

Sports in Kansas 6-Man Coach of the Year: Lance McGuire

Lance McGuire is a longtime stalwart for Cunningham sports, especially in football. The Wildcats had some success under McGuire. Then, the Wildcats went through back-to-back winless seasons and four straight years without its own team. Cunningham re-started in the six-man class four years ago. The Wildcats went 1-7, 6-2, 9-1 and 13-0. This year yielded the first KSHSAA sanctioned six-man state football championship. The Wildcats won their first football state title in school history. Cunningham beat Ashland in Week 1 and in the championship. McGuire is one of few six-man coaches that use two quarterbacks (Luke McGuire and Trey DeWeese) to great success.

McGuire also helped with the development of Jack Ruckle, whose

improvement helped Cunningham to 8.1 points allowed a contest. That is the best-ever six-man scoring defense since the classification re-started in 2016. Cunningham took a tough loss to Natoma in the six-man Wild West Bowl in '21, was motivated all year and went wire to wire as the No. 1-ranked six-man team.

Over 30 media members in Kansas in all parts of the state determine our awards, along with input from Conor Nicholl and Bethany Bowman, then finalized by Chet Kuplen of Sports in Kansas. Congrats to the Coaches of the Year that were honored this week at our all-state event – powered by Mammoth Sports Construction, Nex-Tech Wireless, SAFE, and Watco. Bios/capsules are from Conor Nicholl of Sports in Kansas.

BOE Will Meet on December 14

AGENDA
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, December 14, 2022
6:00 p.m.
104 W 4th St., Cunningham, KS

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Agenda (AI)
- III. Guest Recognition
- IV. Approval of the minutes of the November 9, 2022, regular meeting (AI)
- V. Approval of financial reports and payment of bills. (AI)
- VI. Old business
 - a. Building project-Bid Review with McCown Gordon
 - b. Approve GMP for project
 - c. Discuss JH Volleyball practice and Baseball options.
- VII. Reports
 - a. Superintendent Report – Mr. Reed
 - b. Principal Report-Mr. Dunlap
 - c. Special Education Report – Travis Thimesch
- VIII. Executive Session- Non-elected personnel
- IX. New Business
 - a. Accept Donations
 - b. Review Food Service Policy
- EE
 - c. 23-24 Calendar Review
 - X. Adjournment



Sports in Kansas Six-Man Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year

Cunningham had four players – Luke McGuire, Trey DeWeese, Lane Halderson and Jack Ruckle – with little separation en route to a 13-0 season, first state football title in school history and a remarkable rise. In 11 on-field performances, the Wildcats tallied 53.5 points per game, second-best in six-man football.

In 2021, Cunningham lost to Natoma in the six-man Wild West Bowl state championship game. CHS' Luke

McGuire suffered injury early in the Natoma loss.

This time, McGuire delivered a huge performance in a 38-16 win against Ashland. McGuire opened the scoring with a 69-yard touchdown to Lane Halderson and delivered a 26-yard TD to Will Wegerer in the second quarter. McGuire rushed 16 times for 61 yards. He completed 11 of 16 passes for 174 yards.

DeWeese is the team leader and a

four-year starter. DeWeese is incredibly instrumental for the Cunningham rise. The Wildcats hadn't won a football game for six years and didn't have its own team for four. Cunningham went 1-7, 6-2, 9-1 and 13-0 in DeWeese's career.

In 11 on-field games, DeWeese completed 92 of 139 passes for 1,112 yards with 29 scores against five interceptions. McGuire rushed 52 times for 587 yards and 13 scores. He passed for 741 yards with 10 touchdowns and served as the team's top returner.

Sports in Kansas Six-Man Defensive Player of the Year – Jack Ruckle/Lane Halderson, Cunningham

Cunningham allowed 8.1 points a game, the state six-man record for scoring defense since the classification was re-introduced in 2016. The Wildcats allowed 17.2 points a game last season, which also led six-man.

Cunningham had a huge gap between first and second place in scoring defense – the biggest of the nine classes. Tescott, which lost to Cunningham 42-0, was second with 15.8 points allowed. All other teams allowed at least 17.6.

Halderson and Ruckle led the defense in various categories. Halderson paced with more than 60 tackles, and Ruckle led Cunningham in sacks and tackles for loss. Halderson also picked off four passes, caused two and was the Wildcats' top receiver.



Halderson paced Cunningham in tackles as a junior, too. Ruckle's improvement was critical to the Cunningham defense. Offensively, Ruckle was used as the running back in goal line situations and rushed for a pair of short touchdowns in the final against Ashland.

Over 30 media members in Kansas in all parts of the state determine the annual player of the year awards, along with input from Conor Nicholl and Bethany Bowman, then finalized by Chet Kuplen of Sports in Kansas. Congrats to the Players of the Year that were honored this week at our all-state event – powered by Mammoth Sports Construction, Nex-Tech Wireless, SAFE, and Watco. Bios/capsules from Conor Nicholl of Sports in Kansas.

-Coach and players' pictures and stories from Sports in Kansas



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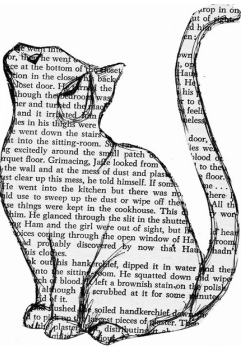
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Meanderings

It is a bright Tuesday morning. I believe I woke up on the proverbial ‘wrong side of the bed’ today. I think the issue was Quin, who woke me up before I was awake. GRRR. My joints are bothering me, and I really, really, really didn’t want to play fetch

and keep-the-ball-away-from-the-lady first thing this morning. But Quin was pretty insistent... nosing his grimy little ball closer and closer to me, then grabbing it as I reached for it. I finally managed to wrest it from him and threw it across the room.

The next nosing incident with him, I grabbed the blanket and covered the ball. He about went crazy looking for it. And when that little guy is on a quest, he loses complete thought processes. Nothing new this morning, until he tromped on ME and I yelled OOM!PH! then

he jumped off of me. I threw the ball and he was off. Twice more, then I was done. So was he. I reached for my book, and he settled down for the wait.

He is really very good about leaving me alone while I read. He really is a good little dog. Unless there are other dogs around, then he’s a vicious little beast. But he loves people and kitties. **

Here it is another week that I am overwhelmed with things to put in the paper. I could easily have filled two more pages. Interesting local events and soon-

to-be-happening events and state news and interviews and interesting bits about calving and taxes and ... so I had to cut out some of the interesting bits. Maybe over the next couple of weeks I’ll find room for them if they are still relevant.

It is now 11:15 p.m. About 9:00 I was almost done squeezing and rearranging and manipulating all the items into the 14 pages, when I decided to check my email. I am glad I did. There was an email from Tim Price from Livingston’s that had come in about 6:30 p.m. He’d sent me an obituary for Wayne Dick.

This did not improve my day any. You all remember Wayne? He was out at Hilltop Manor when I did a piece on him about 2 years ago. Maybe 2 and ½ years. He was an incredibly interesting person, extremely intelligent and very funny. He was a delight to visit with.

Then I read his obituary and smiled. Bits of my article were used in the writing of his obituary. Isn’t that something? He really was a great conversationalist. I know he will be missed.

I meandered off the my original thought there..... I really, really wanted to get Wayne’s

obituary in the paper this week, but most of the pages were completed, so... I just started cutting and pasting and rearranging and manipulating and squeezing... and voila! Done!

Another paper ready for the press! I’m not going to say it is without errors, But I THINK I got everything in that absolutely needed to go in.

Always reading, and currently reading, “Courting Trouble”

by Lisa Scottoline, Roberta
“You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough.”
— Mae West

Tallgrass and
Tumbleweeds
by Gaille Pike

Dear Readers,
Merriam-Webster’s defines nostalgia as “...a wistful or excessively sentimental yearning for a return to a past period or irrecoverable condition.” Though memories of Christmases past rise this time of year, that’s not why I’ve been I’ve teetering on the brink of melancholy. Matt Peek (the wildlife biologist whom I recently interviewed for The Sunflower Seven)

UNINTENTIONALLY both contributed to my current predicament and keeps me from toppling into despair over the scarcity of pheasants in Kansas.
Western Kansas has never been the land of “milk and honey,” but during my childhood it was the land of pheasant a’plenty. So when I moved back to Kansas three years ago, I expected to both appreci-

ate the beauty of these birds in my travels and enjoy them as meals. I’ve never been much of a sportswoman but my circle of family and friends includes many who are. My requests to them for pheasant generally only has yielded sighs and half-hearted mumbles of, “I’ll try.” In three years and thousands of miles crisscrossing our state, I only saw (or think I did) pheasants once. Yet I have refused to accept that they are gone and continued to badger hunters to get me some. I can’t say I pestered him more than anybody else but Matt was the guy that showed up with two birds

in hand.
“God bless us everyone.”
It’s tricky business recreating a memory that stems from your mother’s cooking. But from my first bite of that roasted pheasant to the last swab, let me tell you—it was euphoric, lick-my-lips exactly the tasty meal I recall. In every way. Thanks, Matt for providing the banquet that conjured comfort and delight from my past.
It did not bother me that night. Or the next morning when I gobbled down the leftovers. In fact, I think my pheasant eating, reminiscing good humor lasted two or three

days. Then like the ghost of Christmas Future, a dark drumming voice began to chant in my head.
“Those were not Kansas pheasants.”
I argued back that it didn’t matter from whence they came, that it was enough to have had them and I’d keep hoping for pheasants bred in our state. But then a source (who prefers not to be named) lamented to me that out in Lane County not a single pheasant was seen by anyone on opening day. And I was forced to face that THINGS HAVE CHANGED. My mind flooded with vivid happy pheasant memories. Tsunami nostalgia

waves crashed bitter-sweet on the shore of how THINGS ARE.
Then I thought of when I’d asked Matt about the changes he’s observed in all his years as a wildlife biologist and he immediately said, “The only thing that never changes is that things are always changing.” And then he went on to detail the wondrous ways wildlife always ADAPT. There’s a lesson for me... and for Christmas Present in that.
Until next week—keep your eyes on the stars and your back to the wind.

A COLUMN
BY
TOM
PURCELL

The Gift of Christmas Cheer

I’m not feeling it this year. I’m just not feeling the Christmas spirit of any kind, and I know, for the benefit of others, I need to get out of my slump.
Christmas cheer is a real thing.
A variety of studies have found that we actually do become more cheerful — at least most of us do — during the most giving time of the year.
Insider cites a study in

Denmark in which brain scans were conducted of people looking at images of colorful Christmas decorations.
“The front of the brain lit up for those who celebrated Christmas as the holiday images flashed before their eyes, showing that there is a ‘holiday spirit network’ in the brain,” reports Insider.
I certainly have long had a strong holiday spirit network inside my brain thanks to my mother.
She worked hard to make Christmas as fun and enriching as it could be.
She was a master at building up suspense about the surprises that awaited us Christmas morning.
And even during some of our most challenging years as a family, when

Thanksgiving concluded, her Christmas switch went on and she loved nothing more than decorating the house, holiday records playing as she whistled beautifully to the music.
My mother was always at her happiest during the Christmas season and her joy was infectious.
We took her good cheer for granted as children. But I know now that she loved Christmas so much because it gave her an opportunity to articulate and cultivate her love for her family.
That’s why the happy memories of my childhood Christmases hold such incredible power over me now — and why I know I must overcome my lack of Christmas spirit this year.

I know it’s my duty to be more cheerful toward others, so that my little bit of good cheer may spread and grow — because I was blessed with such an abundance of it for so long.
Cheerfulness, just like rudeness and incivility, is infectious, which is probably why Christmas cheer motivates us to give more to charities than we normally do.
During the Christmas season last year, despite a rocky economic year, Americans donated a record amount of money.
Donations are expected to be down slightly this year due to high inflation rates and other financial challenges, but the Christmas spirit continues to fuel our incredible generosity.
With my father’s re-

cent death, it’s been a particularly rough year for my family. All of us are struggling to embrace the spirit of Christmas — including my mother.
I know from experience that the only way out of a slump in Christmas cheer is to simply give.
That includes doing something, anything, positive and upbeat to help others who are facing their own physical, financial and spiritual struggles.
There is no shortage of people who need some extra Christmas cheer this year.
Many of our troops are away from their families — or dealing with debilitating injuries — and we can support them.
Our neighbors may be out of work or struggling to make ends meet in our

difficult economy and we can support them, too.
Elderly neighbors may be isolated and lonely inside — they will cherish some company and regular check-ins to make sure they are doing OK.
I pray that I do better at spreading the spirit of Christmas — and that all of us make good use of the wonderful and very real gift of Christmas cheer.
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Purcell, creator of the infotainment site ThurbersTail.com, which features pet advice he’s learning from his beloved Labrador, Thurber, is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist. Email him at Tom@TomPurcell.com.



