

The Cunningham Courier \$1.00

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

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(620) 298-2659

January 5, 2023
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photo by Berry Bortz

Kansas Farm Bureau to Honor Tradition, Heritage of Family Farms

MANHATTAN — Kansas Farm Bureau is continuing in 2023 its recognition for "Sesquicentennial Farms" in conjunction with its annual "Century Farm" program. The Century Farm program honors Farm Bureau members who own farms of at least 80 acres within the same family for 100 years or more. The Sesquicentennial Farm recognition goes to farms in the same family for at least 150 years.

"Kansas farmers and ranchers have a lot to be proud of," Joe Newland, Kansas Farm Bureau president, says. "One thing we take pride in is our value in the traditions and strong family ties through generations of rural living. Kansas Farm Bureau is honored to celebrate those through the Century Farm and

Sesquicentennial Farms programs."

The deadline for consideration to be part of the 2023 programs is May 15. Kansas Farm Bureau has recognized 3,075 Century Farms and 88 Sesquicentennial Farms since their inception. Complete details for qualification and applications for both programs can be obtained at county Farm Bureau offices across Kansas or on the KFB website, www.kfb.org/centuryfarm (<https://kfb.us11.list-manage.com/track/click?u=45bba928f411d21617c5eadbe&id=e5692c7d00&e=8eb970ecd6>).

Kansas Farm Bureau's mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service.

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Governor Announces December Total Tax Collections Surpass Estimate by \$140.1 Million

TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly announced that total tax collections for December were \$1.1 billion -- \$140.1 million, or 14.8%, more than the monthly estimate. That is also 21.9%, or \$194.6 million, more than December 2021.

"Because of my administration's work to put the state's finances back on track, we are able to fully fund education, improve roads and bridges, and work to address mental health issues across the state, all while also providing Kansans immediate tax relief," Governor Laura Kelly said.

Individual income tax collections were \$374.8 million. That is \$5.2 million less than the estimate but \$19.6 million, or 5.5%, more than the previous December. If it were not for higher-than-normal refunds in December, receipts would have surpassed the estimate by over \$5.0 million. Corporate income tax collections were \$281.0

million, which is \$151.0 million, or 116.2%, more than the estimate.

Retail sales tax collections were \$234.0 million for December. That is \$14.0 million, or 5.6%, less than the estimate but \$9.7 million, or 4.3%, more than December 2021. Compensating use tax collections were \$73.3 million and met the \$73.0 million estimate for December. Those collections are also \$4.1 million, or 5.9%, more than December 2021.

"Collections for the four major tax types all show growth over December 2021," said Secretary of Revenue Mark Burghart. "The corporate income tax receipts are much higher than expected due in large part to the influence of the recently enacted SALT Parity Act, which, beginning with tax year 2022, allows owners of pass-through entities, such as S corporations and limited liability companies, to elect to have the pass-through entities pay tax on the income flowing through to the owners."

To view the December 2022 tax receipts spreadsheet visit:

https://governor.kansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/06_December_Revenue_FY2023_01-03-2023_Final.pdf

West Kingman County BOE Will Meet

January 11

AGENDA

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, January 11, 2023

7:00 p.m.

104 W 4th St., Cunningham, Kansas

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Agenda (AI)

III. Guest Recognition

IV. Election of Officers

V. Approval of the minutes of the December 14, 2022, regular meeting. (AI)

VI. Approval of financial reports and payment of bills. (AI)

VII. Reports

a. Superintendent Report –Mr. Reed

b. Principal Report- Cody Dunlap

c. Special Education Report – Travis Thimesch

VIII. Old Business

a. Construction Project

IX. New Business

a. Executive Session – Personnel

b. 2023-24 Calendar

c. Administrative Contracts

d. KASB Policy updates

X. Adjournment

Takeaways from the December School Board Meeting

(editor's note: I wrote this up about two weeks ago and filed it in the wrong place. I came across it today as I was searching for something to fill this little paper. It's not very timely, as next week is the January school board meeting, but really, I don't have anything else to put on the front page.)

