The Cunningham Courier

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

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August 5, 2021
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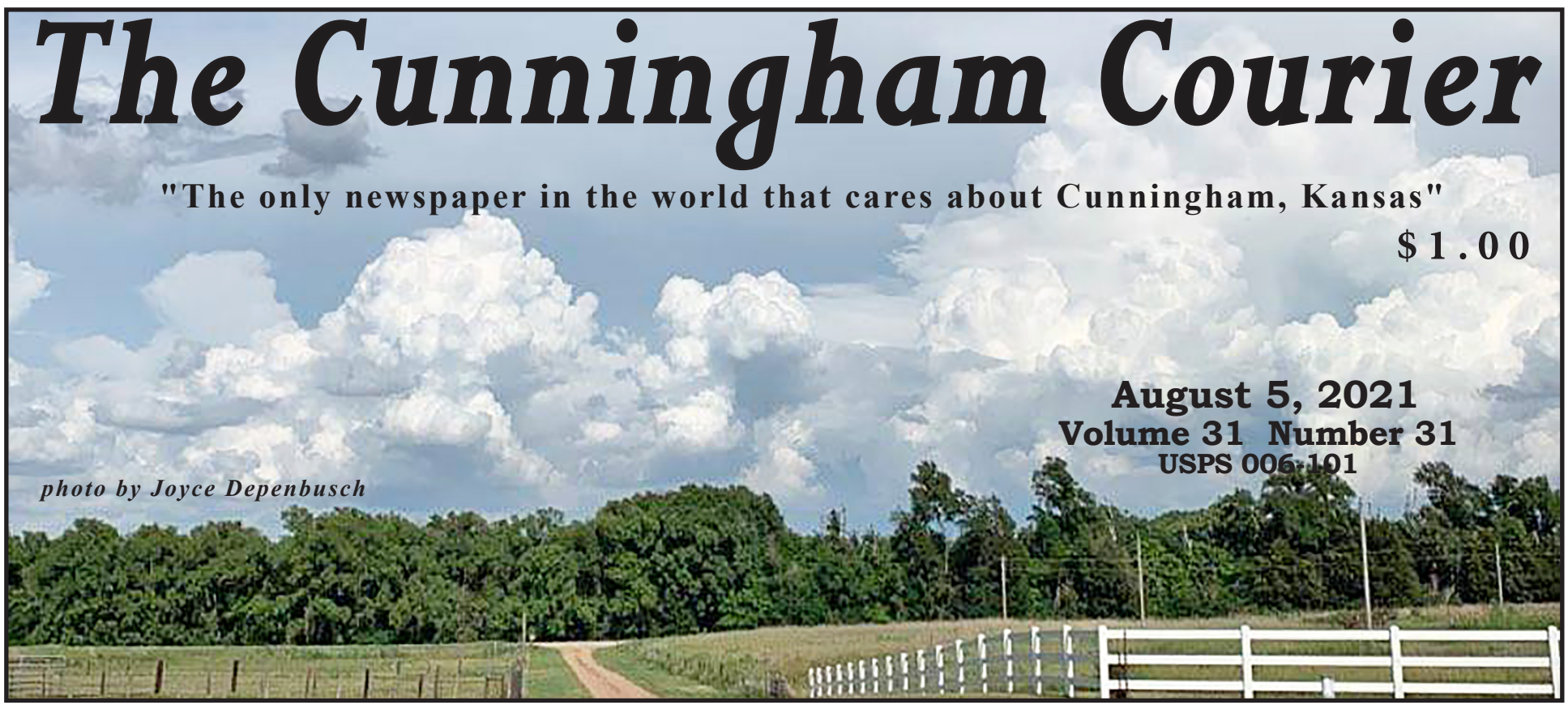

photo by Joyce Depenbusch

Minutes of City Council Meeting: June 28th

The Cunningham City Council met in regular session on Monday, June 28, 2021 at City Hall, 119 N. Main.

Present were Council Members: Jason Ruckle, Karl Vierthaler, Bart Ricke, Tim Schultz and Craig Woodard; City Attorney, Greg Graffman; and City Clerk, Molly Morgan.

Guests: Mesa Sallee, City Superintendent; Harold Stark, Fire Chief; Leslie Schrag, Kingman County Economic Development; Alan Albers, Robert Jones, Roberta Kobbe, Melva Knox, and Christine Cannon.

Mr. Ruckle called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda – Motion by Ricke, second by Vierthaler, to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried, 5/0.

Minutes – Motion by Woodard, second by Vierthaler, to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2021 regular meeting as written. Motion carried, 5/0.

Motion by Ricke, second by Schultz, to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2021 special meeting as written. Motion carried, 5/0.

Public comments – Alan Albers complimented the City on the caretaking of the parks. He requested that the Council consider adding a sidewalk to provide access to the south shelter house in Rouse Park. Consensus of Council was to begin preliminary inquiries into the project.

Robert P. Jones presented ideas for making Cunningham bigger and better. His presentation included ideas in regard to street lights, sidewalks, residential improvement programs, golf course, ice skating rink, and roller skating rink.

Melva Knox informed the Council of updates to her yard and impending repairs to the automobile in her backyard.

U.S. Post Office meter and leak – It was determined that high usage was not at the shared meter. Consensus of the Council was that it is a matter between the tenant and the landlord. No action taken.

Kingman County Economic Development – Leslie Schrag updated the Council on the FAÇADE program and CDBG grants given within the county. The Council thanked Leslie for her work on these projects. Leslie introduced a new program: Dilapidated Structure Abatement Program. She also presented a budget report, and thanked the Council for their support.

Motion by Ricke, second by Woodard, to financially support the KCED fund with a payment of $1000.00. Motion carried, 5/0.

Motion by Ruckle, second by Vierthaler, to participate in the Dilapidated Structure Abatement Program not to exceed $3000.00. Motion carried, 5/0.

Fire Department – Chief Stark reported the department had responded to three harvest related fires since the last meeting. Truck #333 had the air compressor replaced for the brakes. Truck #325 had regular maintenance service. Regarding the fire station, the Chief reported that the gutters have been leaking and there is a drainage problem at the retaining wall. Mesa stated he would investigate those issues. Chief Stark also reported that a window had been replaced in a door after he noticed it had been fogging over. The window was under warranty. Chief Stark stated he had signed the fireworks stand permit for USD 332 at 110 E Fourth Street.

Mosquitos/Bagworms – The City Clerk contacted three pest control companies for quotes. Redrock Protection Services, Medicine Lodge, did not have a fogger to spray for mosquitos. Reida Pest Control did not currently have a fogger in working condition. The Bug Guys quoted a one time treatment for mosquitos at $200.

Motion by Schultz, second by Woodard, to accept The Bug Guys' quote and spray twice (total of $400) for mosquitos with the first treatment occurring before July 3, 2021 and to accept The Bug Guys' quote to spray for bagworms at Rouse Park for $275.00. Motion carried, 5/0.

Cunningham Public Library appointments – Motion by Schultz, second by Ricke, to approve the appointment of Linda Kerschen to a four year term and Angela Glascock to a four year term. Motion carried, 5/0.

West Kingman County Education Foundation – Motion by Ruckle, second by Vierthaler to table the issue of donating funds to the WKCEF. Motion carried, 5/0.

Certified Operator temporary back up – Motion by Woodard, second by Ruckle to hire David Steffen as a temporary back up operator for water and wastewater city systems at $15.00/hour.

American Rescue Plan Act – Motion by Ruckle, second by Vierthaler, to appoint City Clerk as authorized representative and point of contact to apply for ARPA funds. Motion carried, 5/0.

Property Officer: City Clerk reported that weeds at 322 S Wilmot had been mowed.

Planning & Zoning: Building permit for fence located at 322 W Florence.

Maintenance: City Superintendent, Mesa Sallee reported the following:

Shop air compressor had failed. That motor is no longer made. A new compressor was purchased from Tractor Supply Co.

A trimmer/weedeater muffler mounting hardware broke off in engine block. A new Stihl trimmer was purchased to replace it.

New auto-read meters have been installed. Approximately 1/3 of city left to replace.

Mesa can work at the fire station and park to improve drainage in troubled areas.

Very good condition second hand rototiller purchased.

Glass globes for walking path lights need to be replaced. City Clerk reported that globes are purchased from Kansas Lighting at a cost of $26.88 each.

Motion by Vierthaler, second by Ruckle, to purchase sixteen globes for the walking path lights in Rouse Park. Motion carried, 5/0.

Swimming Pool: Mesa reported that he will look for a company that has a small enough camera for the internal pipes to try to detect where the leak is.

Animal Control: No report.

Financial Report and Payment of Bills – City Clerk reported that a personal account debit card was inadvertently used to purchase the new air compressor at Tractor Supply Co. Funds were transferred from clerk fund to account associated with the personal card used. Financial report did not include invoice from Kansas One Call. Motion by Vierthaler, second by Woodard, to approve the financial report and pay the bills including Kansas One Call invoice. Motion carried, 5/0.

Adjournment – Motion by Ricke, second by Vierthaler, to adjourn. Motion carried, 5/0. Council President, Jason Ruckle adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Fall Activities Parent Meetings

Tuesday, August 10, 2021
6:00 HS Cross Country
6:20 JH VB
6:40 HS VB, HS Robotics (boys)
7:00 JH FB
7:20 HS FB, HS Robotics (girls)

The sports meetings will be held in the cafeteria. The robotics meeting will meet in the music room.

All athletes and parents are encouraged to attend. Fall sport practices will begin on Monday, August 16, 2021. Athletes must have their physicals completed prior to the beginning of practice. Call the high school office if you have any questions.

Pride Yard of the Week

Courier photo

Pride's Yard of the Week sign has been placed in front of the home of Jill Kitson at 421 South Ohio Street.

Board of Education Will Meet on August 9th

Board of Education Meeting
104 W 4th St., Cunningham, KS 67035
August 9, 2021
7:00 p.m.
AGENDA
Call to Order
Approval of Agenda (AI)
Guest Recognition
Approval of the minutes of the July 12, 2021 meeting (AI)
Approval of financial reports and payment of bills (AI)
Reports
Superintendent report – Robert Reed
Principal report- Cody Dunlap
Special Ed report – Joyce Gridley
Old Business (AI)
Executive Session Personnel
New Business (AI)
Budget review and hearing date.
Approve Superintendent Contract
Approve Principal Contract
Adjournment

MASK REMINDER
If you are a patient or visitor of Kingman Healthcare Center, the Family Clinic, Cunningham Clinic, or Rehab Services, masks are required.
If you don't have one, no worries, we have some. :)
THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION
KINGMAN HEALTHCARE CENTER

CATHOLIC Masses

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

Sacred Heart, Cunningahm
Sunday
8:30 a.m.

St. Johns's, Zenda
Saturday
4:00 p.m.

St. Leo
Saturday
5:30 p.m.

Fr. Roger Lumbre
620-243-5451
620-246-5370

CHURCH OF CHRIST
Penalosa

Worship
11:00 a.m.

620-474-9131

CHRISTIAN
Cunningham

Contact the church for service schedule.

Pastor Mike McGovney
620-298-3201

LUTHERAN
St. John's Nashville

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

Worship Service
8:30 a.m.

Trinity Medicine Lodge
Morning Worship
10:30 a.m.
620-656-7431

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

Pastor Dennis Fangmeyer
620-246-5220
Cell: 620-886-0911

Our Worship service is found on YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/ UCCrenCH12I9nmpcojCFyYLA. You can also find the service on Facebook by searching for either St. John Lutheran Church, Nashville or Trinity Lutheran Church, Medicine Lodge.

UNITED METHODIST
Penalosa
Worship
9:15 a.m.

Cunningham
Worship 10:45 a.m.

620-298-2090
Pastor Mathew Ndambuki Musyoki

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Zenda
101 N. Main
Sunday Worship
9 a.m.
Sunday School:
Children 8:30 a.m.
Adult 10:00 a.m.