KANSAS FARM BUREAU

The Voice of Agriculture

The Spirit of the Season

Kim Baldwin,
McPherson County farmer
and rancher

The rush is on as the hustle and bustle of the holiday season ramps

up! It seems like there’s never enough hours in the days, or days in the weeks leading up to Christmas.
As a parent, small business owner, community member and farmer, there’s just a lot to accomplish immediately after washing the dishes from our Thanksgiving meal.
As a parent, keeping

track of the Christmas parties and holiday-themed school days for my two young children requires organization and focus.
Throughout the year, I keep track of the “normal” school things needed to be done like the minutes we read nightly, the weekly spelling words needing attention at home, and making sure the kids have their library books read and ready to return on their assigned library days.
But this month I’m hyper alert to knowing when “Ugly Christmas Sweater Day” is compared to when “Santa’s Ho-Ho-Hoedown Day” is to ensure my kids participate in at least some of their school’s countdown to Christmas Break spirit days – 15 themed spirit days in all.
One of my greatest fears this month has

become the thought of sending the kids to school wearing their pajamas for “Dream a Little Dream Day” when they should be wearing a scarf for “Deck Your Neck Day” or forgetting to dig out Hawaiian shirts for “Christmas Vacation Day”.
I’ve concluded that if there are prizes for most spirited this month at school, the Baldwin kids probably won’t make the cut. I’ll consider it a win if I remember to send lunch money on the day the school serves their Christmas ham meal later this month!
On the farm, there’s a list of things we try to get done every December. Currently, that list has us trying to get fields fertilized before any potential snow falls. This responsibility mainly falls on my husband as I dedicate my days fulfilling holiday or-

ders and making multiple trips to the post office for our small business.
There are parties and practices and community events and performances and games and top-secret shopping trips also on my December calendar.
My December started out with an incredibly busy day, which transitioned into an equally busy evening consisting of shuttling kids from school to basketball practice and then home for showers and food, only to drive them back to town to practice their church Christmas program. I was able to briefly catch my breath after handing the kids off to my husband before making my way to choir practice.
Getting home shortly before 9 that night, I collapsed on the couch ready to unwind from a busy, busy day. However, I got a phone call from my

father-in-law instead.
It turned out my day was not done just yet. Instead, I put on my coveralls and headed out to the barn to watch over a ewe who had just lambed.
Peeking into the lambing pen that was now occupied by the ewe with her tiny, wet lamb with wobbly legs brought me a calm I had not experienced that day.
Under a clear, dark December sky with stars shining bright above us, a new mother with her newborn lying in a bed of straw reminded me of the true spirit of this season. And all was calm.
May you have at least one moment this month which causes you to pause amongst the holiday hustle and bustle in order to experience the true spirit of the season.
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The Cunningham Courier

(USPS 006-101)

320 Stadium Street, Cunningham, Kansas 67035

620-298-2659 © 2018

Periodicals Postage Paid at Cunningham, Kansas 67035

Postmaster: Send address changes to

The Cunningham Courier

320 Stadium Street, Cunningham, KS 67035-0038

Published Weekly

Roberta L. Kobbe


Editor & Publisher

Subscription Rates: \$42.00 per year in Kansas

\$47.00 per year out of state

320 Stadium Street, Cunningham, Kansas 67035.

E-Mail: cunninghamcourier@embarqmail.com



Community Bulletin Board

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Thursday,
December 8th

HS BB Falcon
Classic at Fairfield

JH BB at Stafford

Tuesday,
December 13th

HS BB at Argonia

Friday, December 9th

HS BB Falcon
Classic at Fairfield

Wednesday,
December 14th

6:00 p.m.
BOE Meeting

Saturday,
December 10th

Santa Day Parade
and activities

Thursday,
December 15th

12:15
Forensics Play

JH BB vs Skyline
at HOME

Monday,
December 12th

JH BB at
Central Christian



Friday, December 16th

Ninnescah Valley
Bank Open House

HS BB vs Classical
School at HOME



Holiday
Open House

at

Ninnescah
Valley Bank

on

Friday, December 16th

9:00 to 12:00 and 1:00 to 3:00



Give an Angel Gift
This Christmas

The Angel Tree at the Ninnescah
Valley Bank has some angels left on it.

Visit the bank, choose an angel
and buy Christmas gifts for
youngsters who wish for a visit
from Santa this holiday season.

Gifts must be purchased and returned
to the bank by December 8th.

Nashville Alumni Gathering

Several folks have called asking about
photos and such from the last Nashville
High School Alumni gathering.

We hope to have them in the paper
next week. Someone is working on
them, and, well, we know how busy
lives are and especially around the
holidays. Next week is now the plan.

I am looking forward to seeing those
photos as much as some of you are.

Parade Donations Can Be Left at
the Bank

The Christmas season is just around the corner and
the plans are in the making for the Annual Christmas
Santa Claus Day Parade Saturday – December 10th
at 1:30 p.m.

This annual event has been a long time tradition
for the Cunningham community. Many people in the
community are working together to make this event
fun and enjoyable for people of all ages.

If you would like to be a part in making this annual
event a success, we are asking for donations to help
cover the expenses incurred.

Donations can be made at Ninnescah Valley Bank
or mailed to

Ninnescah Valley Bank
PO Box 97
Cunningham, KS 67035

Please make checks payable to Merchants
Christmas Fund. Thank you!

Ruth Shelman

Kingman Historic Theatre

National Lampoon's
Christmas Vacation

FREE Throwback Movie

December 8th

6:30 p.m

Sponsored by Shelter
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It Took
90
YEARS
to Look
This Good!



Mary Oller is celebrating her
90th birthday already!!
December 15th is her big day,
but her festivities will be
December 18th
from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Doll yourself up, put on your
party clothes and join
Marvin, Mike, Marlene, Melva, Matt,
Deanna and all their families in helping
her celebrate at the Sacred Heart Hall.

If you can't join her, she'd love to
hear from you. Cards can be sent to
P.O. Box 214 Cunningham, Ks 67035

Library Closed on December 10th

The library will be closed on Santa
Claus Day, Dec. 10th.

Patrons who need materials that
morning may call 620-213-0658.

Upcoming Auctions

Sat. December 10th, 2022
– 9:30 AM

Hamm Auction Center

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

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Kingman Historic Theatre

Elf

FREE Throwback Movie

December 15th

Sponsored by Kanza Bank

Libraries

Cunningham Public Library

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



Zenda
Public Library

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



Kingman
Carnegie Library

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



Pratt Public Library

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

Kingman Historic Theatre

237 N. Main in Kingman
(620) 532-1253
http://www.king-
mantheatre.org/
All Seats \$6.00
(cash or local check only)

Showtimes:
Friday & Saturday at 7:30
Sunday at 5:30

Kingman Historic Theatre

Devotion

Rated PG-13

December 9th - 11th

Thank YOU for supporting YOUR
Kingman Historic Theatre.

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

W. A. Bradley / William Bradley

1927

December 16

Charley Lakin was a member of the Pretty Prairie checker team that played Lerado last Monday night at Pretty Prairie. The score was 87 to 57 in favor of Pretty Prairie.

1932

December 16

The Community Christmas Tree organization, with William Cooley at the helm, is meeting with approval and success in their venture to plan a Santa Claus Day in Cunningham this year, and in succeeding years if the “day” is a success.

120 fathers and sons enjoyed their annual Father and Son Banquet, Wednesday evening, in the Christian Church basement.

1937

December 17

Santa Claus is expected to skate into Cunningham next Friday afternoon if the roads are still as slippery with ice as they are this week, William Cooley said as he announced plans for Cunningham’s fifth annual Santa Claus Day.

1942

December 18

Sixteen men, including three from Cunningham, will leave Kingman next Monday night for Fort Leavenworth for military service physicals. Men from Cunningham are Everett Ruth, Art Patton, and W. G. “Dub” Jones.

1947

December 19

Santa Claus will arrive in Cunningham Saturday afternoon, December 20, at 2:30 p.m. with treats for young and old, and since it has been several years since the old fellow has visited our city in this manner, his coming promises a thrill for everyone, especially the children of the town and community.

There will be a short miscellaneous program at 2:15 o’clock, under the supervision of Prof. A. L. Elrod, and Santa Claus will be on hand at the conclusion of the program to personally direct the distribution of treats to everyone.

The Cunningham Wildcats soundly trounced

Isabel, 52 to 20 in an inter-league game played here Tuesday night.

Darrell Dean “Dazzling” Dyche had on his scoring pants and put on a shot-making exhibition before the largest home crowd thus far as he dropped 13 from the field and 4 from the line for a total of 30 points.

1952

December 19

Tuesday night the Wildcats traveled to Preston and did something no Cunningham team has been able to do for the past several years, as they edged Preston in a thrilling game by the score of 54 to 52.

6-foot 6-inch Ronnie Adelhardt led a well-balanced Wildcat scoring attack with 12 points. Johnny Pelzl connected for 11 points; Victor Becker and Jackie Meyers each hit for 9 points; and Lennie Schnittker scored 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Long of Minneapolis, Minn., announce the birth of a daughter, Teresa Ann, Tuesday, December 16, in a Minneapolis hospital.

Mrs. Long was formerly Miss Helen Luce, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Luce of Cunningham.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lewis of Cunningham, are the paternal grandparents.

1957

December 19

The Cunningham Lions Club held their annual Pancake Day last Saturday on Santa Claus Day. Almost \$90.00 was realized on the affair, which will be used to purchase 30 additional lights for the football-baseball field at the new City Park.

1962

December 20

Christmas Greetings, Clipper advertisers: Cunningham IGA, First National Bank of Cunningham, Em’s Beauty Shop, Cozy Café, Hilltop House and Staff, Creamer’s TV and Radio, Cunningham Repair Shop, Cairo Co-op Equity Exchange, DeWeese Variety and Hardware, Jones Café and Confectionery, Ellis Derby Station, Bob’s Repair Shop, The Cunningham Clipper, Reno Telephone Assn., Inc., B&H Electric, Kincheloe Implement Co., McCool Radio and TV, Vern’s Mobil Station, Raney’s Truck Service, Rose Garage, Freund’s West Café, Twin Gables, Bob’s Ditching and Plumbing Service, J. B. Houston and Son Lumber, Baber’s Sundries, Gano Grain, Patton’s Service Station, Hauser’s AG Market, Taylor’s Barber Shop, Dafforn Appliances, Ace Cleaners, Dan’s Standard Service, Scripsick Oil Company, Vera’s Café, Knotty Pine Motel, Kingman Savings and Loan.

1967

December 21

The Cunningham Wildcats won their third game out of five starts during 15 days, when they larruped

the Norwich Eagles, 73 to 58, at Norwich last Friday night.

The game was a whiz-bang affair with lots of fast and furious action. The Wildcats jumped off to a 19-15 lead at the end of the first period; stretched their advantage to 40-33 at half-time, and widened to a 10-points lead at the end of the third period.

Ned Albers paced the Cunningham scoring with 22 points; Alan Albers came up with 14; Jim McCune had 11; Frank McClellan 10; George Kampling 9; and John McCune 7.

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

Publisher: Charles G. Barnes

Editor: Joyce Hartmann

Reporter: Florine Kampling

1977

December 15

The Cairo E.H.U. met on Tuesday at the home of Mrs. John Dupee for a salad luncheon. The ladies enjoyed a gift exchange. For the program, Miss Pat Ulenhop of the High School music department presented her Mian Stret Singers who sang several Christmas songs. There were 12 members, two children and one guest present.

Terry Elliot attended the National Finals Rodeo in Oklahoma City over the weekend, he returned home with the Jack Duralls.