The meeting was held on Wednesday, December 14th.

Donations were approved.

New KASB (Kansas Association of School Board) policy updates were discussed.

The school passed a food service audit conducted by the KSDA. Kudos were given to Aimee Ogg for her work in the area. Only one adjustment was recommended and that was the unpaid meal policy in place. The auditors recommended that the policy be updated to reflect the procedures that are actually followed. Currently the policy reads that students who aren't paid up will be given a substitution of a sandwich, etc. BUT the district allows all students to have the full lunch, whether they are paid up or not. No students, then, are singled out because their lunch bill is unpaid.

The calendar for the 2023-2024 school year was discussed, and Mr. Reed said it was identical to this year's. Students start the new school on August 23rd, 2023.

Bjorn Halderson would like to see Parent Teacher Conferences changed to two evenings, rather one afternoon and evening. He thinks it would cut down on the wait time for parents wishing to talk to the high school teachers. Mr. Reed said he would make that adjustment before the calendar is approved.

Junior High volleyball practices will be adjusted next year allowing the young ladies more practice time.

Baseball was again brought to the board. The cost to establish a program would be \$11,000 to \$12,000. Because of Title IX rules, the girls would need to be offered another sport to participate in or they could play baseball. The season is a 10 game double-header (20 regular season games). A parent meeting will be held on February 27th.

The architect and construction managers arrived to discuss the new school. Seventy-four bids were made on the various aspects of the project. The electrical bids came in too high and were sent back out for rebidding and they received three.

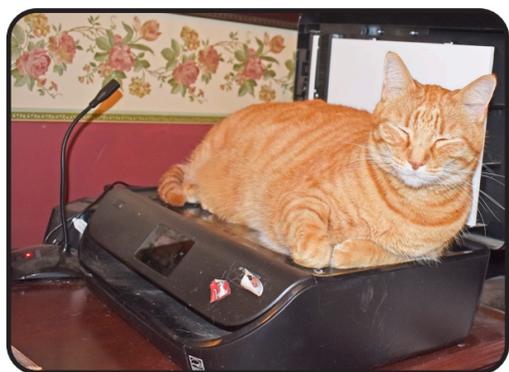
The project was coming in \$356,000 over what the bond was put out to voters. After some back and forth and a bit of heatedness, give and take, pull this out, do this this way not that way. *(I neglected my notes during part of this time...I was busy listening to what was being said, so I didn't get all the details.)*

I DO remember it was decided that the windows in the new school would not be operational. Due to security concerns and pricing (\$34,000 more to have them open and close), it was decided to have windows that can't be opened. Mr. Reed campaigned on the part of operational ones due to the stuffiness of some rooms, odors caused by science labs and, well, teenagers. *(I totally get this. I am all for opening windows in a room full of teenagers. Being able to open windows is a good thing.)*

When the meeting ended, the over-budgeting was resolved. And I wrote: \$11,579,398 final.

(As always, any mistakes in this article are my responsibility and mine alone. Feel free to write and correct any errors you see OR add to what I've written.)

-Roberta



Lucky Day bids us "goodnight" from his scanner. (I didn't know what else to put in this spot!)

"To Get Healthier" is the Most Common New Year's Resolution

We Can Help You With That!



Kingman Family Clinic
620-532-0295

KINGMAN HEALTHCARE CENTER

Cunningham Clinic
620-298-2397



Meanderings

I miss the simplicity of landline telephones. I really do.

I miss being able to skillfully look up phone numbers in the phone directories. I miss helpful operators who you could call if you wanted to find a business in Timbuktu. I miss the real old days when the local number was simply 8-2659.

I can remember picking up the phone when I was a wee kid. I'd call Melva about Girl Scouts. I'd call Patty to play Barbies. I'd call Karen about a sleepover. It was all so simple then. You called their homes, if they were there you could talk to them. If they weren't someone might take a message or you call back later.