Community Bulletin Board
is sponsored by

NINNESCAH VALLEY BANK
nvalleybank.com Member FDIC

Monday, August 9th
7:00 p.m.
Board of Education Meeting

Tuesday, August 10th
6:00 p.m..
Fall Sports meeting for parents
****
7:30 p.m. (after parent meeting)
Booster Club Meeting

Wednesday, August 11
School Enrollment

Monday, August 16th
Fall sports practices begin

Friday, August 20th
Booster Club Kickoff

Wednesday, August 25th
First day of School

"Tell me about school, NoahNoah," the old man says...
"Our teacher made us write a story about what we want to be when we're big," Noah tells him.
"What did you write?"
"I wrote that I wanted to concentrate on being little first."
— Fredrik Backman, And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer

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FitzSimmons Insurance Agency, Inc. is and independent insurance agency and an equal opportunity provider.

Kingman Historic Theatre
237 N. Main in Kingman
(620) 532-1253
http://www.kingmantheatre.org/
August 6th - 8th
Jungle Cruise
Rated PG -13
Friday and Saturday at 7:30pm and Sunday at 5:30pm.
All Seats: $6.00
Doors open 45 before showtime.
*****
FREE Thursday Movie
August 12th 7:00 p.m.
The Lorax
Rated PG
Sponsored by Shelter Insurance & People's Bank

Fundraisers & Charitable Opportunities in our Community

Cunningham Public Library

4C Day Care Shop smile.amazon.com or contact Kathy Albers 620-298-2725 or 620-388-0774

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

Hands of Hope (contact Fitzsimmons Insurance or 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 (leave your old eyeglasses at the bank)

Cunningham Museum (to donate contact Donna Glenn)

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YEARS AGO IN
The Cunningham Clipper
W.A. Bradley, Editor

1931

August 7- Many tourists are highly critical over a new type of road surfacing recently completed on U. S. 40 in northwest Kansas. The new surfacing is a mixture of oil and sand, and is called a blotter-type road. Highway officials say that the blotter-type road surfacing will be the type used in the future because it is cheaper and maintenance costs are lower.

Roy Cooley, Frank Price, Charles Lakin, Bill Dyche, and Bill Schwartz motored to Hutchinson, Tuesday afternoon, where they heard a talk by Dr. John R. Brinkley. Dr. Brinkley is a candidate for Governor of Kansas.

1936

August 7- Over 175 former pupils and their families and friends attended the annual Maud Picnic and Reunion at Hellar's Grove last Sunday. The Maud community was established in 1883, and at that time consisted of a school, general store, livery stable, post office, and hotel. When the railroad was built through Cunningham, however, the community gradually disappeared until now only the school remains. William Cooley was re-elected President, and Mrs. Silas Nossaman was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Maud Association for the coming year.

68 Democrats and 30 Republicans of Dresden Township, and 63 Democrats and 23 Republicans of Rural Township cast ballots in the Primary Election, Tuesday. Walter Huxman won the Democratic nomination for Governor of Kansas.

1941

August 8- Two large oil wells were completed in the Cunningham Oil and Gas Field this week. The Oscar Gerber No. 1 and the John Kemp No. 4 were rated as maximum (3,000 barrels oil per day) wells.

Cunningham posted an 11 won and 0 lost record in easily winning the Junior League at Pratt during this summer. Members of the team included Alvin Krug, Deem Crow, Jack Bradley, Charles Cooley, Austin Luce, Daniel Theis, Bob Crow, Paul McGeorge, Joe Walker, Jack Kincheloe, and Junior Zrubek.

1946

August 9- 75 voters from Rural and Dresden townships cast ballots in the Primary Election, Tuesday. In the two contests on the Republican Ticket in Kingman County, J. W. Brite defeated Frank Pestinger for Sheriff, and John Vanlandingham defeated Charles Stewart for County Attorney.

1951

August 10- Two filling stations changed ownerships during the past week. Marvin Prause of Hutchinson, purchased the K-T Service Station from Melvin Balman, and R. L. Dunn of Satanta, bought the Derby Service Station from George Rose.

1956

August 9- 14 Boy Scouts and three Explorer Scouts are enjoying a four-day camp-out this week northeast of Penalosa. The camp-out will be climaxed with "Family Night" tonight (Thursday), at which the boys will prepare and serve the meal to their parents. They will return home in the morning (Friday). Boys participating in the camp-out are Boys Scouts Joe Baber, Joe Raney, Alan Dafforn, Kenneth Welch, Jerry Huffman, Kenneth Winters, Lynn Millsap, Frank Johnson, Paul Noel, Derek Rathbun, Marvin Ewing, Darrell Cooley, Bobby Meyers, and Larry Dunn, and Explorer Scouts Gary Raney, Dallas Thornhill, and Jack Baber. Adult leaders taking part in the camp-out included Scoutmaster James Luce, Evan Thornhill, Dr. D. E. Thompson, Francis Dafforn, Jack Meyers, Rev. Dwight Lewis, and John Baber.

Voters in Dresden and Rural Townships turned out in "better than other years" numbers at Tuesday's Primary Election, with Dresden registering about 130 voters, almost 100 of them Republicans, and Rural township voters numbered less than 100, with about half of them Republicans.

The Democrats had no contests in Kingman County offices, but the vote for the Democratic nomination for Governor between George Docking and Harry Woodring was as close as it could be in Dresden Township, with Docking registering a 21-20 victory. This was the way the race came off throughout the state too, with Docking holding a bare 800-odd vote lead with all precincts reporting. The final count will be decided with the absentee ballots.

Dresden Township also gave Warren Shaw a big majority in his race with Governor Fred Hall for the Republican nomination for Governor. Shaw out-scored Hall 68 to 31 in Dresden Township, and won the nomination by a 30,000-vote plurality over the state. Other contests in this district was the Crutcher and Berryman battle for Congressman from this district, with Crutcher winning out in a close contest, and the race between Paul Wunsch and Bill Hampton for State Senator from this district with Wunsch recording a triumph.

Star route mail service between Cunningham and Pratt was discontinued last week. The mail truck, out of Wichita, arrives here in the morning and remains in town all day until the return trip to Wichita at 5:15 o'clock in the early evening. The truck formerly went on to Pratt where it waited all day for the return trip.

Mail to Pratt received in the local office by 5:15 o'clock in the evening will be delivered in Pratt the next morning. Mail from Pratt to Cunningham will pass through here about midnight every night on a non-stop trip to Wichita where it will be distributed for delivery here the next morning aboard the star route carrier. The new schedule knocks out daily mail service between here and Pratt, or any place between Wichita and Pratt.

Hauser's Market
Prime Beef Steak-Sirloin or Short Cuts Pound 49¢
Prime Beef Roast Pound 39¢
Shurfine No. 1 Bacon Pound 45¢
Fairmont's Fryers Pound 43¢
Shurfine Pure Vegetable Shortening 3-Pound can 82¢
Summer Isles Pineapple 3 Large No. 2 ½ Cans $1
Sutter Pak Peaches 3 Large No. 2 ½ Cans $1

1966

August 11- A total of 1,057 farms were counted in Kingman County during the 1965 Census of Agriculture, the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of the Census states in a report last week.

In the last previous Census of Agriculture in 1959, the total counted in the county was 1,134 farms—a loss of 77 farms during the five-year period.

The 1964 total is published in a preliminary report on Kingman County just issued by the bureau. The report also shows that the average farm-size in the county was 518.5 acres, and that the average value of the county's farms (land and buildings) in 1964 was $75,151.

Other important statistics in the report of Kingman County agriculture are:

1. Value of all farm products sold by farms in the county in 1964, $12,150,858; in 1959, $11,810,418.
2. Value of all crops sold by county farms in 1964, $6,145,609; in 1959, $6,151,024.
3. Value of all livestock and livestock products sold by county farms in 1964, $5,999,474; in 1959, $5,659,394.

Information obtained for the first time in an agricultural census included the amount of income received by the county's farmers ($5,775) from recreation services as well as data on the use of pest control chemicals in the county in 1964.

A Census of Agriculture is taken

(con't on page 5)

Library

Movement of Ideas Speakers Bureau Coming to Cunningham Public Library August 18th

Cunningham Public Library will host "Ruralpreneurs: Tumbleweeds and Talents in Kansas Communities," a presentation and discussion by Ron Wilson on August 18th at 7:00 p.m. at 105 N Main St. in Cunningham. The program is made possible by Humanities Kansas. Members of the community are invited to attend this free program.

Ruralpreneurs are innovative entrepreneurs who built successful enterprises in small town Kansas. This presentation highlights real-world examples of Kansas entrepreneurs who have built businesses and created jobs and opportunities in a rural setting. Additionally, this presentation honors the emerging role of diversity, technology, and telecommunications that have brought profound changes in society.

Ron Wilson is director of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University. He has served as a legislative assistant; a staff member for the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry; and as vice president of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives. He produces a weekly radio program and news column about rural Kansas called Kansas Profile.

"Ruralpreneurs: Tumbleweeds and Talents in Kansas Communities" is part of Humanities Kansas's *Movement of Ideas* Speakers Bureau, featuring presentations and workshops designed to share stories that inspire, spark conversations that inform, and generate insights that strengthen civic engagement.

For more information about "Ruralpreneurs: Tumbleweeds and Talents in Kansas Communities" in Cunningham, contact Kerri Steffen at 620-298-3163. You may also visit cunningham.scklslibrary.info.

About Humanities Kansas

Humanities Kansas is an independent nonprofit spearheading a movement of ideas to empower the people of Kansas to strengthen their communities and our democracy. Since 1972, our pioneering programming, grants, and partnerships have documented and shared stories to spark conversations and generate insights. Together with our partners and supporters, we inspire all Kansans to draw on history, literature, ethics, and culture to enrich their lives and serve the communities and state we all proudly call home. Visit humanitieskansas.org.

Summer Reading at CPL Draws to a Close

story and photos from CPL's Facebook page

Our friend, Joyce, helped us have a fun finish to our Summer Reading Program with a creative STEM challenge called "Help Harry." The kids worked in teams to build a perch to help "Harry" to see around the room. Alyssa and Katie built the tallest perch, winning a bag of jelly beans, which they shared with their fellow engineers:)

The kids also conducted a bubble experiment out on the patio. They tested three different bubble solutions to see which one made the biggest or most colorful bubbles. It was a fun finale.

The kids took home a certificate good for $2.00 at the Cunningham swimming pool along with many fun memories.

Thanks to all the SRP helpers! We couldn't have done it without you! (Kids, if you attended the SRP regularly, but were unable to join us for the finale, please stop in at the library to pick up your certificate. They expire August 2.

Also, be sure to check out the Kansas State Department of Education "Sunflower Summer" app. Kansas families can visit museums, zoos, historic landmarks and more for free! Here's a link: https://www.sunflowersummer.org/

Please join us for

DINNER AND A CONVERSATION

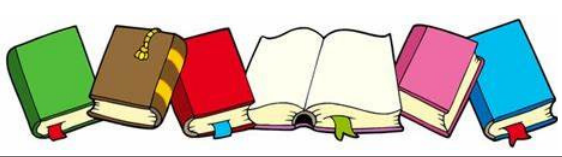
"Growing Rural Economic Development"

SATURDAY. SEPTEMBER 11. 2021
6:00 PM AT CUNNINGHAM CATHOLIC HALL

SAVE THE DATE

You bring the discussion. We'll bring the meal.

Cunningham Public Library - PH: 620-298-3163
Email: cunninghamlibrary@yahoo.com



Red Cross Encourages Preparation for Excessive Heat

(July 29, 2021) – The American Red Cross Kansas and Oklahoma Region reminds our communities that the highest temperatures we've seen this summer could be on the horizon. A little preparation can go a long way in helping to keep you, your family and your fur babies safe during intense heat.

EXCESSIVE HEAT CONDITIONS

As with severe weather, there are several key terms that you need to pay close attention to so that you and those you care about can stay safe or know when to call and ask for help.

Excessive Heat Watch is issued if the potential for extreme heat could occur within the next 24-72 hours.

Excessive Heat Advisory is issued if the forecasted Heat Index is expected to hit 100 degrees. This type of weather condition increases the potential for heat related illness.