Hilltop Happenings

Hilltom Manor is beautifully decorated for the holiday season. The ten members of the UFO of the Methodist Church helped with the job.

The color TV won by Mrs. Eartha Wolf at Kingman is a Christmas present for her husband, R. P. Wolf, who resides at Hilltop Manor in Cunningham

Kenneth Scripsick was seriously injured in an accident at his place of business on Monday. He is in St. Francis Hospital in room 320 after surgery on his arm.

Last minute Christmas gifts. Joan Thimesch, Avon Representative. 298-2155

Thursday, December 8 was “fun-yum” day in Mrs. Bradley’s music classes. It was fun because we like to practice over Christmas Program and um because of the beautifully decorated and delicious Christmas cookies.

Mrs. Bob Harbert brought the cookies to all the grade school students and teachers to celebrate Mrs. Arlene Bradley’s birthday. Mrs. Bradley enjoyed the many good wishes, the “Happy Birthday” song and the hand-designed greeting cards from the 1st and 2nd graders.

Earlier in the morning, Mrs. Bradley also enjoyed a call from the Ruckle children who gave their greeting via telephone.



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Old Photos for *Our Community Album*

Call (620) 298-2659 or email cunninghamcourier@embarqmail.com or send to 320 North Stadium Street, Cunningham, KS 67035



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Museum Hours

contact

Angie Mertens at 620-532-4354 or
Alan Albers at 620-298-2725 or
Mike McGovney at 620-770-9503

Sweetest Estate Sale by
Candy

316-217-0133

Living Estate Sale of
Betty and James Hare
1331 W 90th Avenue North
Conway Springs, KS
(Parallel Road)

Thursday, December 8th - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Friday, December 9th - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 10th - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
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Consider this... Walking in Clouds

I walked in the clouds. As frequently happens when something enlightening occurs, it was a change of plans that brought it all about.

The original plan was to visit one of the highest mountain summits accessible by car - the 10,900 foot Beartooth Pass, 80 miles north of us in Montana. Despite 70-degree temperatures here in town, we packed the winter gear - experience teaching us respect for the effects altitude has on temperature. After packing sandwiches, books and cooler, we dashed off into the adventure.

Mother Nature, however, had other plans.

Ten miles out of town, the weather turned dicey. What started as puffy white clouds in town had turned dark and ominous in the surrounding mountains. Individual clouds merged into a solid gray mass, slicing 10,000 foot mountain tops from view, choking off the spectacular vistas we'd remembered from our last trip to the Beartooths.

Calling off the Beartooths for the day, Plan B evolved into a trip 30 miles ahead to Dead Indian Pass, an 8,200 foot lookout with the dual benefits of stunning views and hand-fed chipmunks. Nearing the paved pullout holding half a dozen cars,

we instead turned right on a dirt road that led to the top of a mountain a thousand feet higher. The potholed road was obviously just a trail for those who maintained the weather monitoring equipment at the summit. A third of the way up the rise, we parked.

Stepping into the 30 degree alpine breeze, we complimented our wisdom while slipping into winter coats and gloves. Already 300 feet higher than the travelers at the pullout, we decided to follow the trail to the top.

Within a minute, we could've been filming a scene from the Sound of Music. Alpine meadows filled with wildflowers, bordered by forests and craggy boulders scattered everywhere, silently affirming our position near the top of the world.

And the views! The cloud cover we expected to ruin the panoramas, actually enhanced them with their ebb and tide. One moment nothing but gray, and the next, a hole opened casting sunbeams on breathtaking valleys twenty miles below. Better yet, we were approaching the point on our mountain where the mist was washing over rock. Another 200 feet and we'd actually be walking in clouds.

How does one say thank you for receiving their own personal mountain top? One enjoys it. Three of us hiking that day, we possessed a hundred square miles of America's choicest real estate for ourselves.

How could it be that this spectacular experience was so unattended by others? It wasn't the month - it was late spring, the beginning of prime vacation season. It wasn't the day - Sunday, a prime weekend day. It wasn't the weather - sure it was cloudy, but it hadn't been raining.

And then enlightenment. The reason it was so unattended was because it wasn't a place normally visited by groups. It was off the "normal" path. There was no pavement. No signage. No historical markers. No souvenir shops or restaurants. The best real estate on this planet is rarely visited because most people judge what is "good" by how many others are attending. People watch other people before deciding what they should do. By conforming to the group, they limit themselves to average experiences. Break free of the group and you step into uncommon experiences.

Could that same idea be applied to careers? Relationships? Spiritual development?

As we hiked into the clouds - our clouds -- we realized that of the 300 million Americans scattered below, not one in a million would ever experience the magnificence of this peak. Of those few who would, it would only occur if they'd made one fateful decision -- the decision to leave the crowds behind and follow their own path into the clouds above.

"His Hands Puppets" Coming to Cunningham UMC- Public is Invited!

“Four Stories of Christmas” will be presented by His Hands Puppets on Sunday, December 11, 2022, at 10:45 a.m. at Cunningham UMC. The public is invited to enjoy this musical celebrating the birth of Christ based on the musical “Child of the Promise”, written by Michael and Stormie Omartian and performed by such popular Christian artists as Steven Curtis

Chapman, Wayne Watson, Bob Carlisle, and Michael W. Smith. Beautiful songs of faith, hope, and a little whimsy as well as dramatic sketches will be performed by the His Hands Puppets team.

The public is invited to attend and hear four stories featuring: Zechariah and Elizabeth; Joseph and Mary; Shepherds; and Wise Men. A simple pot-luck



will follow. Cunningham UMC is located at the corner of 3rd and Main in Cunningham.

Confusing the Mortal

By Corinne Smelker
A different take on C. S. Lewis' 'The Screwtape Letters'. Instead of the senior devil providing insight, the junior devil writes, looking for help.

To: strumpet666@hellonearth.com
From: deadlydiabolica@hotmailshades.org
Subject: Confusing the mortal

Good day Auntie Diabolica!

I trust you are well and enjoyed your latest vacation to Hunga-Tonga-Hunga-Ha'apai Volcano. Was it hot enough for you? I hear that the lava is particularly good at this time of year. Nothing compares to the fun we had with Mount Vesuvius, however! Remember all the be-ings we ushered into their own personal 'hot spots'? That was a highlight of our miserable lives.

So, I have a dilemma with my new human. We will forget the fiasco of my last Homosapien and how she slipped through my fingers at the very last second. That drat-

ted Spirit came into her room when my back was turned for literally a second, and before I knew it, she told Our Enemy she wanted to be with him! I am still seething over that one. But it is a new era with a new victim; I mean charge.

Anyway, here is my issue. He has somehow learnt about the blasted armour that awful Paul wrote about*. He is now always ready to repel any advances I make against him. My flaming arrows don't work! Did you decide to punish me for losing my last charge by giving me this person? I can't make any headway!

In 'Piercing the Armour 301' (a class you taught excellently, may I say?), you tackled how to get the arrow of doubt, unbelief, and scepticism past the armour and into their mind or their spirit. I've tried everything - when he's viewing YouTube, I've ensured he's watched some of our greatest allies, but it's all for naught. I've even worked with Agares and Orobas to bring their humans into contact with my person, as they've done wonders with their

charges and have them well on their way to eternal torment, but even that has failed so far.

I am still trying to figure out what to do now. During this pandemic, I thought I had him; he was isolated, we closed the churches, and I ensured temptations surrounded him. Nothing worked. In fact, the isolation made him call out to J-J-J-you know, the Son, even more.

I am at my wit's end! You were a significant tempter in the Middle Ages and dealt with some big names who now burn in anguish. What do you recommend? This armour is impenetrable, yet the instructions for them to wear it are simple. How does that even work?

Please email me (and without the .cc this time - I don't need Pithius' pithy one-liners mocking me more than necessary) and give me some guidance. I can't afford to let another dupe escape my clutches. My place in hell depends on this!

I remain, forever and always,
Your loving niece,
Strumpet

The Bible According to Kids

In the first book of the Bible, Guinessis, God got tired of creating the world, so he took the Sabbath off.

Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree.

Noah built an ark, which the animals come on to in pears. Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark.

Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day, but a ball of fire by night.




Fundraisers & Charitable Opportunities in our Community

- United Methodist** Women donate to help the drought victims in Kenya
- 4C Day Care Shop** smile.amazon.com or contact Kathy Albers 620-298-2725 or 620-388-0774 or leave a donation with the Methodist Church.
- West Kingman County Education Foundation** Use your Dillon's Card! Shop smile.amazon.com (to donte contaceJanet DeWeese 620-298-2717)
- Hands of Hope** (contact any church)
- Cunningham Alumni Scholarship Fund** (send checks to the West Kingman County Education Foundation)
- Cunningham Community Center** (leave donation at the bank)
- Lions' Club** (Money is being raised to dig a well in the village of Kakindu, Kenya)
- Cunningham Museum** (to donate contact Alan Albers)
- Cunningham Public Library** (to donate, contact Kerri Steffen)

Cunningham Hands of Hope, Inc.

- Who:** A Not-for-Profit (501c3) organization providing assistance through donations and volunteers.
- Who we serve:** Residents within the USD #332 school district
- What:** Food
- When:** **First and Third Tuesday 2:00-5:00 p.m.**
- Where:** 117 N Main (Old School Board Office)
- Why:** To provide food assistance to those in need.
- How:** Attend weekly distribution. Adult of household must be present.
- Do you need assistance outside distribution hours?**
- Please call 620-491-0292 and leave a message. Your call will be returned as soon as possible. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.


**Catholic Churches**
Sacred Heart, Cunningham
Sundays - 8:30 a.m.

St. Leo
Saturdays - 5:30 p.m.

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

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


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


**Lutheran Churches**
St. John, Nashville
620-246-5220
Sunday School & Bible Class
9:15 a.m.
Worship Service
10:30 a.m.


Trinity, Medicine Lodge
620- 886-3397
Sunday School & Bible Class
9:45 a.m.
Worship Service
8:30 a.m.

Our worship service is found on the YouTube channel at:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCrenCH12I9nmpcojCFyYLA>

Pastor Dennis Fangmeyer
Cell: 620-886-0911

**Church of Christ**
Penalosa
Sunday 11:00 a.m.

**First Christian Church**
Cunningham
Sunday School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 10:45
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00
Jr High Youth Group 4:00 pm Sunday
Sr High Youth Group 7:30 pm Sunday
Wednesday Prayer Service 7:00
Pastor Mike McGovney 620-298-3201

**United Methodist Church**
Penalosa
Worship 9:15 a.m.

Cunningham
Worship 10:45 a.m.
Pastor Mathew Ndambuki Musyoki
620-298-2090

Zenda
Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School: Children 8:30 a.m. Adults 10:00 a.m.
Pastor J L Nichols
620-491-0680

CJH Wildcats Drop to Norwich Eagles

The Junior High Boys kicked off league play at home last week against rival Norwich. The most recent games between the two have been physical, close, and entertaining for those not actually on the hardwood. Even though the Cats were 3-0 entering the game and on their own court, it is safe to say we were underdogs in the matchup. Norwich, the favorite to win league, had the edge in height. The Cats probably had the edge in hustle. The Cats battled but were behind by 3 at

the end of the 1st. Foul trouble hurt us in the second, which found the home team down 10 to 23 at half. We lengthened the bench for fresh legs and to deal with foul trouble. The result was promising, as the Cats outscored the Eagles by 1 in the 3rd and 2 in the 4th, but the math didn't add up to a victory. These boys are fun to watch. They show some great things and some very confusing things all in a few trips down the court. There will be learning and growing each and every game, but there is always hustle and always heart!

