dan) Gates of Wichita, KS, Glen (Sandy) Eck of Edmond, OK, Kay Jean (Gerald) Bowman of Pratt, KS, Alan (Renee) Eck of El Dorado Springs, MO, Melvin Eck of Edmond, OK, Roger (Lynne) Eck of Larned, KS, Daryl (Margie) Eck of Sharon, KS, Dean (Kelli) Eck of Sharon, KS, Colleen (Greg) Kerschen of Cunningham, KS, and Doug (Shelley) Eck of Colwich, KS; 32 Grandchildren and 75 Great-Grandchildren; one sister, Lucille Laudick of Ardmore, OK.

Steve was preceded in death by his parents, siblings, Mildred Laudick, Dorothy Dick, Pauline Eck, Ed Eck, Vernon Eck, and Leo Eck; two grandchildren, Jason Eck and Brett Bowman, and a daughter-in-law, Shelley Jo Eck.

A memorial rosary and mass will be conducted at a later date.

Burial was in the St. Boniface Catholic Cemetery, Sharon, KS.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the St. Boniface Catholic Church or Heartland Hospice, in care of Larrison Funeral Home, 120 E. Lincoln, Medicine Lodge, KS 67104.

Condolences may be left at www.larrisonmortuary.com.

Wilma Martin

Wilma Lee Martin, 95, died March 20, 2020 at Wheatlands Healthcare Center, Kingman.

She was born Dec. 25, 1924 at Penalosa, Kansas, the daughter of Edward Allen and Edith McNeil Geist. A lifetime resident of the Penalosa Community. She was a cook for many years at Penalosa Grade School and later retired as the head-cook at the Kingman Elementary School.

Wilma was a member of the United Methodist Church and UMW, both of Penalosa; and a longtime volunteer at the Nu-2 U Store. She enjoyed working in her vegetable and flower gardens but her greatest joy was having her family around her.

On June 3, 1942, she married Robert Leon Martin at St. John, Kansas; he died July 19, 2002. Survivors include 3 sons and spouses, Gary and Pam, Jack and Dianne of Hutchinson, Phillip and Kris of Menomonic, Wisconsin; 4 daughters and spouses, Shirley and Larry Cain of Wichita, Lyndel Hardesty of Waterloo, Barbara and Jack Jarrott of Hutchinson and Janet Martin of Kingman; brother Donald Geist of Denver, Colorado; 23 grandchildren, 45 great grandchildren, and 15 great-great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by brothers Dr. Dick, Wilbur and LaVon; and sisters Viola Oak, Violet Clark, Lela Woodson, Rita Swander, Dorothy Honey and Winona Amerine.

Burial has taken place at Lerado Cemetery. Due to the current health concerns there will be a "Celebration of Life" at a later date.

Memorials may be made with the Penalosa United Methodist Church in care of Livingston Funeral Home.

Wayne Franks

Wayne Garland Franks, 71, of Medicine Lodge, KS, died Sunday, March 29, 2020 at Medicine Lodge Memorial Hospital.

He was born on July 13, 1948 in Watonga, OK, the son of Eron Franks and Audie (Boyd) Franks.

Wayne was a mill worker and a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Surviving are one daughter, Becky (Jim) Fischer of Sharon, KS; two grandchildren, Erich (Whitney) Fischer of Salina, KS and Dakota (Alexis) Fischer of Kingman, KS; one brother, Kenneth Franks of Watonga, OK.

Wayne was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Henry Lee Franks.

A private graveside service will be held at Sharon Community Cemetery, Sharon, KS with military honors by the U.S. Army Honor Guard.

Someone dressed a Pomeranian dog up as Paddington Bear and now the world seems a slightly better place to be in than it did yesterday



Meme stolen from Facebook

Go On a Bear Hunt.... But Don't Catch a Big One!

CUNNINGHAM FRIENDS AND FAMILY:

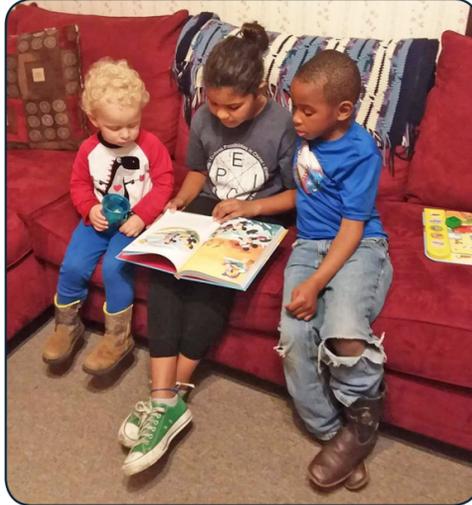
Please put a teddy bear (large enough to see from the street) in your window, porch, or yard, facing the street. Families walking in the neighborhood and around town can go on their very own bear hunt while practicing social distancing. If you want, you can move the bear or change it out after a few days.

Kids: You can't touch the bears; but you can "shoot" them with a camera or a phone. Send the photos into the Courier, please.

And singing the song is okay, too!

(The editor is working on a map of the city to accompany this activity... I'll try and have copies in the post office by Friday.)

Families Social Distancing



Above left: Casey, Keyonna and Kingston Raney. Keyonna is reading to her brothers.

Above: Avery Beat and her mom, Kelsey, fishing on a cool spring day.

Below right: Asher Beat scores two points while his dad, Garrett, assists with the play.

Below left: Ava and Wyatt Neywick and their goat, Brownly. The kids help with the milking. Brownly is giving a gallon of milk daily!

Middle left: Oakley Panek, Kruze Panek and mom, Jamie Panek, enjoying the carwash.



Courtesy photos



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



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

Mom and Dad (61 years)



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