Excessive Heat Warning is issued if the forecasted Heat Index is expected to hit or exceed 105 degrees. This type of weather condition significantly increases the potential for heat related illness.

Spending too much time or over-doing it in extreme heat and humidity makes it hard for our bodies to stay cool. When our bodies can't cool down enough, we can suffer from heat-related illness.

Young children, older adults, individuals with chronic medical conditions such as heart disease, individuals taking prescription medicines, outside workers, and those who live alone are more susceptible to the heat and are at greater risk of experiencing a heat-related illness.

HEAT RELATED ILLNESS

Heat Cramps - the mildest heat-related illnesses, are involuntary muscle spasms and pain that usually occur in the arms, legs, and stomach.

Heat Exhaustion - is more severe than heat cramps and affects the entire body, not just your muscles. Heat exhaustion occurs when your body is unable to cool itself.

Heat Stroke – is the most dangerous of all heat-related illnesses. It develops when the body's systems are overwhelmed by heat and stop functioning – usually because the signs of heat exhaustion are ignored. Heat stroke can lead to permanent damage of your body's organs and can be life-threatening.

5 TIPS TO STAY SAFE DURING EXTREME HEAT

Stay Aware – watch weather warnings and adhere to the safety precautions. NEVER leave children or pets in your vehicle.

Keep Cool – if you do not have a working air conditioner, seek relief during the hottest part of the day in places such as libraries, theaters or malls.

Stay Hydrated – drink plenty of fluids, even if you do not feel thirsty. Avoid drinks with alcohol or caffeine.

Limit Outdoor Activity – avoid strenuous exercise during the hottest part of the day and wear loose-fitting, lightweight and light-colored clothing.

Stay Connected – check on friends, family and elderly neighbors who may not have air conditioning or live alone.

More tips and tools on how to prepare for extreme heat and resources on providing assistance to someone impacted by heat-related illness can be found in the free Red Cross Emergency App.

Cunningham 4-H Members Show Their Stuff at Kingman County Fair

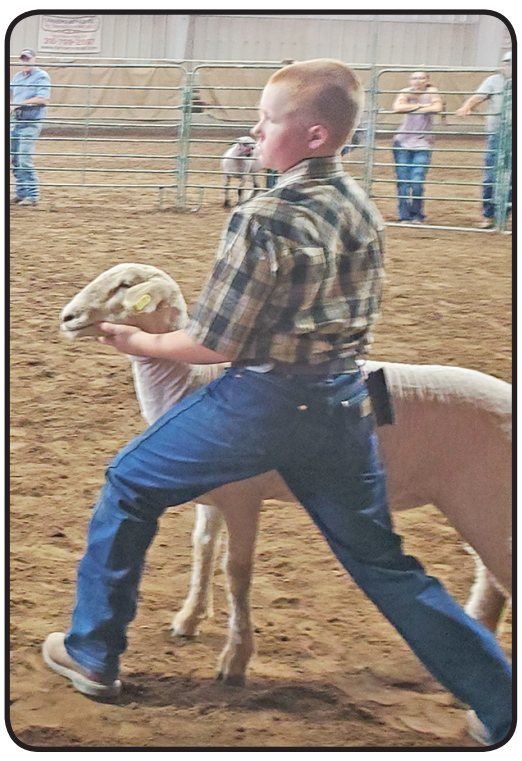
The 4-H Club Banner

Maverick Schultz (front) Jonathan Ogg, Ty Schultz, Brody Bock and Jessica Dittmer.

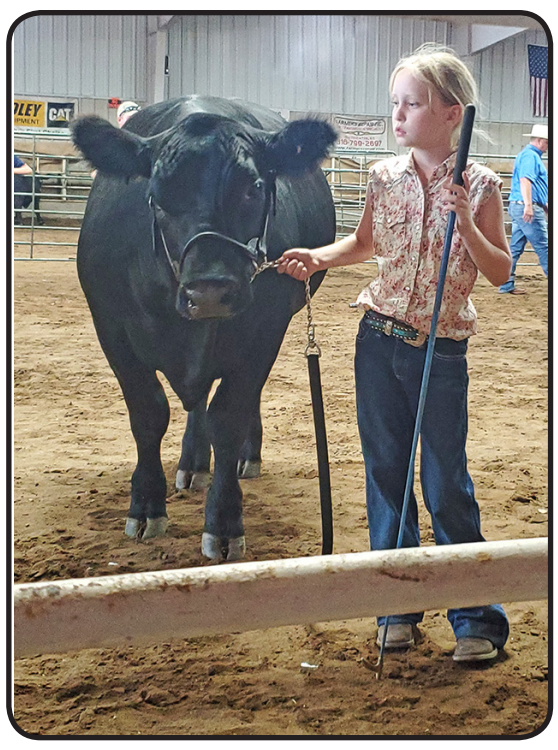
Ava Neywick and her bucket calf Shortcake

Jonathan Ogg listens to instructions

Jessica Dittmer and her prize-winning cookies.



Hank Adams with his show lamb.



Ava Neywick with Brody Bocks steer in the Round Robin event.

I AM

4-H PROUD

Ava Bock and one of her livestock entries

Brianna Dittmer, Ada Adams, Sean Kostner, Hank Adams.

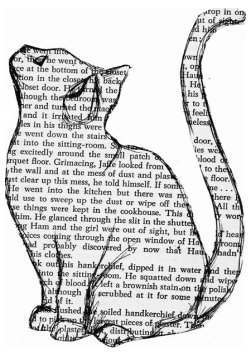
I love 4-H

photos by Jen Neywick and Marianne Dittmer

"Small town rule #4: Childhood isn't complete without farm animals and 4-H."
— Melinda Leigh, Gone to Her Grave

"It hit me that being hip was a full-time job, and I was only a part-timer. I couldn't hide forever that I liked county fairs, particularly the goat booth at the 4-H tent, or that I once spent a week with my grandmother at her house in the giant retirement community of Sun City, Arizona, and it was one of the most carefree times of my life."
— Jancee Dunn

"For those of you too young to remember the fun of a good old county fair, take it from me, it's a great way to spend a hot summer day. Perusing the fruits of our county's gifted citizens' labors; getting sticky on unnaturally-hued cotton candy; reveling in the panorama of colored lights on the midway. Viewing the stars from atop a Ferris wheel can't be described to someone who hasn't been there in person."
— Mollie Hunt, Cats' Eyes



Meanderings

Where to start? Hmm.

Let's start with the pets. The new dog has had a name change. Dog gone it, that pup is C.U.T.E. Cute, cute, cute.

I kept him crated quite a bit the first two or three days living here at the Kobbe Cafe and Cabana for Cats and Canines. He only got out of the crate if he had a leash on. I didn't trust him around the cats.

When I felt certain he wasn't going to hurt them, I allowed him out to run off leash. Okay, well, it appears to ME he doesn't want to hurt them; to the cats it appears he is going to eat them.

He does want them to play. He does want them to run so he can chase them. I did notice if he's chasing a kitty and the kitty slows down, so does the dog.

He will pull a tail, or pretend nip to get them to play or run, but he's not trying to hurt them. All the cats react differently and it so funny to watch.

Peter seems to get the brunt of the dog's attention. He doesn't run off, but he stalks off, disgust apparent in his movement and in the look on his little one-eyed face.

Zsa Zsa, the lazy fat sassy cat, just lays there. She will swat at him, but there's no way on God's green earth she is going to put any effort into a run. He has quit trying to chase her. When he's running around the yard, he just leaps over her. She'll take a swipe and give a hiss, but neither one of them are giving much effort.

Eleanor, the screaming banshee, isn't going to let a dog bother her. As soon as he looks at her, she starts howling. It seems to work because he takes off to look for someone more fun to play with.

I really do have to find some way to change the cat-chasing behavior. I don't like that.

Right now, most of the other cats ask to go inside when the little frenzy comes out. Sometimes they try to hide, but when they are discovered, up a tree they go. I don't want him to chase them over the fence, so they start roaming the neighborhood. THAT will make me mad. All but two of my cats stay in the backyard, and that is two too many going out.

They are funny group.

The first few days my ol' Clarence kept looking at me like he was disappointed in me and my decision to bring this pup home with us. He totally avoided or ignored the dog for most of the week. The last couple of days, though, Clarence doesn't mind being outside with the little guy, but he's not going to play. And, although, he and Chloe shared food dishes, Clarence isn't about to share with his new 'friend'.

On August 4th, he goes in for vaccinations and neutering. I hope Clarence will be better about interacting with him after this. Maybe the pup will calm down a bit.

Oh, the little guy's new name is Harlequin Jester. 'Quin' for short. He started acknowledging it the first day. "Hey! Quin!" and he looked right at me. I wonder if maybe it isn't a name close to what he had previously.

Harlequin Jester fits him because he such a silly little thing.

His favorite 'toy' is a water/milk jug he pulled off a plant stand. He grabs it and runs back and forth, north to south across the backyard.

He runs hard and fast. Sometimes he slides and somersaults and flips.

His other favored toy is a tug-of-war rope that Chloe and Clarence played with. They loved tug of war. But since Clarence ignores Quin, Quin just takes the rope and shakes it like a snake. Then he takes off running with it.North to south.

I hope one of these days, Clarence grabs the other end and pulls and plays.... I don't like seeing him so sad.

I am about out of space here, and I was going to write a bit about Rudyard Kipling, as I'm (off and on) reading a book of his short stories.

Another day, I suppose.

Always reading,

and currently reading,

"The Burglar in the Library"

by Lawrence Block,

Roberta

"After years of having a dog, you know him. You know the meaning of his snuffs and grunts and barks. Every twitch of the ears is a question or statement, every wag of the tail is an exclamation."

— *Robert R. McCammon, Boy's Life*

"I like dogs. You always know what a dog is thinking. It has four moods. Happy, sad, cross and concentrating. Also, dogs are faithful and they do not tell lies because they cannot talk."

— *Mark Haddon, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*

West Kingman County Education Foundation Banner

The first volleyball game at home is August 31st. The West Kingman County Education Foundation is again having a banner made for the gymnasium with a list of all sponsors. A sponsorship is $100.00 and can be sent to the foundation at 104 W. Fourth Street, Cunningham, KS 67035. If you would like to help with scholarships and other activities for the students of U.S.D. 332, please send your donation by August 10, 2021 so that your name can be included on the banner. If you have any questions, contact Janet DeWeese at 620-298-2717.

Become a Spotlight Sponsor!

I am finding this hard to believe, but another school year will soon be upon the teachers and students and parents. With the advent of the school season, comes the tradition of the spotlight pages in the Cunningham Courier. The 'signature' names on the individual/family sponsor list will be $25.00 for all seven (or 8) spotlight pages. NOT $25.00 each.

If you are a business owner, I will be offering the same deal as last year at the same price, but the ads will be 1/4" taller.

The levels of advertising support are:

Large business card ad (1.5" x 3") -- $60.00 OR Small business ad (1" x 3") -- $45.00

All advertisers will have their ads listed on the website, BUT for an additional $10.00 your ad on the website can be linked to your business website or Facebook page.

This cost covers all seven ads (plus the website ads) throughout the school year. The website ads will be listed on a page titled "School Spotlight Advertisers" and will be available on the website from September 1, 2021 to June 1, 2022.

If you do not receive a letter and form in the next couple of weeks, please call and I will get one out to you.

If you would like a signature line as a family, a couple, or a single person, please send a check for $25.00 to:

The Cunningham Courier
320 North Stadium Street
Cunningham KS
67035

Years Ago....

every five years in the years ending in "four" and "nine" to gather information on the nation's agricultural resources and production. This data is needed to make decisions affecting many segments of the United States economy. The 1964 farm census was the 18th in a series that began in 1840.

The preliminary report for the county contains more than 500 facts about agriculture in the county. Among additional facts it contains are the number of farms by size, type, and economic class; the number of farm operators by method of tenure, age, color, off-farm work, and the number of school years completed; land in farms by use and by land-use practices; data on equipment and facilities; farm expenditures; number of hired workers, and number of farms reporting poultry and livestock production and those reporting crop production by acres and quantities as well as sales.