-Coach Lance McGuire

Wildcat Scorers

Stephen Kerschen	14
Layne Green	10
Jack Harden	3
Andrew Kerschen	2
Brody Bock	1



Lane Green



Brody Bock



Jack Harden

Scores	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	Final
Cunningham	6	4	11	9	30
Norwich	9	14	10	7	40

Molly Morgan Photo

JH Lady Cats A-team Fall to Norwich; B-team Wins

On Thursday, December 1, 2022, the Cunningham JH Lady Wildcats opened up HOPL play at home against Norwich. Cunningham found themselves trailing 5-8 after the first quarter, but used a 6-2 run in the second quarter to take a narrow 11-10 halftime lead. The Lady Eagles would outscore

the Lady Cats in the third quarter 5-3 to take a 15-14 lead into the final period. After Norwich scored two baskets to start the 4th quarter, Cunningham would strike back with an 8-1 run to take a narrow 22-21 lead, the Lady Eagles then responded and went on to score the final 7 points of the game to come away with a 28-22 win. The win dropped the Lady Cats to 0-1 in league play and now stand 2-2 overall on

the season. Scoring for the Lady Cats: Macy Neufeld 1, Rylee Miller 15, Whitney Mead 6. In the b-team game the Lady Cats would outscore the Lady Eagles 12-7 in the second half to come away with a 14-13 win. The B-team record now stands at 3-0. Lady Wildcat B-team scoring vs. Norwich: Sage Thimesch 5, Keyonna Huffman 4, Andi Young 3, Kourtnei Fischer 2.

-by Coach Bart Ricke



Nora Huff



Macy Neufeld



Whitney Mead



photos by Molly Morgan

Chat with the CHAMPS



Meet and greet the 2022 6-Man State Champion Cunningham Wildcats on Saturday, December 10 at the Community Center after the 1:30 parade and tree-lighting. Refreshments will be provided.





CUNNINGHAM PRIDE PRESENTS THE

Craft Fair & Christmas Parade

3rd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

Immediately following the Parade at Dafforn Park

8AM -1PM
Craft Fair
Cunningham Gym


10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Pictures with Santa
Cunningham Gym

11AM -1PM
Soup Dinner and Dessert
Community Center

FREE WILL DONATION
Christmas Tree Decorating Contest
\$1 per VOTE

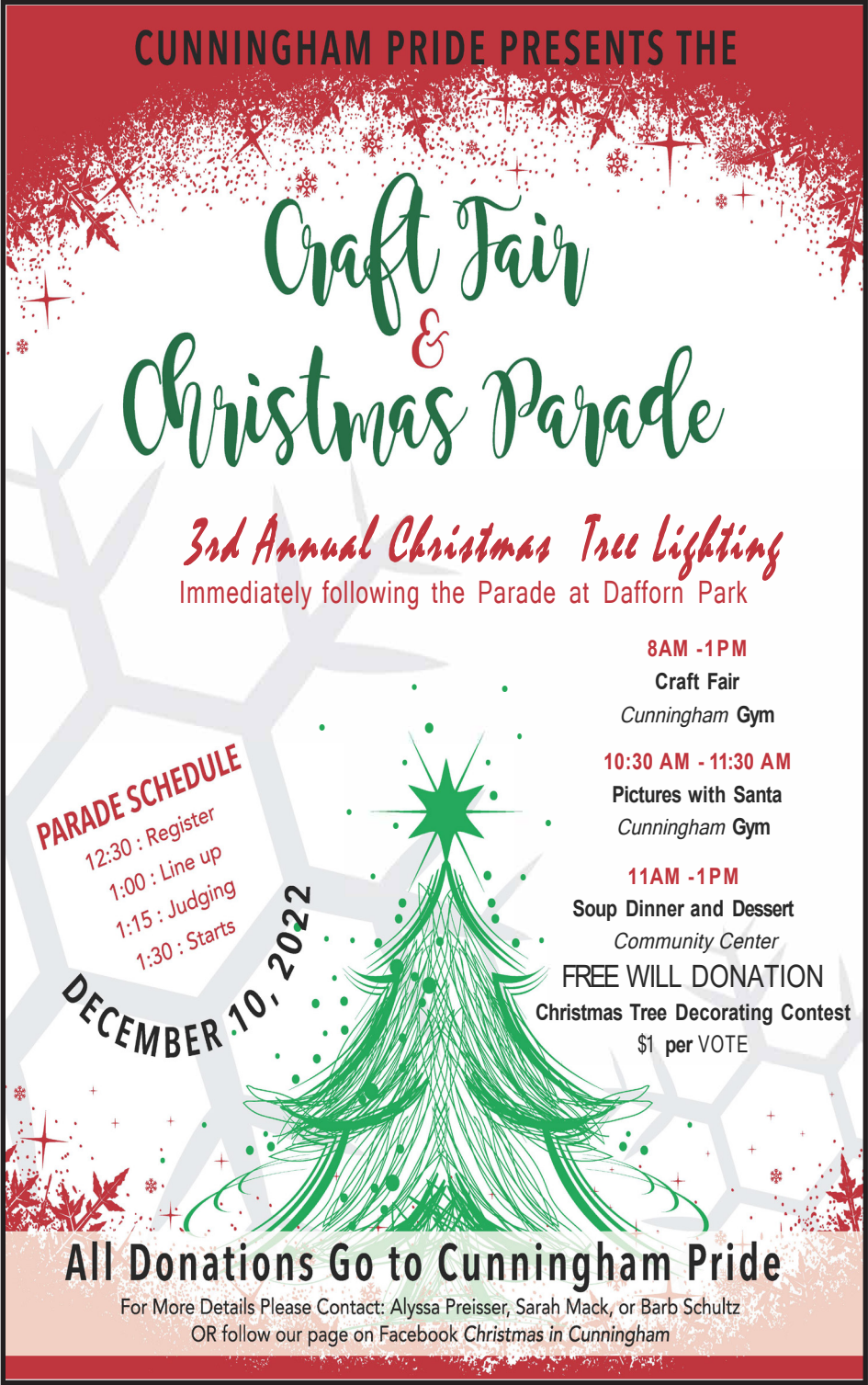
PARADE SCHEDULE
12:30 : Register
1:00 : Line up
1:15 : Judging
1:30 : Starts

DECEMBER 10, 2022



All Donations Go to Cunningham Pride

For More Details Please Contact: Alyssa Preisser, Sarah Mack, or Barb Schultz
OR follow our page on Facebook *Christmas in Cunningham*



Wildcats Get First Win of the Season

The Cunningham Wildcats hosted the Minneola Wildcats on December 2, 2022, to begin their 2022-23 campaign. After five practices due to the great run of the football team, Cunningham fought their way to a 57-55 win over the Cats from Minneola. This was the first win ever versus the Wildcats.

The Wildcats from Cunningham came out of the gates fast making some nice passes that led to easy baskets against the Minneola press. Cunningham led 20 to 12 after one quarter. Trey DeWeese led the way with 11 points. Lane Halderson added four points with Luke McGuire and Luke

Albers scoring three and two points, respectively. The lack of conditioning started to set in in the second quarter. Minneola almost equaled the Cunningham first-quarter total with 19 points, but the Cunningham group kept pace with a 17-point effort. Balanced scoring was the key to the Wildcat's scoring attack. Will Wegerer, DeWeese, and Dagim Reed each scored four points. Luke A. made a three-point basket and Halderson was two for two from the line. The half ended with Cunningham up 37 to 31.

Cunningham began to falter in the third quarter giving up the lead at one point. But the Wildcats fought back and out-scored Minneola 15 to 13 and take an eight-point lead to the fourth quarter. Halderson, Wegerer, and

DeWeese each scored four points and Luke A. added another three-point basket.

The fourth quarter turned into a heart stopper as the Minneola Cats made one last run at the exhausted Wildcats. Cunningham's eight-point slowly shrank to two with 14 seconds to go and Minneola had the ball after Reed hit the first of two free throws. Cunningham had only committed three fouls so far in the half. This allowed the Cats to foul the Minneola players after they entered the ball into play and run the clock down to 4 seconds. Minneola did get a three-point shot off at the buzzer that would have won the game, but it bounced off of the right side of the rim and the Wildcats from Cunningham se-

cured their first win of the season.

One of the players after the game made a statement addressing his conditioning, "This isn't like football." This will change in time as we play ourselves into basketball shape.

The JV boys played a good game coming up short by a score of 49 to 54. Nate Sterneker led the scoring with 15 and Kendall Rogers had 13 points. Dylan Halderson, Skyler Thimesch, Trenton Schnittker, Kory Morgan, and Andrew Schultz scored, nine, four, four, three, and one, respectively.

Cunningham will be participating in the Falcon Classic at Fairfield on December 6th, 8th, and 9th.

-by Coach Bob Stackhouse



Dagim Reed

photos by Molly Morgan



Lane Halderson



Trey DeWeese

Name	2pt. made	3pt. made	FTM/FTA	TP	Reb.	Asst.	Stl.	Chg.
McGuire		1	0/2	3	5	1	1	1
Halderson	5		2/2	12	8	2		
Wegerer	1	1	3/3	8	5	5	2	
DeWeese	9		3/7	21	11	2	2	
Reed	2		1/4	5	8	3	2	
Albers	1	2		8	2	1	2	
Schnittker						1		
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	Final			
Cunningham	20	17	15	5	57			
Minneola	12	19	13	11	55			



Will Wegerer

Lady Cats Vs Minneola



Far left:
Matie Jump



Middle:
Katie Hennessee



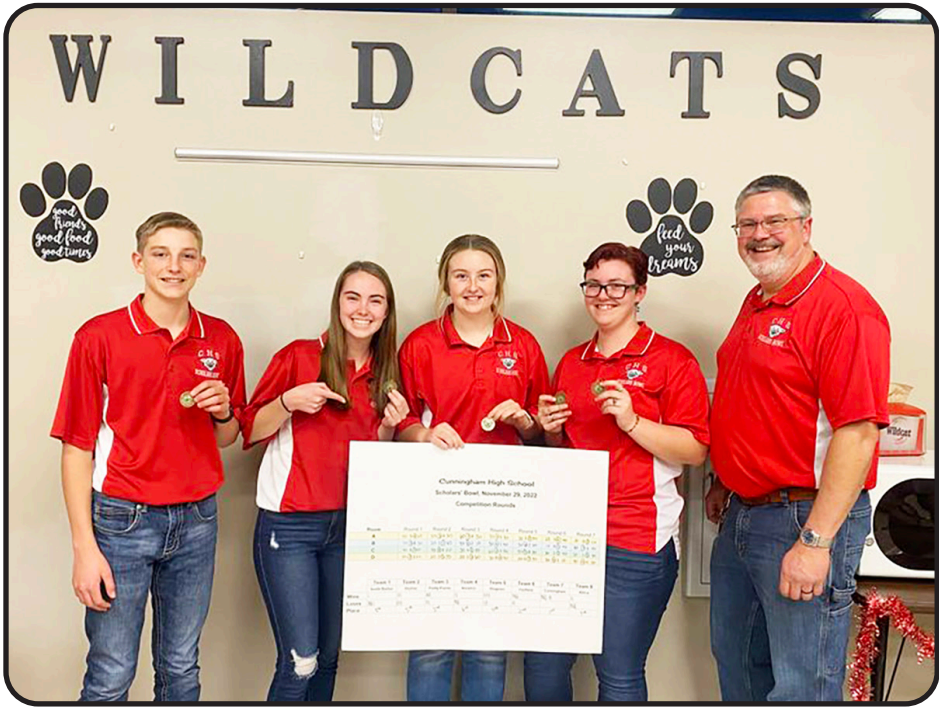
Right:
Grace Hageman drives and Maranda Lohrke blocks



Left:
Maranda Lohrke

Middle:
Hannah Ellis

Far right:
Ellie McGuire



CHS Scholars Bowl team earned 1st place at their home meet on Nov. 29.

Pictured left:
Will Wegerer, Taylor Schultz, Ava Bock, Alice Huelskamp and Coach Sebastian Huelskamp



photos courtesy of USD 332

At the Library



Darren Parker recently donated "Main Street, USA" to the library's art collection. Pictured with Darren are board member Ingrid Ricke and librarian Kerri Steffen.



Alan Albers is shown here with artist Darren Parker. Alan won the print of one of Darren's works at the recent Open House the library hosted.

photos submitted by Kerri Steffen

4-H Met in November

The Cunningham 4-H meeting was held on November 6th at 5 p.m. The annual bonfire meeting was held at the Bock's near Nashville. The bonfire was hosted by the Sterneker's and the Bock's. We ate hotdogs and chili and then held our meeting. This was the first meeting with our new officers in position. There were 28 members present. We finished the meeting by roasting s'mores.