Single copies are available for 10 cents from the Bureau of Census, Washington, D. C. 20233, or from any field office of the Department of Commerce. These are located in major cities.

1971

August 5-First Chance For Cunningham 18-Year-Olds To Vote

A legal publication for the City of Cunningham is printed in this week's issue of the Clipper.

The publication is a notice of a special bond election to be held in Cunningham, Tuesday, Aug. 21.

The bond election is to issue general obligation park improvement bonds, in the sum of not exceeding $36,000, for the purpose of making park improvements by the construction of a swimming pool and necessary buildings in the city park. If approved by voters, the federal government also provides $36,000 toward the project.

Kingman County Election Commissioner Sylverster A. Biggs of Kingman, was in Cunningham, Tuesday, where he place an order with The Clipper to print the ballots for the bond election.

Mr. Biggs also said that this is the first election in which Cunningham 18-year-olds will get to cast ballots. He said, "Any Cunningham youth who is 18 years of age before the August 31 election date, is eligible to vote in the bond election, provided they have lived in Kansas for one year and in Cunningham for 30 days."

Mr. Biggs also identified "qualified electors" as those citizens residing in the City of Cunningham; of legal age (18), who have lived in Kansas for one year, and in Cunningham for 30 days.

Action will get underway next Wednesday evening in the Preston Invitational Men's Slo-Pitch Softball Tournament at Preston.

Pretty Prairie and St. John will square off that evening at 7:00 o'clock, to be followed by three more games—Pratt New Deal Schlitz versus Stafford, Neal's of Hutchinson versus Harbert Tire Service of Kingman, and Turon versus Cunningham's Tired Old Men.

The four other teams in the 12-team double-elimination tournament will see action the following evening (Thursday, Aug. 12), with the Kingman Merchants playing the Pretty Prairie-St. John winner in the 7:00 o'clock game, to be followed by Taylor's Printing of Pratt playing the Pratt New Deal Schlitz-Stafford winner; the Cunningham Merchants playing the Neal's of Hutchinson-Harbert Tire Service of Kingman winner, and the Preston Co-op playing the Turon-Cunningham's Tired Old Men winner.

Four games will be played Friday evening, Aug. 13, beginning at 7:00 o'clock, and four games will be played Saturday evening, Aug. 14, beginning at 7:00 o'clock. Six games are scheduled for Sunday's (August 15) finals, beginning at 4:00 o'clock.

The tournament is sponsored by the Preston Recreation Commission, and Gary Holland is serving as the tournament director. Two of the umpires are Leo (Biggy) Zrubek and Fr. Eugene Robl, both of Cunningham.

"To look at the paper is to raise a seashell to one's ear and to be overwhelmed by the roar of humanity."

— Alain de Botton, The Pleasures and Sorrows of Work

Kingman Public Transportation

305 North Cedar, Kingman, Kan.

Phone (620) 532-5744

Service Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

First Come - First Served

Funded in Part by KDOT Public Transportation Program

- 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

To reserve the Cunningham Community Center, contact Ruth Shelman,

(620) 770-9153 or 318-6042

The Cunningham Courier
320 North Stadium Street
Cunningham, KS 67035-0038

Name_____
Address_____
City_____ State_____
Zip _____-_____

Subscription Rates:
In Kansas: $42.00 per year / Out of State: $47.00
Student Rates: $32.00 & $37.00 (August - May)

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
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.
Thurs. : 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Fri. : 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Satu. : 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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

50 For 50: 'Once a KAY, Always a KAY'

By Harold Bechard

Cheryl Gleason has been a part of the Kansas Association for Youth (KAY) for a half-century as a student camper, camp staffer and, for the last three-plus decades, the state director.

Gleason's passion and enthusiasm for the KAY program has never wavered. Her commitment is as strong as ever as she enters her final few weeks working for the Kansas State High School Activities Association.

Gleason officially retired from the KSHSAA on July 1 as an assistant executive director, but will work through Oct. 1 to help her replacement, Annie Diederich, with the transition.

Diederich will take control of KAY as its state director, but Gleason will be at Rock Springs 4-H Center later this month for the 2021 Leadership Camp, July 26-30.

A total of 158 campers and 32 staff members are set to attend the week-long camp south of Junction City. Gleason will be there to greet each one like they are one of her own.

"On a personal level, Cheryl makes every person - whether a camp staff member or camper - feel like family," said Jenny White, who has been a staff member for 31 of the last 32 camps. "She will call those 158 kids by their first name. She'll get to know them on a level that will just make their day."

The Leadership Camp is just one aspect of KAY, a character-building, leadership-training, service program directed by the Activities Association. KAY is a student association unique to Kansas. The KSHSAA offers this activity to Kansas students, through its member schools as a means to "make a world of difference" for current and future generations.

This year, KAY is celebrating its 75th year. Founded in 1946, its roots stem from a civics classroom at Wichita East High School a couple years earlier. It started with Wanda May Vinson, the school's civics teacher at the time, talking to students about the importance of being responsible young citizens for other people. "The students got excited and told the teacher, wouldn't it be cool if we could have a club all of us here could join?" Gleason said.

Wanda May Vinson founded the KAY program

Vinson, who passed away in 2004 and is a member of the KSHSAA Hall of Fame, took the idea to the KSHSAA, which, ironically at that time, was discussing topics that went beyond athletics that would educate the total student and teach them a level of responsibility and civic engagement.

The KSHSAA adopted the idea and the rest, as they say, is history.

"We tell students today, 75 years later, not only is the program for you, but by you; that your predecessors put everything in place," Gleason said. "They decided the pledge, the motto, the slogan, the privileges, the colors, everything about this organization.

"They even decided the name out of a big list of names. It's been student-driven since day one."

There's no postseason for KAY as in athletics, but the program provides three major organized events each year - the annual Leadership Camp each summer at Rock Springs; six day-long Regional Conferences each fall and 12 half-day Unit Conferences held across the state in January and February.

When she attended the leadership camp in 1970 prior to her junior year at Columbus High School, Gleason said there were 943 girls who attended two week-long camps at Rock Springs. That was the height of KAY's popularity. Eighteen years later, boys were allowed to attend the summer camps.

The number of campers and staff members has stayed around 300 over the last several years, with about 75-80 percent of the campers being girls and around 20-25 percent being boys. Because of Covid restrictions, this summer's camp will welcome 158 campers and 32 staff members.

One of those staffers will be Jenny White of Hilton, Okla., who graduated from South Barber High School (Kiowa) in 1990. A former KAY camper of her own, White will be attending her 31st summer camp this month. The only one she missed was in 2007 when she delivered her first son six weeks prior to the camp and was not medically released to attend that summer.

"There was no air conditioning back then," Jenny said.

White was one of five rookie staff members chosen by Gleason to work the 1990 leadership camp in Gleason's first year as the KAY director.

"Julia, Jennifer, Jenny, Amy and Angie," said White, naming the five rookies in an instant -Julia (Tibbetts) Werthmann from Lansing, Jennifer (Shaw) Luis from Arkansas City, Jenny (Wilson) White from Kiowa, Amy (Pray) Schoon from Mulvane and Angie (Potts) Johnston from McPherson.

"We became the rookie's rookies because it was Cheryl's rookie year of being the director and we were the rookies at camp, as well," White said. "After 32 years, I'm the lone rookie of those rookies left on the camp staff."

White said the friendships she's gained over the last three decades serving on the camp staff has been special.

"I just never would have met these people otherwise," she said. "The fact we share the same common goals of service and leadership means a great deal."

White said she tries to instill those same KAY values she learned as a young lady into her two sons - ages 14 and 11 - who are involved in service organizations themselves.

White is also involved in community service in her current hometown. She was recently named the 2020 Citizen of the Year for Hilton, Oklahoma.

"I was in tears; I didn't know it was happening," she said. "A state representative came to town and did a proclamation of the award. She got to the portion of me being involved with the Kansas Association for Youth for 32 years. She stopped and said, 'I need to hear more about this.'

"So, the impact (KAY) is outside the borders of Kansas; we just don't realize how much of an impact there really is."

Approximately half the KSHSAA-member high schools have KAY programs. In the 1940s, '50s, '60s and '70s, schools had separate clubs for boys and girls. Boys were part of the Kay Club and girls the Kayette Club. In 1988, the clubs came under one name - KAY - and boys started attending the summer leadership camps.

Two years later, Gleason was named the KAY state director as part of her job as a KSHSAA assistant executive director. She followed in the footsteps of her mentor, Wanda May Vinson, who headed the KAY organization for 36 years. A scholarship in Vinson's honor has is presented to KAY student leaders each year.

"I grew up in a family where you did things for people because that's just what you did," she said. "You baked cookies for people; you went over and visited senior citizens. You did those things. So, when I went to high school my freshman year, I went to a meeting for the Kayette program, I thought, 'Oh my God, this is me, this is what I do, so I absolutely loved it.

Kay Staff at summer camp!

"So, for me - and this is my 50th year of being on the staff - we get to teach kids what we think is important, and that is leadership and service, and not just being a neighbor, but being neighborly, and doing all the things we wish everyone would do."

Gleason said the favorite part of her week at Leadership Camp is the last day or two, not because she wants to see the girls and boys go home, but to see the difference in confidence and assuredness from the first day to the last.

"What I like about the last day is, I love to look at the kids and see the difference that our experiences have had for them," Gleason said. "It's all about the opportunities for them to just get to know themselves, to discover themselves, to see they matter, to see it's ok to think outside the box; that women can step forward and lead, just as easily as men can.

KAY staff dedicated a tree at Rock Springs in Cheryl and Wonda May Vinson's name

"I think girls walk away with a renewed sense of confidence and understanding that, 'If it is to be, it's up to me,' and I can make a difference just as easily as anyone else. This program means the world to me and will always mean the world to me."

We are grateful to partner with WIN for KC, an organization with the mission to empower the lives of girls and women by advocating and promoting the lifetime value of sports through opportunities for participation and leadership development. WIN for KC and the KSHSAA believe involvement in activities and sports lay the ground work for supporting well-rounded citizens in our communities and beyond. For more on WIN for KC visit: https://www.sportkc.org/win-for-k

Kingman County Sheriff's Report

Sunday, July 25, 2021

Traffic complaint	3000 block E Hwy 54 Kingman
Traffic complaint	NE 50 St & NE 130 Ave area Cheney
Animal	2000 block NE 30 St. Kingman
Disturbance	200 block W. Burns Ave. Norwich
Sign down	N Berry Ave & NW 50 St area, Kingman
Suspicious Vehicle	2900 block N Hwy 14 Murdock

Monday, July 26, 2021

911 call/acc/hangup	200 block W Burns Ave. Norwich
Assist other agencies	9000 blck W Hwy 54 Cunningham

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

Traffic stop	1
Suspicious Activity	700 block S Raff St. Kingman
Suspicious Vehicle	NE 10 ST & SE 80 Ave area, Kingman
Weapons	200 block N Main St. Spivey

Wednesday, July28, 2021

Traffic stop	1
Animal	200 block W. E Ave, Kingman
Welfare check	1400 block SE 30 Ave. Kingman

Thursday, July 29, 2021

Traffic Stop	10
Traffic Complaint	400 block N Main Kingman
Traffic Complaint	5000 block E Hwy 54 Kingman
Traffic debris in road	SW 90 Ave. & W Hwy 54 area Kingman
Burglary	200 block N Lincoln St. Cunningham
Extra Patrol	100 block S Main Kingman

Friday, July 30, 2021

Traffic Stops	7
Traffic complaint	14000 block E Hwy 54 Cheney
Traffic debris in road	NE 50 St. & NE 150 Ave area Cheney
Damage to property	2000 block SE Viney Ave. Murdock
Extra Patrol	100 block S Main Kingman
Fire - vehicle	16000 block SW 160 Ave. Nashville
Fraud	400 blcok E Leiter Ave. Cunningham
Suspicious Vehicle	E Sherman Ave. & N. Pine St. area Kingman
Welfare Check	700 block Kingman State Lake Rd. Kingman

Saturday, July 31, 2021

Traffic Complaint	S Berry Ave & SW 110 St. area Kingman
Traffic Complaint	9000 block NE 10 St Kingman
Traffic complaint	N Hwy 14 & E Hwy 54 area Kingman
Traffic debris in roadway	7000 block E Hwy 42, Rago
Traffic debris in roadway	1800 block W Hwy 42 Spivey
Fire outside	N Hwy 14 & NE 30 St. area Kingman
Harrassment	400 block N Main St. Spivey
Suspicious vehicle	10000 block NW 50 St. Cunningham
Suspicious vehicle	SW 90th St & Sw 70 St. area Kingman
Theft	NE 40 St & NE 160 Ave area Cheney
Welfare check	NE 50 St & NE 160 Ave area, Cheney

Kingman County Commission Minutes July 27, 2021

The Board of Kingman County Commissioners met in the Commission Room of the County Courthouse, Kingman, Kansas on July 27th, 2021. Those present:

Jerry Henning, Chairman; Jack Thimesch, ommissioner; Carol Noblit, County Clerk; John Caton, County Counselor

Visitors: Bob Morris, The Leader-Courier; Jeremy Gilson, Gallagher Benefits; Missy Tetrick, Fair Board; Eric Clouse, Fair Board; Susan Williams, Fair Board; Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director; John Markel, Kirkham Michael engineer; Matthew Hanson, Witt O'Briens LLC(Conference Call).

Staff: Linda Langley, Internal Auditor; Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/ Wastewater Director; Amanda Stucky, Field Appraiser; Richard Schott, Emergency Manager and Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director

Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners Meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

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

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning asked if there was any public comment.

No Comments made.

Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director was in to review the Dilapidated Structure Abatement Program with the Commissioners. Also, Ms. Schrag asked if the Cities could participate in the program.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve adding Cities to the dilapidated Structure Abatement Program. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Ms. Schrag discussed Fabpro Oriented Polymers and that they are needing to add 20 employees.

Jeremy Gilson, Health Insurance Representative with Gallagher Benefits, Justin, Gallagher Benefits, Stan Goetz, HR were in to discussed how self-funding works.

Commissioners discussed that they want to keep good insurance for the employees.

Commissioners would like for Mr. Gilson(Health Insurance Representative) to put together a self-funding plan that they could review for next year.

Mr. Goetz submitted a promotion and a merit for two employees at the Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Goetz discussed the Mt. Vernon Church

Mr. Goetz discussed that Helen Friesen had purchased property in Murdock and she is still having people drive through it. Ms. Friesen would like to put up a barricade(fence) to keep individuals out.

John Caton, Counselor told Mr. Goetz if the road was never platted then it can be fenced off to keep people off the property.

Melissa Tetrick, Susan Williams and Eric Clouse with the Kingman County Fair Board were in with a request to add $5,000.00 to their current budget of $11,500.00 to help defray the cost of implementing a carnival in the city park for next year. The Fair Board feels that a carnival with rides would improve the attendance at the fair and allow it to be more family-oriented.

Mr. Goetz submitted the following building permits:

Josh & Jennifer Feiock for a swimming pool in Section 33, Township 28, Range 5.

Nathan Engel for a detached garage in Section 27, Township 27, Range 5.

Nick Smarsh for a shed in Section 11, Township 27, Range 5.

David Swinehart for a swim pool-above ground in Section 26, Township 30, Range 5.

Linda Langley, Internal Auditor was in to review the summary of current Road & Bridge Projects with the Commissioners.

Ms. Langley submitted Draft #4 of the Kingman County 2022 Budget and reviewed it with the Commissioners.

Amanda Stucky, Field Appraiser was in to request an NRP extension for Brian & Andrea Wondell.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to extend Brian & Andrea Wondell's NRP project for one more year. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a majority vote by the County Commissioners.

The County Clerk submitted the July 19th,2021 Commission meeting minutes for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the July 19th,2021 Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a majority vote by the County Commissioners.

Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in to discuss road damage cost for Invoice dated 7/24/2020.

Commissioners discussed the incident that happened last week with an individual about millings.

Mr. Arensdorf said that when projects are bid they could discuss millings disposal at that time to prevent an issue.

John Markel, PE consulting engineer from Kirkham Michael was in to review bids for the Bridge Repair Project M.0-7.5(Booster Station Bridge).

The bids received were the following:

Bridges, Inc. $339,846.00

L & M Contractors Inc. $364,028.50

Reece Construction $481,292.03

Engineer's estimate was $318,694.50.

Mr. Markel said that the lowest bid is 6.6% over the engineer's estimate due to costs going up on materials.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve the bid received from Bridges, Inc. in the amount of $339,846.00. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a majority vote by the County Commissioners.

Mr. Arensdorf submitted and reviewed the construction inspection contract for M.0-7.5 and would like to have an experienced inspector available for this project.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the construction inspection contract for M.0-7.5 with Kirkham Michael. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a majority vote by the County Commissioners.

The County Commissioners opened the following fuel quotes:

Skyland Grain

$2.82 unleaded gasoline no E-10 blend transport with minimum 1500 gallons

$2.97 unleaded gasoline no E-10 blend by tank wagon minimum 1500 gallons

$2.84 #1 Clear Diesel

$2.57 #2 Diesel

Price quote good for contract period

Farmers Coop Pretty Prairie

$2.855 unleaded gasoline no E-10 blend transport with minimum of 1500 gallons.

$2.925 unleaded gasoline no E-10 blend by tank wagon minimum of 1500 gallons.

$2.785 #1 Clear Diesel

$2.585 #2 Diesel

Price quote good for contract period

Commissioners would like Mr. Arensdorf to review bids and get back with them next week.

Mr. Arensdorf let the Commissioners know that water sampling at the Kingman County C/D Landfill is scheduled for August 10, 2021.

Commissioners signed County vouchers in the amount of $123,339.45.

Commissioners recessed the meeting at 11:37 a.m.

Chairman Henning reconvened the meeting at 11:38 a.m.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to accept Clinton Schwartz's resignation from the Peters Township board. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a majority vote by the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to keep the KCAMP insurance value at 6 million. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a majority vote by the County Commissioners.

Matthew Hanson, Witt O'Brien's LLC representative was on conference call with the County Commissioners to discuss contracting with Kingman County for help with the ARPA funding.

Commissioners asked Mr. Hanson what cost is allowable to hire someone to administer ARPA funding.

Mr. Hanson let the Commissioners know that it would not be a full-time job.

Commissioners let Mr. Hanson know they understood that but the person they would hire would help with getting grants.

Richard Schott, Emergency Manager let Mr. Hanson know that the Commissioners want to get with the Cities and discuss things to do with the ARPA funding.

Mr. Hanson let the Commissioners know that their business knows about grants that are available to help with ARPA funding.

Commissioners discussed that they would like to see a contract proposal for support services with ARPA funding.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 12:52 p.m. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the majority vote of the County Commissioners.

Public Notice

First published in The Cunningham Courier on Thursday, August 5, 2021 (2t)

State of Kansas
County
2022

NOTICE OF HEARING TO EXCEED REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE AND BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of
Kingman County
will meet on August 30, 2021 at 9:00 AM at Kingman County Commissioner's Room for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax.
Detailed budget information is available at Kingman County Clerk's Office and will be available at this hearing.
REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE HEARING will be held beginning at 8:30 AM immediately preceeding the budget adoption hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2022 Expenditures and Amount of Current Year Estimate for 2021 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2022 budget.
Proposed Tax Rate is subject to change dependent on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual for 2020		Current Year Estimate for 2021		Proposed Budget Year for 2022		
FUND	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2021 Ad Valorem Tax	Est. Tax Rate*
General	4,551,294	24.494	4,830,120	26.483	5,648,458	2,735,873	25.712
Debt Service	304,860	2.780	310,560	3.034	390,561	283,798	2.667
Road & Bridge	1,855,840	12.531	1,862,912	13.980	1,985,250	1,435,147	13.488
Special Bridge	191,106	3.490	389,000	3.669	274,000	54,511	0.512
Public Health	228,094	1.746	317,276	1.091	320,883	69,649	0.655
Activity Center Maintenanc	97,647	0.786	129,000	0.807	124,000	53,214	0.500
Extension Council	1,863		7,000				
County Appraiser	167,214	1.503	188,938	1.730	190,066	147,964	1.391
Noxious Weed	110,746	0.859	148,192	0.302	160,530	54,374	0.511
Council on Aging	1,560		7,000				
Mental Health	606		5,000				
Intellectual Disability	532		5,000				
Ambulance	263,000	2.399	263,000	2.539	309,000	294,847	2.771
Employee Benefits	2,086,176	19.059	2,512,550	17.066	2,427,000	2,095,636	19.695
Special Parks and Recrea					2,998		
Special Alcohol and Drug					43,254		
Emergency Telephone Se	80,701		87,750		116,026		
Non-Budgeted Funds-A	185,879						
Non-Budgeted Funds-B	1,968,402						
Non-Budgeted Funds-C	1,521,773						
Totals	13,617,293	69.647	11,063,298	70.701	11,992,026	7,225,013	67.902
Revenue Neutral Rate **							*67.878*
Less: Transfers	1,390,029		1,169,625		1,746,125		
Net Expenditure	12,227,264		9,893,673		10,245,901		
Total Tax Levied	7,286,478		7,110,045		xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Assessed Valuation	105,435,226		101,373,358		106,405,565		

Outstanding Indebtedness, January 1,	2019	2020	2021
G.O. Bonds	3,845,000	3,635,000	3,420,000
Revenue Bonds	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Lease Pur. Princ.	178,057	111,117	111,880
Total	4,023,057	3,746,117	3,531,880

*Tax rates are expressed in mills

***Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by 2021 Kansas Senate Bill 13*

Carol D. Noblit
Clerk

Carol D. Noblit

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No assurance is provided. Substantially all disclosures omitted.

Tag Office News

In preparation for the Kansas Department of Revenue's online integration with the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS) the Kingman County Tag Office will not process title work after 12:00 Noon on Thursday, August 12th and no title work will be processed on Friday, August 13th. Title work processing will resume Monday, August 16th.

If you have any questions regarding this process our phone number is 620-532-5482. Sorry for the inconvenience.

Tag Office Reminder

The Kingman County Tag Office would like to remind customers that appointments for title work are strongly encouraged to reduce long wait times due to the Kansas Department of Revenue's online integration with the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS). If you are unable to come in person, please contact us for help to complete your title transaction.

Swaney Veterinary Clinic
Stacie Swaney DVM
620-532-5544

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

Pratt County Commission Meeting
July 19, 2021

The Pratt County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, July 19, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. in the commissioner room, 1st floor of the courthouse. The following members were present: Rick N. Shriver, Dwight Adams, Thomas W. Jones III, Tyson Eisenhauer, county counselor, Lori Voss, county clerk and Mark Graber, IT director. Also, present, Michael Blackford, Pratt Tribune.

Tyson Eisenhauer, county counselor, reminded everyone the meeting is being streamed over Zoom and to please state your name when speaking; Mark Graber, IT director, will watch for any comments or questions from the public.

Heather Morgan, economic development consultant, reported Economic Development Corporation met focusing on incentives for retail and restaurants, capital improvements. Cap put on for each business. Clean up communities. Department of Commerce reported median wages in Pratt County. They are up 10% last year. Average in Pratt County is $18.00 per hour. Pratt County doesn't qualify for lower income programs. Concerning ARPA funds, Heather will inquire about small cities submitting for funds. They are due July 26, 2021. Premium pay by the end of the year. First report due the end of August. She would like them to set a date to be paid. Commissioner Shriver asked if townships would be getting any funds. She stated there is still a possibility and she is checking on it.

Catherine Rohrer, SCKCCA. Closing fy21. Move adult funds around, any transfer of funds need a budget amendment. More expenses using online services. Commissioner Shriver made a motion to approve the fy21 quarterly juvenile budget amendment. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried 3-0. She can charge juveniles fees, which can be used for drug/alcohol classes. Money left over goes into a carryover reimbursement plan. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the fy 2022 carryover reimbursements plan. Commissioner Jones second. Motion carried 3-0.