The 4-H officers were initiated during our meeting. Kendall Rogers, reporter



4-H Officers: Katie gg, Emily Ogg, Alice Huelskamp, Taylor Schultz, Ava Bock, Nate Sternker, Kendall Rogers, Andrew Schultz. Not pictured: Brianna Dittmer



Roasting marshmallows for s'mores.

photos submitted by Jennette Rogers

NHS Blood Drive Thank You



Kylee Ricke

Ingrid Ricke photos



Kevin Schwertfeger

Thank you to everyone who donated blood at the NHS blood drive. We appreciate you and your effort in saving lives. We will be hosting another blood drive on April 3rd.

-Ingrid Ricke

WHO STOLE
SANTA'S LIST?

A CHRISTMAS
"WHODUNNIT"
CLASS EXPERIENCE

The CHS forensics class invites the young and young at heart to watch their short play "Who Stole Santa's List?" This interactive mystery will be aimed at the grade school audience, but the public is welcome to attend and solve the mystery as well. The performance will be on Thursday, December 15 at 12:45 in the gymnasium. Admission is free. Editor's Note: The plays at CHS are ALWAYS excellent and fun! come and spend a few mintues being entertained!



Cody Dunlap and family



ALL HOURS - 620.220.5701

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NEW INSTALLATIONS
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CHANGE-OUTS

PLUMBING

WATER HEATERS
WATER WELL
DRAIN CLEANING
KITCHEN/BATH
SEPTIC SYSTEMS



A Note of Thanks

The Kingman Area Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the following people and businesses for making our 29th Annual Lighted Christmas Parade and 'Christmas in Kingman' event a success:

360 Total Fitness Center
Arts & Crafts Fair Vendors
Bethany & Travis Sowers
Citizens Bank of Kansas
City of Kingman Street Crew, Line Crew,
Tom Archer, Greg Graffman & Staff
Corey Goering & Family

Cox Communications
Dixon's Hardware
Grady Keimig
Kale Pickett
KAMI Food Bank
Kanza Bank
Katie Ziegler
Kingman Carnegie Library
Kingman Christian Church
Kingman County Attorney's Office
Kingman County Sheriff's Department
Kingman Elementary School
Kingman Expo Center
Kingman FBLA & FCCLA
Kingman Healthcare Center

Kingman Historic Theater
Kingman Lions Club
Kingman Methodist Church
Kingman Park Board
Kingman Police Department
Kingman Recreation Commission
Livingston Funeral Home
Mandi Roser
Newberry Family Motors
Nextlink Internet
'The Grace Notes'
Whispering Willow 4-H Club
Kingman Leader-Courier
Kiowa County Media Center
The Cunningham Courier

Safe Kids Kansas Announces New Take It From a Teen Video Challenge

Kansas teens will have an opportunity to win \$100 and help spread awareness about road safety

TOPEKA – Safe Kids Kansas, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and program sponsor State Farm announce an opportunity for Kansas high schoolers to share their knowledge on safe driving and passenger practices. The Take It from a Teen video challenge is a unique way to hear

from teenagers on how to reach teens with important road safety information that can prevent injuries and save lives. Each winning applicant/team will receive \$100.

“The video challenge will be a great way for high schoolers in Kansas to use their creativity while spreading a positive message that could help save lives,” said Cherie Sage, Safe Kids Kansas State Director. “We look forward to seeing what interesting, fun and humorous videos Kansas teens can create!”

Students can create a 45-60 second video that answers one of the following questions:

How would you tell your friends to slow down while driving?

How would you tell your friends to buckle up?

How would you tell your friends not to text and drive?

How would you tell your friends not to drive under the influence?

How would you tell your friends not to drive with too many teens and not enough seatbelts in the vehicle?

Videos must be submitted to Safe Kids Kansas via email by Friday, January 20, 2023. Submissions must include age, address and the county of the participant. The videos will be judged based on the relevancy of the content, creativity, adherence to the time limit and contest rules. Six winners will

be chosen and notified by email, and presentation of the check will be worked out

Winning videos be shared on Safe Kids social media in the coming weeks.

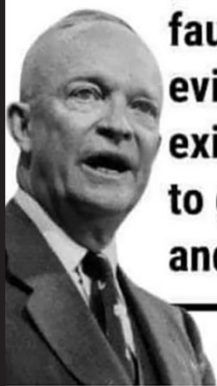
About Safe Kids Kansas

Safe Kids Kansas is a non-profit coalition of partners and local coalitions across the state dedicated to prevention of unintentional childhood injuries. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment serves as lead agency of the coalition. Safe Kids Kansas is part of Safe Kids Worldwide network. For more information, visit safekidskansas.org or follow @safekidskansas on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

“

Don't join the book burners. Don't think you're going to conceal faults by concealing evidence that they ever existed. Don't be afraid to go in your library and read every book...

”



- Dwight D. Eisenhower

We have just enough time before...













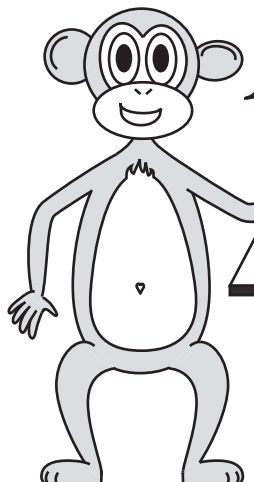
Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com

Animills LLC © 2022 V49

Kids: color stuff in!

Chatter and I are teaming up to make all of our holiday gifts this year. I'm using my computer to help. I will write stories and recipes, draw pictures and then print out my work. Next, Chatter will decorate the pages and bind them into books or make other fun items. We can't wait to start!



Gifts You Can Make

ST _ CK _ RS

Y _ RN

R _ BB _ NS

SP _ RKL _ S

B _ TT _ NS

C _ L _ R _ D

P _ P _ R

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

stationery

scrapbook

stories

coloring

journal

recipe

frames

bookmarks

calendar

puzzle

I make wrapping paper by decorating paper bags!

I'm going to paint, glue and make a big, fun mess on the kitchen table!

I'm making all of my gifts by hand.

pen

glue

ruler

string

pencils

photos

scissors

Gifts to make - by computer or by hand:

1. if you have photos or postcards from a trip, you can make a travel _____

2. think of a theme (like 'winter fun'), make a crossword or word search _____; roll it up and tie it with a ribbon

3. make _____ for photos or drawings

4. tie together pieces of cardboard or buy a _____ in which to put photos, school papers

5. write tales and make drawings, print them out and make them into a book of _____

The Bird in the Tree

10

helping hand

laughter

presents

time

friendship

music

money

caring

Kinds of Gifts

Hey Chatter, how about this idea?

Some people just don't want or need any more **stuff**. So, think about giving them a gift in "name only." You can let them know about the gift with a card! This list will get you thinking. **Can you match up my ideas?**

Gifts show joy and caring. It takes time to think about gifts and to make, buy and wrap them. A present tells people that they are important to you. It also makes you feel good when the people receiving your gifts smile as they open or enjoy them! 1

There are many kinds of gifts! Read the clues to fill the puzzle:

1. ask a new classmate to an event

2. offer to sew, repair items or to shovel walks

3. tell jokes, amusing tales, share comics

4. listen, talk, put groceries away, have tea

5. sing or play an instrument

6. water plants, help with pets

7. thoughtful items that people need

8. lets someone choose his own gift

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

helping hand

laughter

presents

time

friendship

music

money

caring

1. to be planted in a schoolyard or park

2. money for kids to go to school or college

3. to pantries or soup kitchens

4. to families in need in other countries to feed themselves or start businesses

5. donation to keep people warm

6. to children's hospitals

A. money for research and health care

B. food or groceries

C. cows, chicks, goats

D. tree, bush, flowers

E. heating oil

F. scholarship or fund

Dear Peak,

A donation has been made in your name. A duck has been given to a family starting a farm.

Look!

Nice!

Put-Together Gifts

Not everyone likes to make gifts. Sometimes we just run out of time or our budgets are small.

Here are gifts that you can "put together."

Think about items that go well together – for example, a movie rental coupon and popcorn – then buy or gather them together. Next, find a box, bag, basket, tin or other container to hold your gift. Add a bow or card.

One Dozen Ideas

1. coloring or puzzle books; crayons or pencils

2. tea bags, coffee, cookies

3. jar of jelly, cheese, crackers

4. car wash, polish, sponge or mitt, bucket

5. pine cone bird feeders, bird seed

6. ink pads, rubber stamps, paper

7. golf balls, tees, score cards

8. hot chocolate packets, marshmallows

9. soaps, bath powder, wash cloth

10. pears, apples, oranges, grapes

11. model cars, planes, trains; paints and brushes

12. nuts, spicy snacks, chili mixes

Bath Powder

Spiced Holiday Tea

Coffee Blend

(Answers on page 10)

Newspaper Fun! Created by Animills LLC © 2022

Thurber's Tail.com

by Tom Purcell

Can Our Puppies Change Our Hearts and Our World:

Editor's note: This column is based on an earlier, shorter version that was distributed by Cagle in February 2021. Coffee. I needed coffee. And sleep. And food. That's the experience I had for weeks after I picked up my 8-week-old Lab puppy, Thurber, in February, 2021.

Before I got him, I was cocksure I'd mastered the proper training techniques to bend my little guy's will to mine. "No dog of mine is going Number One in my house," I boasted to anyone who would listen. "No dog of mine is going to lack discipline," I protested.

"No dog of mine will sit on my furniture!" I said, arrogantly. How did things work out? I had my carpet cleaning company on speed dial — my cleaning service, too! Discipline is overrated, after all, as it intrudes on fun. And it wasn't long before my furry bundle of joy was sitting on my beloved leather recliner, staring at me with black, doughy eyes that transformed me into a pat of butter in a frying skillet. The truth is the training strategy still isn't going well — though he's teaching me as fast as he can. My dog is a bundle of joy His endless cuteness,

hilarity and affection as a puppy melted my heart and made me laugh out loud all day long. Now almost two-years-old, his antics still make me laugh out loud daily! He never stops reminding me that the world is a place of constant wonder — and that there's a lot to experience if you keep your eyes — and nostrils! — as wide open as his. When he first experienced snow, he couldn't dance in enough of it. He still plays with a chunk of frozen dirt with more intensity than he does a store-bought toy. I fell so hard and fast for my little guy, he changed me quickly in ways I didn't anticipate. That first week he was home, I was so focused on his health and happiness I barely slept or ate or did anything for myself. Dogs are good for civility The first month I had

him, I spent so much time caring for him, playing with him and laughing — and so little time on the internet and social media — I barely knew what was going on in the world. But being offline had an unexpected blessing. I wasted no time engaging in fruitless debates with strangers about politics. And because I basically stopped watching cable news, I was spared the divisive news and opinions that never stop coming out of Washington, D.C. For the sake of America, I wish everyone would invite a puppy into his or her home. Reason magazine helps explain why. Pets are an antidote to anger According to Reason, politics is seeping into every aspect of our daily lives and ruining everything. "Americans are choosing jobs, brands and friends for partisan

reasons," the libertarian magazine reports. This is because Americans are becoming way too serious — way too lost in the narrowness of their limited, subjective, partisan points of view. "Agree with my opinion on all cultural and political matters, or I won't be your friend," think many. "I'll report you to the HR department for offending my sensitivity," think others. "I will boycott your product or service unless you think like I do!" more people are thinking. That's because, tragically, we live an era of opinion trumping fact. To everyone's detriment, including our own, we try to impose our will and our political values on others and we shun those who refuse to submit. Let's learn from our puppies! But we have it all

backwards. An open heart and open eyes are what we need. Laughter and affection, not stridency and anger, are what will bring us together and help us realize we are not so divided, after all. Canine friendliness is what we need most! Here's something this new dog dad has been lucky to learn: People who invite a curious, loving, playful canine into their homes will be so inspired by their pup's wonderful view of the world, they won't be able to stop themselves from becoming more civil and charitable with their fellow human beings. Especially if their fellow human beings are canine lovers, too!

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Home for the Holidays Adoption Event

811 E C Ave
Kingman, KS 67068

For more information visit us at
kingmancountyhumanesociety.org

December 9 - 11 Shelter Hours 10am to 4pm



Adoption Weekend Specials

Puppies (< 1 year): \$150 - \$200

Dogs: \$75

Kittens: \$35

Cats: \$25

Other: Free Will Donation!

Kingman County Humane Society Pets Ready for Adoption

Argus

Sponsored by Baker Accounting



Male Boxer Hound
59 pounds
4 1/2 years
Adoption Fee: \$180.00
Intake Date: November 28, 2022

Oreo

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Female Domestic Shorthair
Weight: 3.5 pounds
7 months
Adoption Fee: \$75.00
Intake Date: August 3, 2022

Jammy

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier




Female
Age 7 months
Adoption Fee: \$10.00
Intake Date: November 14, 2022



Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, from 8:00 - 5:30 (except during lunch 12-1) on Wed., from 8:00 - 12:00 Call for Saturday hours. 1015 East U.S. 54, Kingman, KS

Please consider volunteering or adopting or fostering or donating for the holidays!



Items you might need to make or decorate your gifts:

- STICKERS
- COLORED PAPER
- SPARKLES
- RIBBONS
- YARN
- BUTTONS

Dear Peak, A donation has been made in your name. A duck has been given to a family starting a farm.

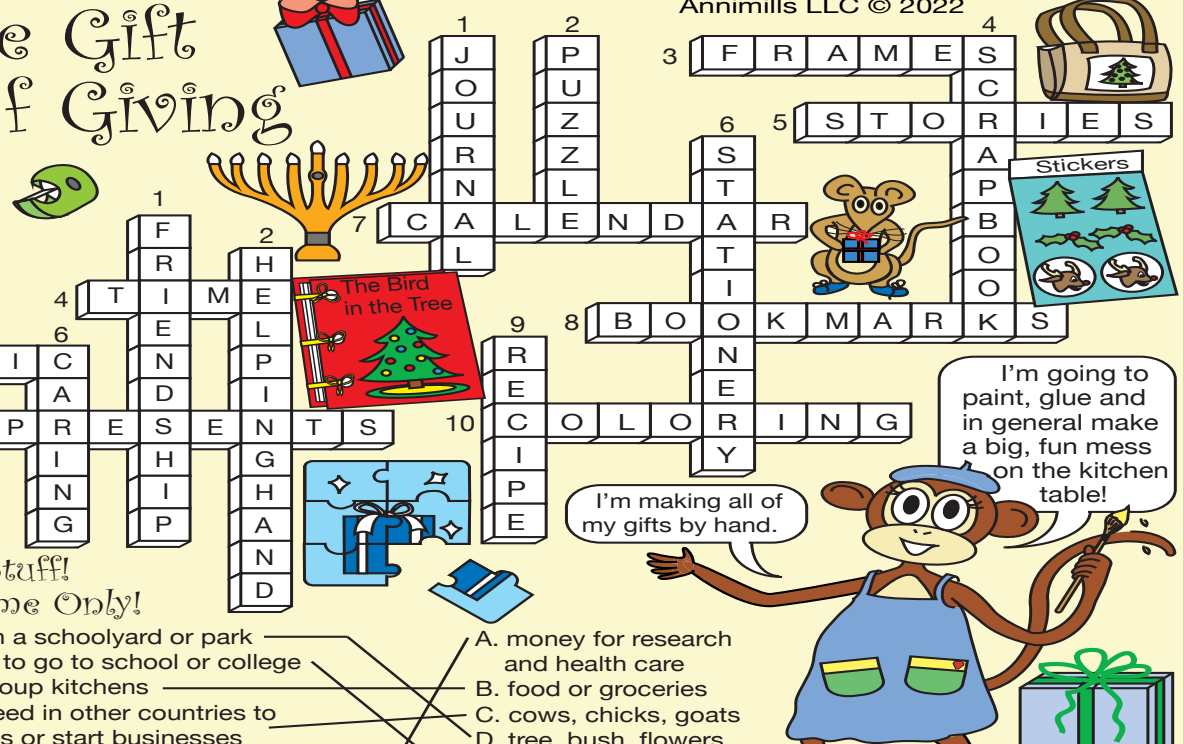
Put-Together Gifts

The Gift of Giving

No More Stuff! Gifts in Name Only!

- to be planted in a schoolyard or park
- money for kids to go to school or college
- to pantries or soup kitchens
- to families in need in other countries to feed themselves or start businesses
- donation to keep people warm in the winter
- to children's hospitals

A. money for research and health care
B. food or groceries
C. cows, chicks, goats
D. tree, bush, flowers
E. heating oil
F. scholarship or fund



1. JOURNALS
2. PUZZLES
3. FRAMES
4. STORIES
5. MUSIC
6. TIME
7. PRESENTS
8. BOOKMARKS
9. COLORING
10. CALENDAR
11. THE BIRD IN THE TREE
12. HOLIDAY
13. GIFT
14. MONEY
15. STICKERS
16. YARN
17. RIBBONS
18. SPARKLES
19. COLORED PAPER
20. BUTTONS

I'm making all of my gifts by hand.

I'm going to paint, glue and in general make a big, fun mess on the kitchen table!

Minutes from the Kingman County Commission Meeting on November 28th

Chairman Foley called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. November 28th, 2022, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse.

Present: Fred Foley, Chairman; Jerry Henning, Commissioner; Jack Timesch, Commissioner; Carol Noblit, County Clerk; Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor

Visitors: Bob Morris, Leader-Courier; Larry Landwehr; Robert Casad.

Online Visitors: Danny McDorman

Staff: Macay Ewy, Emergency Manager; Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director; Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse; Becky Luntsford, County Treasurer; Stan Goetz, HR/Planning/Zoning/Wastewater Director and Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director.

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

County Clerk let the Commissioners know that Robert Casad would like to be added to the end of the agenda for a five minute update.

MOTION: Commissioner Timesch moved to approve the agenda with the addition of Robert Casad. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Foley asked if there was any public comment.

Larry Landwehr let the Commissioners know that he had some conversations with Mr. McDorman.

Macay Ewy, Emergency Manager was in for his performance review.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Henning moved to go into executive session at 8:39 a.m. with Macay Ewy, Emergency Manager and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss an employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 8:59 a.m. Commissioner Timesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 8:59 a.m. with no decision made.

Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director was in for her performance review.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Henning moved to go into executive session at 9:02 a.m. with Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss an employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:32 a.m. Commissioner Timesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Henning moved to go into executive session at 9:32 a.m. with Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss an employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:37 a.m. Commissioner Timesch seconded the motion.

The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:37 a.m. with no decision made.

Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse was in for her performance review.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Henning moved to go into executive session at 9:47 a.m. with Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss an employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:07 a.m. Commissioner Timesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 10:07 a.m. with no decision made.

Ms. Schwartz presented her department update to the Commissioners and submitted a quote received for the security system and panic button from Integris IT in the amount of \$3272.84 to be paid with Covid grant funds.

MOTION: Commissioner Timesch moved to approve the quote for a panic alarm system from Integris IT in the amount of \$3272.84 to be paid with COVID grant funds. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

The County Clerk submitted the November 21st, 2022 Commission minutes for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Timesch moved to approve the November 21, 2022, Commission minutes. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unani-

mous vote of the County Commissioners.

County Commissioners approved abatements.

Commissioner Henning discussed the windfarm information he had received by email.

Becky Luntsford, County Treasurer was in to remind the Commissioners of the tax sale this afternoon at 2:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Henning moved to go into executive session at 10:33 a.m. with Becky Luntsford, County Treasurer and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss an employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:48 a.m. Commissioner Timesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Henning moved to go into executive session at 10:48 a.m. with Becky Luntsford, County Treasurer and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss an employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:53 a.m. Commissioner Timesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Henning moved to go into executive session at 10:53 a.m. with Becky Luntsford, County Treasurer and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss an employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 11:03 a.m.

Commissioner Timesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 11:03 a.m. and Becky Luntsford discussed that there needed to be a correction made to an article that was put in the paper last week.

Taxes are still due by December 20th, 2022 and May 10th, 2023 because tax statements did go out before the Statutory deadline of December 15th, 2022. The Treasurer's office will work with getting tax statements to individuals if they did not receive them.

Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in with a permit for the following:

SC Telcom to bury fiber optic cable along SW 170 Ave and NW 170 Ave from the Barber County line north to the Reno County Line.

Mr. Arensdorf let the Commissioners know that the deck pour for FAS #12 is planned for December 3, 2022.

Mr. Arensdorf let the Commissioners know that mower quotes will be opened on 12/19/2022.

Steve Bachenberg, County Engineer was in with some updates for the County Commissioners.

Mr. Bachenberg let the Commissioners know that hot mix costs are going up 20 to 30%.

Commissioner Timesch discussed that the project they submitted and got declined by the state will cost more to do in the next six months. When we write our next letter submitted should include this information.

Commissioners discussed that the next submission should include individual letters from residents and businesses along that road.

Mr. Bachenberg updated the Commissioners know that the FLAP project bid letting will be

December 21st, 2022.

Working on the update to the Capital Needs Projects and asked if there had been any final decision on the North Main entrance for the bypass received from the state.

Commissioners let Mr. Bachenberg know that the county had not received any thing yet finalizing the North Main access point.

Mr. Bachenberg discussed with the Commissioners that the Local Road Safety Plan hasn't been completed yet.

Robert Casad, Casad and Associates was in to discuss the bio fuel test plant and give an update.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Timesch moved to go into executive session at 11:44 a.m. with Stan Goetz, HR and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss an employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 12:00 p.m. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

County Commissioners returned to regular session at 12:00 p.m. no decision made at this time.

Tom Schnittker was in to ask if a Commissioner would be at a road consultation at 2:00 p.m. this afternoon.

Commissioners let Mr. Schnittker know that the road consultation this afternoon will be with Charles Arensdorf, Mr. Bachenberg and the township officers.

MOTION: Commissioner Timesch moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 12:18 p.m. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Pratt County Commission Minutes for November 24th, 2022

The Pratt County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, November 28, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. in the commissioner room, 1st floor of the courthouse. The following members were present: Thomas W. Jones III, Rick Shriver Dwight Adams, Tyson

Eisenhauer, county counselor, Lori Voss, county clerk, and Mark Graber, IT director.

Heather Morgan, economic development/covid consultant, reported she had a call from a citizen about the importance of water for the community and development. She stated water is critical to Pratt County. At this time water rights are closed in Pratt County. If a company is potentially looking to relocate but they have substantial need for water and sewer, it is difficult to acquire

the water rights. A business called her regarding a number of businesses that have owners reaching retirement age and no one to succeed them in the business. She is looking into ideas to transition to a new owner.

Doug Freund, road supervisor, reported Ideatek had received permission from landowners for their road crossing.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to recess into executive session for five minutes at 2:11 p.m. to discuss attorney/client matter concerning HIPPA

issues. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones made a motion to return from executive session at 2:16 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Shriver stated he had a number of calls about the RSVP bus transportation issues. He had a person question if they could use the buses for advertisement to produce income.