Adult money left over used for reimbursements. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve fy 2021 year end outcome report. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Adult comprehensive plan, need more training, COVID prevented that in 2020.

Gave an update on the number of adult and juvenile cases they are working on. Pratt County has the highest number of juvenile offenders in our region.

Jason Winkel, landfill/recycling supervisor, presented a pay slip for signature. Gave an update on the scraper rebuild. KDHE inspection will be there training a new inspector.

New AC is being installed at the recycling center. Going to visit HHW Satellite locations to go over list of regulations on bringing HHW to the center. He will be attending a recycling conference Sept 14, 2021 in Emporia.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve minutes from July 12, 2021 as presented. Commissioner Adams seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Clerk Voss reported Redrock had done termite inspection and discussed the wall issues on the landing between third and fourth floor.

Tracy Petz, RSVP assistant, presented checks for signatures.

Clerk Voss presented the program income report for economic development from Great Plains Development for Commissioner Shriver to sign.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to pay Landmark Architect $3,491.25. Commissioner Adams seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Sheriff pay slips were presented for raises and promotions to Cameron Quick .09 to Sergeant and Dawson Cox .28 to corporal. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the raises and promotions to Cameron Quick .09 to sergeant and Dawson Cox .28 to corporal. Commissioner Adams seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Shriver gave a short update on the LEC door/windows project.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve membership in the chamber of commerce in the amount of $240.00. Commissioner Adams seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Tyson requested a ten minute executive session to discuss attorney/client matter. Commissioner Adams made a motion at 3:00 pm to adjourn into executive session to Discuss attorney/client matter. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Shriver made a motion to return from executive session at 3:02 pm. Commissioner Adams seconded. Commissioner Jones made a motion to sign IRS form 14764 for Morris Laing. Commissioner Adams seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to sign the RNR letter of intent to exceed the revenue neutral rate of 50.527, proposed mill levy rate is 53.520. Commissioner Jones second. Motion carried 3-0. Hearings for the MR and 2022 budget will be August 23rd, 2021 at 10:00 am. Notices will be published August 11th.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve payment vouchers for July 19, 2021. Commissioner Adams seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to sign IRS form 14764 for Morris Laing. Commissioner Adams seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Pratt County Commission Meeting
July 19, 2021

The Pratt County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, July 26, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. in the commissioner room, 1st floor of the courthouse. The following members were present: rick n. Shriver, Dwight Adams, Thomas W. Jones III, Tyson Eisenhauer, county counselor, Sherry Wenrich, Register of Deeds and Mark Graber, IT director. Also present, Micheal Blackford, Pratt Tribune.

Tyson Eisenhauer, county counselor, reminded everyone the meeting is being streamed over Zoom and to please state your name when speaking; Mark Graber, IT director, will watch for any comments or questions from the public.

Doug Freund, road department supervisor, presented a new hire. Commissioner Adams made a motion to hire Ethan Ailstock @ $13.50/hr. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Doug Freund also presented a bid for a road grader from Foley Equipment. Commissioner Jones made a motion to purchase a Cat road grader as per quote for $321,068.90 less the $40,000.00 trade-in with a final cost of $281,068.90.

Darcie Vander Vyver, health director, gave the covid update. There has been an increase in the number being vaccinated. She also reported that there are currently 10 active cases of covid. The department is now being reimbursed by the state for the testing.

Darci Vander Vyver is also applying for an IEP grant available for $63,000.00. This would be used for digital signs. The $50,000.00 ELC grant is also being finished up. Discussion was had on the PRRC building to have a walk through and see the condition it is in for the possible use as a daycare facility.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the minutes from July 19, 2021.

Commissioner Shriver seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Shriver signed the check for $3,491.25 to Landmark Architects.

Tyson Eisenhauer, county counselor, reported that he will review the rent reduction plan with American Tower for the cell phone tower by the landfill. This would take effect June 1, 2022.

Commissioner Shriver stated that he attended a meeting on July 21, 2021 on the new building and reported the progress being made. He stated that the LEC building doors and windows are being installed.

Commissioner Shriver entertained discussion about the 2022 budget and how to address cutting costs.

Billy Hampton, Pratt County fire and rescue, reported that the repairs to rescue one are complete and presented the bill. Commissioner Adams made a motion to pay Main Street Auto $5594.67 for the repairs. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Scott Harris, EMS director, reported that the fire house subs grant had been awarded to Pratt County. He also requested that if there will available covid funds for the coming year that he would like to get two Lucas devices that will enable less contact while performing CPR. These machines would cost around $15,000.00 apiece.

Scott Harris also presented a new part-time hire. Commissioner Jones made a motion to hire Gary Smith part-time @ $13.50/hr. Commissioner seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 3:00 pm for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Shriver made a motion to return from executive session at 3:07 pm. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Adams made a motion to terminate Scott Harris as EMS director. Commissioner Shriver seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Shriver made a motion to go into executive session for 5 minutes at 3:08 p.m. on an attorney/client matter. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to return from executive session with nothing to report at 3:10 pm and Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to take a 5-minute recess at 3:20 pm. Commissioner Adams seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Adams made a motion to return from recess at 3:25 pm. Commissioner Shriver seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Tyson Eisenhauer, county counselor, reported that the hospital bonds received another A- - rating.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 3:27 pm for 10 minutes on, an attorney/client matter. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Adams made a motion to return from executive session at 3:35 p.m. with nothing to report. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the payment vouchers for July 26, 2021. Commissioner Adams seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 4:17 pm for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion Carried 3-0. Commissioner Adams made a motion to return from executive session at 4:27 p.m. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a Motion to adjourn into executive session at 4:28 p.m. for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Adams made a motion to return from executive session at 4:35 pm. Commissioner Jones Seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to hire Brian Atteberry as interim EMS director. Commissioner Jones seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn at 4:36 pm commissioner Adams seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:36 pm.

Public Notice

FIRST PUBLISHED IN THE CUNNINGHAM COURIER, THURSDAY, August 5, 2021 (3t)

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:JOYCE A. BOLINGER, Deceased.

CASE NO. 2020 PR 41

(Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Marilyn S. Bolinger, duly appointed, qualified and acting Administrator of the Estate of Joyce A. Bolinger, deceased, praying Petitioner's acts be approved; account be settled and allowed; the heirs be determined; the Estate be assigned to the persons entitled thereto pursuant to the laws of intestate succession; fees and expenses be allowed; costs be determined and ordered paid; the administration of the Estate be closed; the Administrator be discharged and Petitioner be released from further liability.

You are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before August 27, 2021, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., in the District Court, Kingman, Kingman County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Marilyn S. Bolinger, Petitioner

Matthew W. Ricke

Ricke Law Office

349 N. Main, PO Box 113

Kingman, KS 67068

Attorney for Petitioner

Public Notice

First published in the Cunningham Courier, Thursday, August 5, 2021 (3t).

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

GLEN A. BOLINGER, Deceased. Case No. 2020 PR 40

(Petition Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on July 28, 2021, a Petition was filed in this Court by Marilyn S. Bolinger, Lyndal D. Bolinger and J. Douglas Bolinger, duly appointed, qualified and acting Co-Executors of the Estate of Glen A. Bolinger, deceased, praying Petitioners acts be approved; account be settled and allowed; the heirs be determined; the Will be construed and the Estate be assigned to the persons entitled thereto; the Court find the allowances requested for attorneys' fees and expenses are reasonable and should be allowed; the costs be determined and ordered paid; the administration of the Estate be closed; upon the filing of receipts the Petitioners be finally discharged as the Co-Executors of the Estate of Glen A. Bolinger, deceased, and the Petitioners be released from further liability.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before August 27, 2021, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. in the District Court, Kingman, Kingman County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Marilyn S. Bolinger, Lyndal D. Bolinger and J. Douglas Bolinger, Petitioners

Matthew W. Ricke, #20995

ATTORNEY AT LAW, LLC

349 North Main, P. O. Box 113

Kingman, KS 67068

(620) 532-3103

Attorney for Petitioners

Public Notice

First published in the Cunningham Courier, Thursday, July 29, 2021 (3t).

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

VONCILE A. BOLINGER, Deceased.

Case No. 2021 PR 22

(Petition Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on July 19, 2021, a Petition was filed in this Court by Gage Young, the Executor named in the "Last Will and Testament of Voncile A. Bolinger," deceased, dated January 24, 2018, praying the will filed with the Petition be admitted to probate and record; Petitioner be appointed as Executor, without bond; and Petitioner be granted Letters Testamentary.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before August 13, 2021, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. in the District Court, Kingman, Kingman County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the estate within four months from the date of first publication of notice under K.S.A. 59-2236. If demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Gage Young, Petitioner

Matthew W. Ricke, #20995

ATTORNEY AT LAW, LLC

349 North Main, P. O. Box 113

Kingman, KS 67068

(620) 532-3103

Attorney for Petitioner

Rental, Utility Assistance Available When Eviction Moratorium Expires

Statewide program granting Kansas tenants, landlords $3 million per week

TOPEKA, Kan.—Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC), the state's housing finance agency, has provided $21,670,326.79 in emergency rental and utility assistance to 4,054 Kansas households experiencing financial hardship as a result of the COVID pandemic. The funds, made available through the Kansas Emergency Rental Assistance (KERA) program, were allocated to the state through the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) previously issued a temporary nationwide halt in residential evictions to prevent the further spread of COVID-19. That moratorium is set to expire on July 31, 2021. Kansans who may be facing eviction due to financial hardship incurred as a result of the COVID pandemic are encouraged to apply for KERA assistance.

"It's so gratifying to know our team is getting these funds out the door and into our communities where they are so desperately needed," said Ryan Vincent, KHRC's Executive Director. "We recognize that the need is vast, and we look forward to providing this crucial assistance to Kansas tenants, landlords, and service providers as the program continues."

KERA funds helped Gary Evert and his wife Sheryl, a couple in their 70s, remain in their Olathe home. "To anyone else out there who has applied for KERA I would say, 'Don't get discouraged. We're all nervous, but when a customer service representative can calm you down and give you a sense of hope, it's quite comforting,'" Evert said.

The KERA program previously served Kansans across the state except Wichita residents, who were served by the city's rental assistance program. Recognizing the importance of serving tenants and landlords in our state's most populous city, Wichita residents are now eligible to apply for the KERA program, though duplication of benefits is prohibited.

To be eligible to receive KERA assistance, tenants must rent their homes and must have experienced a documented financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Examples of hardship may include qualifying for unemployment benefits, experiencing a reduction of household income, or incurring significant costs due to the pandemic. Additionally, the tenant's household's income may not exceed 80 percent of the area median income.

Nyrica Hall of Topeka was facing eviction when she applied for KERA assistance. Her request resulted in funding for rental and utility assistance, as well as a $600 lump sum payment to cover internet service. "When the customer service manager called me back to say my application had been approved, I cried," Hall said.

KERA applicants must provide the following documentation:

Past-due utility bill or overdue rent or eviction notice from April 2020 to the present

Signed lease identifying the residential unit and the rental payment amount

2020 Federal Income Tax Return as filed with the IRS (if tenant hasn't filed 2020 federal income taxes, their W-2 wage statement and all IRS 1099 forms are acceptable)

Proof of identification, including a current state-issued photo ID, court filing notice, or mail from a federal, state, county, or city agency displaying the rental unit address

Approved KERA applicants are eligible to receive a maximum of 12 months of rental and utility assistance, in addition to reasonable fees and security deposits. Qualified applicants are also eligible to receive a lump sum of $600 in credit to their internet providers to cover past-due or future internet costs, at a rate of $50 per month for 12 months. Tenants may apply for three months of prospective assistance at a time. Program guidelines require tenants and landlords to apply jointly, with payments made directly to the landlord or service provider.