Commissioner Shriver made a motion

to recess into executive session for fifteen minutes at 2:17 p.m. to discuss legal issues concerning another government entity. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones made a motion to return from executive session at 2:30 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the payment vouchers for November 28, 2022. Commissioner Shriver

seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Adams made a motion to approve \$200 chamber bucks to each employee to be paid out of the treasurer special fund with Amy Jones, Treasurer's approval. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn at 2:41 p.m. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Kingman County Sheriff's Report

Sunday, November 27th	
Traffic Stop	5
Monday, November 28th	
Traffic Stop	3
Traffic Complaint	10000 E Hwy 54, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	SW 80 St & SW 100 Ave, Spivey
Traffic / Disabled Vehicle	N Hwy 11 & W Hwy 54, Kingman
Traffic / Disabled Vehicle	SE 20 St & SE 140 Ave, Kingman
911 Accidental Dial	SW 100 St & SW 190 Ave, Nashville
Tuesday, November 29th	
Traffic Stop	5
Suspicious Vehicle	15354 NW 50 St, Cunningham
Check Welfare	13391 SE Main Ave, Rago
911 Accidental Dial	302 S Main, Nashville
911 Accidental Dial	3352 SE 10 St, Kingman
Wednesday, November 30th	
Traffic Complaint	16000 E Hwy 54, Cheney
Traffic Complaint	12000 W Hwy 54, Cunningham
Suspicious Activity	NW 50 St & N Hwy 11, Kingman

Thursday, December 1st	
Traffic / Check Tag	SW 10 St & SW 90 Ave, Cunningham
Traffic/Debris in Roadway	6000 W Hwy 54, Kingman
Burglary	15853 NE 50 St, Cheney
Suspicious Person	E Hwy 54 & NE 70 Ave, Kingman
Friday, December 2nd	
Traffic Stop	5
Traffic Complaint	4762 NW 170 Ave, Cunningham
Traffic Complaint	3602 West Hwy 54, Kingman
Traffic / Debris in Roadway	4000 East Hwy 54, Kingman
Animal Complaint	SW 100 St & SW 10 Ave, Spivey
Suspicious Person	NE 70 St & NE 70 Ave, Kingman
Saturday, December 3rd	
Traffic Stop	3
Traffic Complaint	NW 50 St & N Hwy 11, Kingman
Suspicious Person	445 E Leiter Ave, Cunningham

Pratt Regional Medical Center Board of Directors Announces New CEO

News Release
Pratt, KS - The Board of Directors for Pratt Regional Medical Center is pleased to announce that Tammy Smith, RN-MSN, MBA, NE-BC has accepted the position of President and Chief Executive Officer at Pratt Regional Medical Center. Smith has been serving as the interim CEO

since July 2022. She previously served as the Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer at PRMC since 2019 and was the Director of Inpatient and Emergency Services from 2014-2019. “Ms. Smith’s proven leadership and expertise positioned her well to serve as the interim CEO and made our decision easy to appoint her in July,” said Bill Keller, PRMC Board of Directors Chairman. “But it has been everything we have seen since July that lead to this unanimous vote amongst the Board

of Directors. Along with the support of the Medical Staff and other PRMC staff, we were pleased to extend the offer to Ms. Smith to lead the PRMC team going forward as the President and Chief Executive Officer.” “She has a proven track record of building trust and teamwork amongst leadership, transparency at all levels, working well with physicians, increasing employee satisfaction and ensuring each patient receives the highest level of patient care,” adds Keller. “The Board of

Directors is confident she has the vision and passion to take Pratt Regional Medical Center into the future delivering the patient care we have come to expect.” Smith became a Registered Nurse in 2000. She went on to receive her BSN in 2014 and her Master of Science in Nursing in 2016. She continued her education obtaining her MBA in 2018. She did this while working and raising four daughters. “As a seasoned executive, Tammy brings the unique perspective

to the CEO role of having an extensive clinical background as well as the business experience needed to lead our organization,” said Scott Gordon, DPM, Chief of Staff, Pratt Regional Medical Center. “Her extensive experience and management in community hospitals will add to the strong foundation already in place at PRMC. The Board clearly made an excellent choice with Tammy Smith and reaffirms PRMCs commitment to healthcare excellence.” “I am excited for the

future of Pratt Regional Medical Center,” said Smith. “This organization has positioned itself throughout the years as a quality health system dedicated to its community. I am honored to be chosen to lead such a talented and committed team of professionals and will strive everyday to ensure that we are working together to bring quality healthcare to our community.” Ms. Smith will assume the role effective immediately and the search for a Chief Nursing officer will begin.

Kansas Collects \$642.3 Million in Total Tax Collections for November ~Collections Continue to Outpace Fiscal Year 2022 with 5.4% Growth~

TOPEKA – The Kansas Department of Revenue today announced that total tax

collections for November were \$642.3 million, which is \$15.4 million, or 2.5%, more than last November. Total tax receipts for Fiscal Year 2023 continue to outpace Fiscal Year 2022, with year-over-year growth at 5.4%. Total tax collections for November were 5.3% below the estimate, which was recently raised at November’s meeting of the Consensus Revenue

Estimating Group to align with consistently strong revenues. The estimate for November and the remainder of FY 2023 was raised by \$773.0 million. Individual income tax collections were below the estimate for the month by 6.7%, or \$21.1 million, with \$292.4 million collected. Those receipts were 1.2% greater than in November 2021. Corporate income tax

collections were \$78,313, or 0.6%, below the estimate, with \$13.2 million collected. That is \$482,253 less than last November. Corporate income tax collections for the first five months of FY 2023 are 7.0% higher than FY 2022 over the same period. FY 2022 was a record year for corporate income tax receipts. Combined sales and compensating use tax

collections at \$304.9 million were \$8.7 million, or 2.8%, below the estimate but \$19.5 million, or 6.8%, more than November 2021, reflecting sustained growth in that revenue source. “As for major tax sources, it is encouraging to see wage withholding tax payments, which is the principal component of individual income tax receipts, remaining stable and combined sales and

compensating use tax receipts showing 6.8% growth over November 2021,” said Secretary of Revenue Mark Burghart. Click here to view the November 2022 tax receipts spreadsheet. https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/KSOG/2022/12/01/file_attachments/2343360/05_November_Revenue_FY2023_12-01-2022_Final.pdf

KANSAS WHEAT Hoxie Farmer Tops Triple-digit Dryland Wheat to Win Kansas Yield Contest

Triple-digit dryland wheat in northwest Kansas with only four inches of moisture this past summer seems impossible, but fifth-generation farmer Brett Oelke did just that — entering a plot of WestBred Grainfield near Hoxie that yielded 106.34 bushels per acre in the 2022 National Wheat Yield Contest. The entry earned him the top spot in Kansas for dryland winter wheat and fifth nationally in percent increase over the county average. “I was blessed by God,” said Oelke, who works together with his father and brother-in-law on their respective operations in Sheridan County. “That’s about the easiest way I can explain how I did it.”

The winning plot was

planted with certified, treated seed — like every bushel in Oelke’s operation — into the northwest corner of a field with five pivot corners, thanks to two circles that touch. The corners were summer fallow, having been planted to dryland corn in 2020. While there wasn’t enough moisture to help make a good seed bed, Oelke remembers chomping at the bit to start planting as soon as the rain came. “We had everything ordered and ready to go and drills were prepped,” he said. “We just needed that one rain to where we could go seed our wheat.” “We got lucky, God helped out and gave us two, half-inch rains back-to-back about three days apart around the first of October. We shut everything off and we just focused on getting our wheat crop in the ground.” Then, the crew went back to cutting soybeans and drilling irrigated wheat. An amazing stand of wheat grew, despite being short on moisture. “We had right at one inch of rain out of those two showers that gave us

a great stand that looked good going into dormancy, but we just never got another rain,” Oelke said. “We got a skiff of snow forecasted so we went out and sprayed all our herbicide on, but if it had 10 points of moisture in it, I’d be surprised.” Spring arrived, but still no more moisture. Oelke typically waits until jointing to fertilize with nitrogen, which was around April 1 for the plot. The field didn’t receive any moisture until three weeks later when another half-inch of rain fell. At this point, it was time to decide whether or not to enter the National Wheat Yield Contest. Oelke was skeptical, but his seed dealer’s boss, the regional territory manager, convinced him it was worth a shot. Then in May, another one-inch rain fell right after Oelke started to see beards coming out of the boot. He immediately sprayed a fungicide and applied a foliar feed nitrogen to the flag leaf. Then, the weather turned hot, miserable and windy during the rest of heading, flowering and into early grain fill.

On the first Saturday in June, there was only a small chance of rain, but it was enough.

Governor Announces Kansas on Track to Implement ‘Axe the Food Tax’ ~Renews Call to Legislature to Completely and Immediately Eliminate the Tax~
TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly today announced that Kansas is on track to implement the ‘Axe the Food Tax’ legislation passed during the 2022 session. The Kansas

“By the luck of God again, we got 1.6 inches,” Oelke said. “Then that was it. Those four moisture events are what this wheat crop lived on for its entire life. It didn’t have more than four inches total precipitation, but it was more about the perfect timing that we were blessed with — and that’s how we raised such good wheat.” At this point, Oelke knew he had good wheat despite the conditions. He used to work as a crop consultant, so he is always walking fields and pulling heads. But he was guessing the wheat would make 50 to 60 bushels per acre, maybe 70 bushels per acre in some spots. The plot was in the last field of dryland wheat the crew harvested. The crew started cutting in the southwest, working to the southeast to the northeast and finally to the northwest. And the yield monitor in the combine started to skyrocket as they moved. Oelke remembers his father, who runs the combine, kept re-calibrating the yield monitor all throughout harvest, asking if something was wrong because there was no way they were cutting 90-bushel wheat. Oelke laid out a couple of plots in those top corners, but he was running the combine in the northwest corner when the final plot topped triple-digit yields and scored his winning entry of more than 106 bushels per acre. “Everyone thought we were crazy for spending money on wheat this year because it’s all going to burn up and die anyway,” he said. “Our philosophy is — I want to give the wheat the best opportunity I possibly can. Yes, Mother Nature always has the trump card. But if I’m holding it back, it’s not going to come to its fullest potential if it would ever rain.” This year’s winning state entry completes Oelke’s hat trick of commodity yield contests, having won plaques previously for irrigated wheat, irrigated corn, irrigated soybeans and dryland sorghum. From religiously planting certified, treated seed to playing “mad scientist” on his kitchen table with his friend Eli Kuhlman of Five Star Ag to make their own fertilizer blend, Oelke encourages fellow producers to experiment — and when they find something that works, replicate it across their entire operation. “We’ve just stuck to what we know has worked in the past and let the cards fall in Mother

Nature’s hand,” he said. That’s the same strategy Oelke is using this year — and so far, it’s paying off with great stands of wheat yet again. If the right parts of Sheridan County would just get a little more moisture this year, he may achieve his new goal of 150 bushels per acre for irrigated wheat and duplicate this year’s dryland success. “God gave us that one rain we needed to drill wheat, so we shut everything off again and drilled every acre of dryland we had,” he said. “Honestly, it’s setting up about like 2021 all over again, so if we can just get a little more rain during the spring and during grain fill, I feel pretty good.” “We’re very fortunate. I know most of the state of Kansas isn’t this way. We just lucked out and got that one rain — just like last year — put all our wheat in and we have phenomenal stands currently.” Follow Kansas Wheat in the coming weeks to learn more about the other Kansas winners and their tips and tricks for success this year. Learn more about the National Wheat Yield Contest at <http://yieldcontest.wheatfoundation.org/>.

opportunities and has formally posted its informational notice and sales tax publication that address the reduction in the state sales tax rate as well as the types of food purchases subject to the rate reduction. “Even after providing the educational materials and opportunities as it rolls out these changes, KDOR continues to be available to retailers to ensure the transition to these sales tax savings is as smooth as possible,” Revenue Secretary Mark Burghart said.

Public Notice	
<i>First published in The Cunningham Courier, Thursday, November 24, 2022.</i>	pointed as Co-Executors, without bond; and Petitioners be granted Letters Testamentary.
IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS	You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before December 13, 2022, 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.
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: ARLENE M. ZERGER, Deceased. Case No. KM 2022 PR 61	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.
(Petition Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)	<i>Charlene S. Childs, Linn A. Zerger, & Darrin L. Zerger, Petitioners</i>
NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS	Matthew W. Ricke, #20995 ATTORNEY AT LAW, LLC
THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:	349 North Main, P. O. Box 113 Kingman, KS 67068 (620) 532-3103 Attorney for Petitioners
You are hereby notified that on November 17 th , 2022, a Petition was filed in this Court by Charlene S. Childs, Linn A. Zerger, and Darrin L. Zerger, the Co-Executors named in the “Last Will and Testament of Arlene M. Zerger,” deceased, dated January 29, 2020, praying the will filed with the Petition be admitted to probate and record; Petitioners be ap-	

Effective June 1, 2022: Ads are \$6.00 per column inch. Front page ads are \$10.00 per column inch. All ads are subject to approval of this paper, which reserves the right to edit, reject, or properly classify any ad. Note: The views and opinions expressed in advertisements in The Cunningham Courier do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of the Courier or staff. Errors will be corrected when brought to my attention.
Classified Ad Rates
\$5.00 minimum charge for one-week run.
DEADLINES: 2:00 p.m. Tuesdays



Thanks for recycling
The Courier on
December 12th

Recycle - Reduce - Reuse - Repurpose

Cunningham Liquor

OPEN — 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. — Monday thru Thursday
10:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. — Friday & Saturday
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Help Wanted

Office professional needed for Kingman Co. Extension. Excellent customer service and strong attention to detail. Must have knowledge of basic accounting and bookkeeping skills, computer literate in word, excel, and social media. Maintain 4-H online and Fair Entry. Does require working with 4-H and the county fair. For application, contact Melissa Thimesch at 620-532-5131. Applications will be taken until the position is filled. “K-State Research and Extension - Kingman County is an equal opportunity provider and employer. A criminal background check is required.”

Help Wanted

The City of Turon is now taking applications for the Sub-Clerk position. This position could eventually turn into the Clerk position. Computer experience is a must, we will train for the other tasks. Applications may be picked up at the office Monday-Friday 7am-3pm. If you have any questions, please call 620-497-6443 or email cityofturonss@sctelcom.net.

Miscellaneous

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Linda Kohtz

Linda Ruth Kohtz (Ott), 68, of Sutton, passed away Sept. 5, 2022, at the Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, from Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. Linda, daughter of Wilber and Marie Ott (deceased), was born Oct. 26, 1953 and grew up in Giltner. Linda married Robert (Bob) Kohtz of Hampton April 2, 1977, and together they had four sons. Linda is survived by her husband, Bob; their four sons and their wives, Tyler (Wendy) of Lincoln; Kyle (Brooke) of Medford, OR; Kelsey (Ashley) of Lincoln; and Kaelyn (Kelly) of Bennington; 11 grandchildren; brothers, Melvin and Dennis Ott; and many nieces and nephews. Linda’s kindness and hugs touched many and will be missed.



Mary Adams

Mary Sharon (Neumann) Adams was born August 3rd, 1943, in Rural Kiowa County Kansas and passed from this life on December 3, 2022 at Kingman Hospital surrounded by large loving family. She was the 6th of 8 children of Lester Neumann and Gladys Hadley Neumann. Mary attended Mullinville schools, where she was a proud member of the marching band, playing percussion. She graduated in 1961 and moved to Pratt Kansas. On July 28, 1962 Mary wed Thomas New in Pratt Kansas. This union blessed them with Cheryl, Cinda, Cecil, and Carolyn. On August 5th, 1981, Tommy passed away and was laid to rest in Houston’s Veterans Cemetery. On October 31, 1981 Mary and her children moved to Kansas. October 24, 1986, she Married Herbert Adams in Kingman Kansas. With this marriage, Mary gained 3 more children to love, Gary, Dawn and Billy. Making them a family of 9. Mary was a long-time resident of Kingman. Mary attended Kingman Christian Church where she dearly loved her church family. She was a beloved cook for Kingman Manor and the Kingman Hospital for many years. Mary looked forward to any time she spent with her family, and she did this often. Mary enjoyed cooking for family, especially our beloved spotson, and for friends and community and church events. Mary was an enthusiastic (ok let just say it FANATIC) fan of the Kansas Jayhawks and the Dallas Cowboys and enjoyed watching games with her kids and grandkids. Her true love was watching her children and grandchildren in their various sports or activities.



In her spare time, Mary enjoyed camping at Wilson Lake, fishing, tending to her flowers and playing cards games with friends and family. Mary was also an avid reader which is evident by the many boxes of books in her basement. If you ever came to her house ,you would aslo know she was a collector of bells! She could talk to you for a very long time about the hundreds of them she had acquired over her life time. She is survived by her daughters Cheryl Pike, Cinda (Alan) Keeling, Dawn Adams, Carolyn (Robert) McHaley, and son William (Cheli) Adams and her daughter in loves Noni New and Becky Adams. Sisters Linda Dunham and Maurine Sutton. 20 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews

She was preceded in death by husband, Herbert Adams, parents Lester and Gladys Neumann, Siblings Bertha Neumann, Ellen Zimmerman, Walter Neumann, Kenneth Neumann, and Richard Neumann. Precious sons Gary Adams and Cecil New, her first husband Thomas New and her beloved Shih Tzu Cheyenne.

Services were held Wednesday, December 7 at Kingman Christian Church followed by burial at Hoosier Cemetery.

Donations can be made to Kingman Christian Church or to the Cecil New Memorial Athletes Fund.

Theresa Rose Murray

Theresa Rose Murray, 83, died Nov. 24, 2022, at Kingman Community Hospital. She was born Mar. 2, 1939, at Hoisington, Kansas, the daughter of John and Christina Kuhn Schwartz. She was a cashier at G&P Lucky Seven grocery store. On Sept. 2, 1978, she married Edward Murray at Missouri City, TX; he died Dec. 6, 2011. Survivors include daughters Claudia McCollum, Mary Ferguson, Tina Holt, and Brenda Christanson; son Tim Holt; brother Tom Schwartz; 18 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-grandchild. She was also preceded in death by a son James Holt, Jr.; and brothers Don and John Schwartz. Private family services are pending.

Elaine Koon

Patricia Elaine Koon, 81, died Dec. 2, 2022 at Wheatlands Healthcare Center, Kingman. She was born Nov, 27, 1941, at Kingman the daughter of Dr. R.A. and Winifred Shook Geist. A lifetime resident of the Kingman community, she was a homemaker. Elaine was a member of the Kingman Methodist Church and Ladie’s Circle; and the Kingman Ladies Golf Club. In Jan. of 1960, she married Wilbur Koon; he died March 2, 2019. Survivors include sons Les, Gary, Ken and his wife Roxann, and Todd; brother Dr. Steve Geist and his wife Jeannie; and two grandchildren Nicholas and Elana. Memorial services will be 2:00 p.m., Dec. 27, 2022 at the Kingman Methodist Church. Memorials may be made with the Kingman Methodist Church, the Kingman Sr. Citizens Center and Wheatlands Healthcare Center all in care of Livingston Funeral Home.



Dean Welsch

Trousdale - Dean Dee Welsch, 86, passed away Monday, December 5, 2022 at Parkwood Village in Pratt. He was born on September 9, 1936 at the homestead near Trousdale to Ellra R and Bertha Ruby (Hubbard) Welsch. Dean married Carol Jean (Lampe) Welsch on April 15, 1961 in Windthorst. They were married for 61 years. Dean graduated from Trousdale High School in 1954. He was the owner/operator of Welsch Farms. He was formerly a member of Trousdale Volunteer Fire Department, Board of Directors at Farmers Coop in Haviland and Township Clerk. He enjoyed watching Dallas Cowboy football, tractor pulling with his Allis tractor (Little Alice), coyote hunting, attending Macksville Basketball games, playing Pitch with his card party group and cruising in his 58 Chevy. He is survived by his wife, Carol Jean Welsch; daughters, Deanna (Ted) Hinson of Wichita and Becky (David) Linn of Abilene; grandchildren, Tosha Caygle of Wichita, Josh (Sarah) Linn of Ferndale, Washington, Jeremy (Courtney) Linn of Parkville, Missouri and Justin (Alyssa) Linn of Concordia; great-grandchildren, Santana Najera, Tyler, Tessa, Grant, Emma, Avery, Wyatt and Olivia Linn; and many other special nieces, nephews and extended family members. Dean is preceded in death by his parents; sister, Rhoda Macy; and an infant brother, Doyle Welsch. Cremation has taken place. Friends may sign the book Thursday, December 8 from 9-5 at Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt. A graveside memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, December 9, 2022 at Fellsburg Cemetery, Fellsburg with Pastor Brian Blackburn presiding. The family will begin receiving friends at 1:00 p.m. on Friday at Trousdale Community Church, Trousdale. Memorials may be made to Larned Humane Society or Trousdale Community Church in care of Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt.



Gary Martin

Turon, Kansas - Gary Wayne Martin, 69, passed away Thursday, November 17, 2022 at his home. He was born on May 14, 1953 in Apache, Oklahoma to Ernest Wayne and Jesse (Thomas) Martin. Gary received his Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from Oklahoma State University where he ran track. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Apache, Oklahoma. He is survived by a brother, Robert Brian Martin and several cousins. Gary is preceded in death by his parents. Cremation has taken place. The family will have a graveside memorial service at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, December 8, 2022 at Fairview Cemetery, Apache, Oklahoma.

Wayne Dick

“A Veteran with Many Stories” Excerpts from The Cunningham Courier 2019 by Roberta Kobbe What can a “skinny kid from Kansas” can do with his life”? If you were Wayne Dick, you’d head off to the seminary in Columbus, Ohio when you are fourteen years old. You would study for the priesthood, learn several languages: Latin, German, Greek, and Hebrew (he later learned Russian and Spanish also). He would donate blood for the first time (eventually tallying 141 pints in his lifetime). He learned to cut hair for his fellow students and continued to cut hair throughout his life in the military and for friends and family. Wayne joined the US Air Force in 1954 and served 20 years in various capacities in military Intelligence. During this time he also served in the Vietnam War at Phan Rang airbase in 1969. He was involved with plotting missions for the fighters and bombers that were sent out in support of ground troops. He served at different bases domestically and abroad, with family in tow, including tours in Little Rock, Spain, Hawaii, Omaha, Topeka, and Wichita. He received several commendations during his time in the USAF and retired in 1974 to Derby, KS.



Wayne met his wife to be Alice Welshko from Johnstown, PA in Little Rock, AR where he was stationed at the time and they were married in 1957. They had six children over the years and enjoyed a great family life traveling to different bases. They even made a long trip to Alaska once retired in their RV with children and grand-children coming along. Wayne started his own accounting and tax service after the military which he managed successfully for 32 years! He and Alice eventually ended up in Zenda, where he continued his life-long hobbies of gardening and fishing. And he was always proud of his “40 Volkswagens” that he or his children owned over his lifetime!

Wayne lived a full life until the age of 90. Alice had passed away in 2020 while they were both at Hilltop Manor in Cunningham. He then moved in with his son in Columbus, Ohio until the time of his death. He is survived by his children Ronald, Charles (Leisa), Raymond, Maureen, Karen (Lonny) Moyer, and Douglas. Also his 8 wonderful grandchildren – Chris, Dalton, Jackie, Rebecca, Sean, Christina, Deidre, and Lydia. And 7 beautiful great-grandchildren - Coale, Emily, Tilly, Betsy, Teagan, Isla, and Maddi. He is survived by siblings Beatrice, Virginia, Ralph (Myra), and Walter (Barbara). He is preceded in death by parents Louis and Matilda and siblings, Harold, Marcella, Leo, Delbert, Grace, Rosallen, and Norbert.

Parish Rosary will be 9:00 a.m., Saturday, June 10, 2022 at the St. John Catholic Church, Zenda. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 9:30 a.m. The family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Friday at the Livingston Funeral Home. Burial will be in the St. John Church Cemetery.

Nellie Bendict

Sawyer - Nellie Lou Benedict, 88, passed away Monday, December 5, 2022 at Pratt Health and Rehab. She was born on June 3, 1934 in Pendleton, Indiana to Bernice and Ruth (Stoner) Long. Nellie married Willis Price Benedict on August 17, 1952. He preceded her in death on February 20, 2010.

Nellie was a member of Old German Baptist Brethren Church, Sawyer.

She is survived by her children, Gary Benedict of Modesto, California, Rebecca (Tim) Allgood of Modesto, California, Elaine (Quentin) Hirt of Sawyer and Sheldon (Kathy) Benedict of Anderson, Indiana; brother, John (Betty) Long of Pendleton, Indiana; sisters, Evelyn Hollinger of Lapel, Indiana, Martha (Richard) Hess of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania and Ruth Emma (Roger) Benedict of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania; 11 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Nellie is preceded in death by her parents; husband; an infant daughter; brothers, Robert Long and Wilmer Long; sisters, Mildred Oyler, Margaret Boyd, Nancy Bowser and Mary Cook.

Funeral service was Wednesday, December 7 at Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt.

Visitation will be Friday, December 9, 2022 from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Hershberger-Bozell Funeral Home, 1010 North Main, Lapel, Indiana, 46051. Funeral Service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, December 10, 2022 at Beech Grove Church, 600 West/400 South, Lapel, Indiana. Burial will follow at Pleasant Valley Cemetery, Pendleton, Indiana.

Memorials may be made to Alzheimer Association or Interim Hospice in care of Larrison Mortuary.



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