The KERA program builds on KHRC's success administering the Kansas Eviction Prevention Program, a statewide rental assistance initiative funded by the federal CARES Act in 2020. In the roughly 60 days that program was in statewide operation, KHRC processed 10,138 applications for more than $25.8 million in requested funding, ultimately serving 27,200 Kansans with $17,007,614 in rental assistance.

To learn more, to locate a community partner to assist with the application process, and to apply, visit kshousingcorp.org/emergency-rental-assistance.

Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC) is a self-supporting, nonprofit, public corporation committed to helping Kansans access the safe, affordable housing they need and the dignity they deserve. KHRC serves as the state's housing finance agency (HFA), administering essential housing and community programs to serve Kansans.

Kelly Administration Updates COVID-19 Guidance for School Districts

~$87 million in ELC grants available for local school districts to protect students~

TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly announced a new, updated summary document created from recommendations in KSDE's Navigating Change: Kansas' Guide to Learning and School Safety Operations as a reference guide and tool for schools ahead of the start of classes. The document continues the state's practice of mirroring guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

In addition to the guidance, Governor Kelly and KSDE are encouraging school districts to submit requests for ELC Grant Funds. The state of Kansas received $87 million to fund equipment, testing, and medical staff to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in schools.

"We know our children belong in the classroom, but it's critical that we provide Kansas school districts with support and tools they need to keep our kids safe," Governor Kelly said. "This guidance is in line with what we have made available over the last year, but has been modified to incorporate the best information we have to fight the Delta variant. I encourage school districts to follow the science and use the available funds to keep their kids safe."

Many Kansas school districts have already made requests for ELC funds. Including for clinical and administrative staff as well as equipment with mobile technology to create and support the most flexible COVID-19 testing plans possible. In more rural areas requests include transportation to share staff between school buildings and to transport sick children. Others have opted to use ELC funds for vaccination events including incentives and communications in the community.

"We are thankful for the leadership provided by Governor Kelly and Secretary Norman," Kansas Commissioner of Education Dr. Randy Watson said. "We want every student to be in the classroom this fall. To ensure this happens, school districts should continue partnering with their local medical teams to implement safety protocols that protect all students and school personnel."

The Kelly Administration worked to develop guidance that would ensure that districts across Kansas would be equipped with the best possible information as they prepared to bring their students back for full-time, in-person learning in August. The Kelly Administration will continue to issue new guidance as information is provided from the CDC.

"To ensure everyone remains safe as schools resume in August, it is key for schools and communities to work together," Dr. Lee Norman, Secretary of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) said. "We urge school districts to use the ELC resources for additional support. And, we encourage communities to continue taking precautions to mitigate the virus, including vaccination and testing. If individuals are not vaccinated, please wear a mask in public. If you're feeling sick, get tested, practice social distancing and stay home."

The State of Kansas began a robust, statewide PSA campaign to encourage Kansans to get vaccinated ahead of the July 4th holiday that will continue throughout year.

EPA and Army Announce Next Steps for Crafting Enduring Definition of Waters of the United States

WASHINGTON (July 30, 2021) – Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Department of the Army announced plans for upcoming community engagements to inform their efforts to revise the definition of "waters of the United States" (WOTUS) to better ensure clean and safe water for all. EPA and Army are committed to developing a reasonable, effective, and durable definition of WOTUS that protects public health, the environment, and downstream communities while supporting economic opportunity, agriculture, and other industries.

"We are committed to crafting an enduring definition of WOTUS by listening to all sides so that we can build on an inclusive foundation," said EPA Administrator Michael S. Regan. "Uncertainty over the definition of WOTUS has harmed our waters and the stakeholders and communities that rely on them. I look forward to engaging all parties as we move forward to provide the certainty that's needed to protect our precious natural water resources."

"Our nation's water resources are critical to support all of our communities," said Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Jaime A. Pinkham. "Like the EPA, the Department of the Army recognizes the importance of this effort and we are committed to meaningful engagement with Tribes, states, local governments, and stakeholders to ensure that a revised definition of WOTUS reflects the experiences of, and input received, from all communities."

The agencies intend to revise the definition of WOTUS following a process that includes two rulemakings. A forthcoming foundational rule would restore the regulations defining WOTUS that were in place for decades until 2015, with updates to be consistent with relevant Supreme Court decisions. A separate, second rulemaking process would refine this regulatory foundation and establish an updated and durable definition of "waters of the United States."

A durable definition of WOTUS is essential to ensuring clean and safe water in all communities—supporting human health, animal habitat, agriculture, watersheds, flood management, local economies, and industry. Today's announcement marks an important step in the agencies' efforts to restore protections and write a rule to define WOTUS that is grounded in science and the law, emphasizes effective implementation, and prioritizes collaborative partnerships with states, Tribes, local governments, and stakeholders. To help ensure that EPA and Army hear from diverse perspectives, future engagement activities will be developed in coordination with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"It is vital that farmers and rural Americans have a seat at the table and a voice in this process so that the rule responds to concerns and realities on the ground. The engagement in the coming months is important and I encourage all stakeholders to provide their experiences and views in order to help shape future policy," said U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack.

Today, EPA and Army are announcing a series of engagement opportunities, including an opportunity for stakeholders and the public to provide written recommendations and a series of public meetings in August to hear perspectives on both rules. In addition, the agencies are initiating Federalism and Tribal consultations for the foundational rule. The agencies also intend to host a series of dialogues with state and Tribal co-regulators this fall to discuss both rulemakings.

Additionally, the previous rulemaking efforts have highlighted the regional variability of water resources and the importance of close engagement with stakeholders to understand the specifics of how they experience regulation under varying definitions of waters of the United States. To honor our commitment to listening and learning from diverse perspectives, the agencies plan to convene ten regionally focused and inclusive roundtables during the upcoming fall and winter. These roundtables will allow a full range of stakeholders to engage and discuss their experience with definitions of WOTUS—including what has worked and what has not within their geographic areas. The roundtables will provide opportunities to discuss geographic similarities and differences, particular water resources that are characteristic of or unique to each region, and site-specific feedback about implementation.

For more information on submitting written recommendations or to register for the public meetings, see www.epa.gov/wotus/public-outreach-and-stakeholder-engagement-activities.

Background

Congress enacted the Clean Water Act in 1972 with the statutory objective "to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters." One of the Act's principal tools in achieving that objective is a prohibition on the discharge of pollutants from a point source to navigable waters unless otherwise authorized under the Act. Navigable waters are defined in the Act as "the waters of the United States, including the territorial seas." Thus, "waters of the United States" is a threshold term establishing the geographic scope of federal jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act. The term "waters of the United States" is not defined by the Act but has been defined by EPA and the Army in regulations since the 1970s and jointly implemented in the agencies' respective programmatic activities.

On June 9, 2021, EPA and the Department of the Army announced their intent to revise the definition of WOTUS to better protect our nation's vital water resources that support public health, environmental protection, agricultural activity, and economic growth. Upon review of the Navigable Waters Protection Rule, the agencies determined that the rule is significantly reducing clean water protections.

Water Conservation Tips

Conserving water is increasingly important these days. Not only is it beneficial for the environment, but it's also useful for saving money in these challenging economic times. There are many simple, doable ways to conserve water at home, from not letting the water run while brushing your teeth and taking shorter showers to waiting until you have a full load of clothes before running the washing machine. Read below for 10 more water-conserving tips.

1. **Check all faucets, toilets and showerheads for leaks.**

You'll be surprised at the amount of water that can be wasted from even a small leak. Consult a plumber to repair leaks both large and small.

2. **Insulate your water pipes.**

It's easy and inexpensive to insulate your water pipes with preslit foam pipe insulation. You'll get hot water faster and avoid wasting water while it heats up.

3. **Install a low-flow showerhead.**

Low-flow showerheads are a great way to save water and money. This type of showerhead, which is relatively inexpensive, works by delivering fewer gallons per minute (gpm) of water than conventional showerheads. Low-flow showerheads deliver about 1.6 gpm, compared to about 5 gpm of conventional heads.

4. **Install a water-saving toilet.**

Water-saving toilets use 1-2 gallons per flush instead of 3-5 gallons. Replacing an 5-gallon-per-flush toilet with an ultra-low-volume (ULV) 1.5-gallon-flush model represents a 70% water savings and will cut indoor water consumption by about 30%.

5. **Wash your car the water-efficient way.**

Save up to 150 gallons of water every time you wash your car simply by turning the hose off between rinses.

6. **Install a low-flow faucet aerator.**

Low-flow faucet aerators are very inexpensive, only about $10. They work by mixing air into the water stream and can reduce your home's water consumption by 50%.

7. **Use the dishwasher only when it's full.**

One dishwasher cycle uses a tremendous amount of water, so make extra effort to fill it up before you press start.

8. **Turn off the faucet while washing dishes.**

When you are washing dishes, simply scrub each item (with the faucet off) and set it aside. When all the dishes have been scrubbed, turn on the water to rinse off the dirt and soap. This uses a lot less water than soaping and scrubbing dishes while the faucet is running.

9. **Turn the faucet off while you brush your teeth!**

Can you imagine if one person per household throughout the US started keeping to this habit? The water savings would be tremendous. As mentioned above, this is one of the easiest ways to save water, and it is simple to make it into a habit.

10. **Be water conscious!**

Being water conscious in general while at home and away is an effective way to save water. Start noticing your trends and habits regarding water usage and change any patterns that are wasteful.

Water Usage Facts

The average North American uses 50-70 gallons of water daily. That amount can double in summer, with lawn and garden care, swimming pools, etc.

Three-quarters of all indoor water usage is in the bathroom.

In a typical North American home, the toilet accounts for about one-quarter of total water use.

Running a sprinkler for two hours can consume as much as 500 gallons of water.

Washing your driveway or sidewalk with a hose gobbles about 10 gallons per minute.

by Mesa Sallee

Be Mindful of Your Dogs

(Published in the Cunningham Courier, the official City newspaper, September 3, 2020)

ORDINANCE NO. 676

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-206 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF CUNNINGHAM, KANSAS, CONCERNING DOGS RUNNING AT LARGE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CUNNINGHAM, KANSAS:

Section 1: Section 2-206 of the Code of the City of Cunningham, Kansas is amended to read as follows:

"2-206 RUNNING AT LARGE; FINE.

(a) It shall be unlawful for the owner or harborer of any dog to permit such dog to run at large within the city at any time. A dog shall be deemed as running at large unless it is under the physical control or the owner, keeper, or harborer by leash or chain; within a structure; within a fence enclosure; or be controlled by an operating electronic training system.

(b) Any dog running at large within the city shall be impounded as set out in 2-207.

(c) The owner or harborer of any dog impounded for running at large shall upon claiming the animal present a registration receipt and pay the cost of the board bill. Mandatory fines shall also be imposed for violations of this section. A mandatory fine of $25 shall be assessed for a first offense of this section. The fine for a first offense can be paid to the City Clerk by a time prescribed by the Animal Control Officer to avoid a Municipal Court appearance on the violation. Failure to pay said find by the prescribed time shall require a mandatory court appearance. For a second offense within a one-year period, the owner or harborer shall pay a mandatory fine of $50. For a third or subsequent offense within a one-year period, the owner or harborer shall pay a mandatory fine of $75. Mandatory court appearances shall be required for second or subsequent violations of this section within a one-year period.

(d) For the first offense of an animal running at large without a tag as required by 2-202, the owner or harborer claiming any animal, shall, in addition to presenting a registration receipt, pay the cost of the board bill. For a second offense within a one-year period, the owner of harborer shall pay a fine as set by the city, plus the board bill. For a third and all subsequent offenses within a one-year-period, the owner or harborer shall pay a fine as set by the city, plus the cost of the board bill."

Section 2: This ordinance shall take effect upon its publication in the official City newspaper.

Approved and passed by the Governing Body of the City of Cunningham, Kansas, this 31st day of August, 2020.

Harlequin Jester "Quin"

Clarence

Governor Announces July Tax Receipts

TOPEKA – Today, Governor Laura Kelly announced Kansas' July tax receipts. In total, Kansas' State General Fund saw its total tax receipts for July perform $60.0 million, or 11.0%, better than the estimate with $602.6 million collected. Comparing this July's total tax receipts to the previous July's would not be a meaningful comparison as last July included receipts from tax returns from the extended filing period.

"Our July tax collection numbers are encouraging, but we must maintain fiscally-responsible policies to ensure our continued growth," said Governor Laura Kelly.

Individual income tax receipts were $20.8 million, or 8.9%, more than the estimate with $255.8 million collected. Corporate income tax collections were $34.2 million. That is $19.2 million, or 8.9%, more than the estimate.

Retail sales tax collections were up $11.6 million, or 5.2%, for the month with $233.6 million collected. That is $15.0 million, or 6.9%, more than the previous July. Compensating use tax collections were $4.3 million, or 7.8%, more than the estimate with $59.3 million collected. That is 17.8%, or $9.0 million, more than last July.

"Consumer spending on goods and services has not slowed down," Revenue Secretary Mark Burghart said. "Combined sales and use tax receipts at $292.9 million were 8.9% above July 2020 and 20.3% above pre-pandemic July 2019. Our economists are watching closely to determine if the spread of the COVID-19 Delta variant will impact what has been a strong economic recovery in Kansas."

To view the entire report, visit https://governor.kansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/01_July_Revenue_FY2022_08-02-2021_Final.pdf

State of Kan
Towns

Public Notice

Published in The Cunningham Courier on Thursday, August 5, 2021 (1t)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of
LIBERTY TOWNSHIP
KINGMAN COUNTY
will meet on August 13, 2021 at 8:00 p.m. at 313 S. Gregory, Nashville, KS 67112 for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax.
Detailed budget information is available at 313 S. Gregory, Nashville, KS 67112 and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2022 Expenditures and Amount of 2021 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2022 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2020		Current Year Estimate 2021		Proposed Budget 2022		
Fund	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2021 Ad Valorem Tax	Est. Tax Rate*
General	13,924	5.401	15,160	5.963	15,323	13,387	5.423
Road	45,634	21.652	46,779	21.921	46,086	40,344	20.237
Fema	14,063						
Special Machinery							
Totals	73,621	27.053	61,939	27.884	61,409	53,732	25.660
*Revenue Neutral Rate***							*25.784*
Less: Transfers	11,400		0		0		
Net Expenditure	62,221		61,939		61,409		
Total Tax Levied	52,975		54,039		xxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Total Assessed Valuation	2,427,346		2,751,978		2,468,523		
Township Assessed Valuation Only					1,993,544		

Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1	2019	2020	2021
G.O. Bonds	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Lease Purchase Principal	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.
***Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by 2021 Kansas Senate Bill 13*

Emery Westerman
Township Treasurer

Page No. 6

If you see or hear suspicious activity in Kingman County....
Get Smart!
Call
620-532-5133 for Kingman County Sherriff's Office OR
1-800-kscrime OR **911**

FREE BREAD & BAKED GOODS
AT THE
CUNNINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH
2 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M. ON
TUESDAYS

Thanks for recycling The Courier on
August 9th

Miscellaneous

UPDATE YOUR HOME with Beautiful New Blinds & Shades. FREE in-home estimates make it convenient to shop from home. Professional installation. Top quality - Made in the USA. Call for free consultation: 844-740-0117. Ask about our specials!

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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

Help Wanted

Kingman County Council on Aging is accepting applications for In-Home Services. Experience preferred in Housekeeping, Bathing Assistance, and working with the elderly. Must be dependable and must have reliable transportation. Benefits are earned vacation time, mileage reimbursement and KPERS(if qualifying hours are met). References, background check and pre-employment drug testing. Applications may be picked up at 305 N. Cedar between 7:30-4:00pm. For more information call 620-532-5744. KCCOA is an EOE.

Cunningham Hands of Hope, Inc.

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

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

What do we serve: Food

When do we serve: 2nd Tuesday of every month from 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Where do we serve: 117 N Main (Old School Board Office – Alley Access)

Why do we serve: To provide food assistance to those in need.

How to be served: Attend monthly 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 EOE provider.

Cunningham Liquor

OPEN — 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. — Monday thru Thursday
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- SOIL EROSION MEASURES -
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Road Grader • High Loader
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To Apply or for more details stop by and see us at 701 East Ave A, Kingman, KS 67068, or online at greatlakespolymers.com/careers/

Public Notice

First published in the Cunningham Courier, Thursday, August 5, 2021 (3 t) .

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

JOSEPH J. MATTAL, a/k/a JOE MATTAL, Deceased.
Case No. 2020 PR 38

(Petition Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on July 29, 2021, a Petition was filed in this Court by John O. Mattal and Donna J. Legleiter, duly appointed, qualified and acting Co-Executors of the Estate of Joseph J. Mattal, a/k/a Joe Mattal, deceased, praying Petitioners acts be approved; account be settled and allowed; the heirs be determined; the Will be construed and the Estate be assigned to the persons entitled thereto; the Court find the allowances requested for attorneys' fees and expenses are reasonable and should be allowed; the costs be determined and ordered paid; the administration of the Estate be closed; upon the filing of receipts the Petitioners be finally discharged as the Co-Executors of the Estate of Joseph J. Mattal, a/k/a Joe Mattal, deceased, and the Petitioners be released from further liability.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before August 27, 2021, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. in the District Court, Kingman, Kingman County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

John O. Mattal and Donna J. Legleiter, Co-Executors
Matthew W. Ricke, #20995
ATTORNEY AT LAW, LLC
349 North Main, P. O. Box 113
Kingman, KS 67068
(620) 532-3103
Attorney for Petitioner

Use the Courier to say "Thank You".
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620-532-3667
Lorin Haas, CPA
420 S. Jackson Suite 200
Pratt, KS 67124
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Cunningham, KS
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532-2631

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Kingman Real Estate
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Diane Wilson 491-1139
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Kingman, KS 67068
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Seth Thibault, OD
Andrew W. Piester, OD
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Pratt, Kansas 67124
620-672-5934
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. M - F

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

Seth Thibault, OD
Andrew W. Piester, OD
104 West C Ave.
Kingman, KS 67068
620-532-3154
1-800-371-3154
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Friday

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Kingman, KS 67068
620-532-3147

Rehab Services
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Kingman, KS 67068
620-532-0110

Cunningham Clinic
112 North Main
Cunningham, KS 67035
620-298-2397

Visit our website:
www.kingmanhc.com
Find us on Facebook:
Kingman Healthcare Center

Celebrations of Life

Donna Kittle-Hook

Donna Dennise Kittle-Hook, 61, died July 26, 2021 at her home in Taos, New Mexico.

She was born Dec. 30, 1959, in Guymon, Oklahoma the daughter of Paul and Mildred Toombs Kittle. A recent resident of Taos, formerly of Kingman, Kansas and Winfield, Missouri, she was a homemaker and former owner/operator of Ducky Doo Karaoke.

On July 8, 1995, she married Billy Hook; he passed away April 12, 2005. Survivors include sons Shawn Hook and companion Bailey Branstetter, Scott Short and companion Julie Tabor, Larry "Cody" Short and companion Clarissa Travis, Brandon Short and companion Savannah Whittaker; daughter Jana White and husband Kenneth; brothers Paul (Patty) Kittle and Tommy (Sylvia) Kittle; several grandchildren; as well as several nieces, nephews, foster children, and countless friends. Donna was also preceded in death by her parents; and a sister Lanita Jo Kelly.

Funeral services will be 1:00 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 7, 2021 at the Carter-Ricks Funeral Home in Winfield, Missouri. Friends may call from 10:00 a.m., Saturday until service time at the funeral home. Burial will be Whispering Winds Cemetery.

A memorial service will be held at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 28, 2021 at the Livingston Family Center, Kingman followed by a reception where stories of Donna and her passion of music will be shared.

A memorial has been established with the Family of Donna Hook in care of Livingston Funeral Home, 1830 N Main, Kingman, KS 67068.

Bradford Morris

Bradford James Morris, 64, died Saturday, July 24, 2021, at his home in Kingman.

He was born July 10, 1957, at Wichita, Kansas, the son of Robert Lee and Doris Ann Schild Morris.

Bradford was a self-employed painter.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army.

Survivors include Bradford Lee Morris; brother Craig Morris; and sisters Deborah Morris and Janet Purvis.

Services will be announced at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Phyllis Stucky

Phyllis Joan Stucky, 87, went to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Aug. 3, 2021.

She was born Sept. 23, 1933, in rural Kingman County, the daughter of Merle and Hilah Field Young. A lifetime resident of the Pretty Prairie community, she was a farmwife, a former CNA and Laundry Supervisor at Prairie Sunset Home and also worked for Kuhn's IGA and Collingwood Elevator.

Phyllis was a member of the First Mennonite Church and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

On Sept. 2, 1951, she married Gerald G. Stucky at Pretty Prairie; he died Feb. 10, 2012. Survivors include five daughters Juanita (Tom) Zerfas, Paula Sisler, Vickie (Ron) Jacques, Kellee (Randy) Goering, and Joni (Roger) Vogt; brother Roy Young; son-in-law Bruce (Dianna) Ellingson; 14 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-grandchild. She was also preceded in death by a daughter Geryl Lynn "Geri" Ellingson; brothers Forest Ray Young and Daryl Young; grandchildren Leslie Ellingson, Ellea Vogt, Aryn Jacques and Andrew Goering; and a son-in-law Gary Sisler.

Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 7, 2021 at the First Mennonite Church, Pretty Prairie. The family will receive friends from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday at the Livingston Funeral Home, Kingman. Burial will be in the First Mennonite Church Cemetery.

Memorials may be made with the Prairie Sunset Home, the First Mennonite Church or Serenity Hospice, all in care of Livingston Funeral Home.

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Saturday 10 -2
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(620) 388-0366

Free Bread & Baked Goods
at the
Cunningham Methodist Church
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesdays

Monarch Caterpillar Spotted (or is it striped?)

Monarchs: the Monarch butterflies are quickly becoming endangered. Farming and grazing practices are mostly responsible for this loss. Raising milkweed in flower beds can help them get a break. *Alan Albers*

A Note of Thanks

To everyone who helped us in our time of need after our house fire, we wish you many thanks for everything. We will continue to remember you in our prayers.
-Edwin and Barbara Huelskamp

Ibada Ya Sifa Na Kuabudu

Everyone is invited to the Cunningham United Methodist Church on Sunday, August 8th for a Praise and Worship service in Swahili and English!

The service will be conducted by Esther and Pastor Mathew Musyoki and begins at 10:45. Don't be late, it sounds like a treat!

Kingman Health Department COVID Update

August 3, 2021

Kingman County has 26 active COVID-19 cases at last count. Of these cases, 1 person is hospitalized, and 2 people have died since last weekend. We believe the Delta variant is the predominant COVID-19 strain right now, and it is more contagious than other COVID-19 variants with a much higher viral load than other COVID-19 viruses-this means that it is much easier to catch this virus and transmit it to other people. Caution is key to getting some control over this wave of infections.

https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view

Pandemic Disrupts Critical Early Childhood Education

(StatePoint) While young children have been less vulnerable to COVID-19 health dangers, a new study finds that they've been tremendously impacted by the disruption to preschool activities triggered by the pandemic.

The National Institute for Early Education Research study finds that pre-K participation has tumbled during the pandemic. What's more it finds that children are spending less time outdoors and on certain key learning activities at home with parents and caregivers, and more time in front of screens.

Education experts say early learning opportunities are critical for young children's social, emotional, physical and cognitive development, as well as their mental health. New resources can help fill the preschool void and make this an enriching time for young children. To learn more, visit www.pncgrowupgreat.com.

While the pandemic has created unprecedented challenges for families with young children, building a love of learning early on can help pave the way for a great future.

"The COVID-19 pandemic reminded us of how life was before vaccinations."
— Steven Magee

Check the Blessing Box east of the Methodist Church.

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

Upcoming Auctions

Wednesday, August 11th Land Auction
434 +/- Acres Pratt County Pasture
Land - Hamm Auction Center

For more information and a complete list of auctions, see our website at

www.hammauction.com

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Happy 60th Birthday to ME!