This makes me wonder. How do kids call each other if there is no landline at home and they aren't allowed to have a cell phone? Possible scenario: Borrow a parent's cellphone to call Mary's mom and ask to speak to Mary. Mary's mom could be at the grocery and Mary is at home. Then Mary calls back, but she has to call YOUR mom

because you don't have a phone. Your mom is at a church meeting and you are at home, so you can't talk to Mary right then. I guess there's email/instant messaging/face-time/etc. Kids do have access to computers and tablets more often than phones. Maybe? Still sounds complicated.

I am struggling to complete this paper. Usually my email inbox is full of items of interest and happenings and I can't get it all in a 14 page paper. This week, not so. There are no Kingman County Commission Minutes. The Pratt County Commission minutes are short. At 3:00 Tuesday afternoon I thought about not just a 12 page paper, but a 10 page paper! I guess folks aren't fully back into the swing of work and such due to the extended winter festivities. Next week, we'll have a full paper again. Basketball season will back in play and I won't be able to keep up with the frantic pace of all the teams.

Know how you can tell that I'm struggling? I placed an article about Valentine's Day gift suggestions in the paper this week! Yep, I'm as bad as the retail stores, promoting Valentine's Day just after the New Year. BUT, I checked - Valentine's Day is 6 weeks away. It will be here before we can say "Be Mine!"

I saw a story in the news last week that breaks my heart. It was about animal shelters that haven't had to euthanize abandoned pets in years, and now are considering it because so many beasts are being dumped off. There are many reasons pets are left at shelters. Some have human companions who have died. Some are left because their human friends can no longer afford to care for them. (food is expensive, new home rental may not allow pets, other financial constraints force them to give up their pets). Then there are those who just decide the furry companion they've had for several years just isn't working for them any longer. I cannot understand this at all. I hope their decision comes back in a bad form of karma.

And then there are those jerks who just dump off their cats and dogs in an unfamiliar place and drive away. How in the world can anyone do that? There is a special place in Hell for these monsters.

Pet food is expensive. Vet bills are even more so. But I would go hungry before I would give up my pets because of cost of keeping them.

Fostering a pet is a win/win. Food and vet care are furnished. If it doesn't work out for you and the pet, they can be returned without the fuss. Please consider this. A home, whether

permanent or temporary, is a better environment for the little beasts than a shelter full of other dogs and cats, barking and hissing and jumping around...so noisy!!

This what I've decided I'm going to do when I become an 'empty nester' of pets. Foster old cats and dogs. I don't want to adopt again, as I also have other things I want to do and don't want to be completely tied down to a full-time, for the rest-of-its-life pet.

Until then, I'll donate to the causes. That will just have to do for now.

Always reading, and currently reading, "Wintergirls" by Laurie Halse Anderson Roberta

"Ah, well, people can be stupid about their pets," said Hagrid wisely."

- J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban

"There are smiles that actually travel along telephone wires, although no engineer at Bell Laboratories could explain how it works."

- Tom Robbins, Skinny Legs and All

"There are stories in everything. I've got some of my best yarns from park benches, lampposts, and newspaper stands."

- O. Henry

She has a bookshelf for a heart, And ink runs through her veins, She'll write you into her story, With the typewriter in her brain, Her bookshelf's getting crowded, With all the stories that she's penned, Of the people who flicked through her pages, But closed the book before the end, And there's one pushed to the very back, That sits collecting dust, With its title in her finest writing, "The One's Who Lost My Trust", There's books she's scared to open, And books she doesn't close, Stories of every person she's met, Stretched out in endless rows, Some people have only a sentence, While others once held a main part, Thousands of inky footprints, That they've left across her heart, You might wonder why she does this, Why write of people she once knew? But she hopes one day she'll mean enough, For someone to write about her too.

~e.h



Tallgrass and Tumbleweeds by Gaille Pike

Dear Readers, The internet claims that over 4000 years ago Babylonians were the first to make New Year's resolutions. It is generally held that their primary resolution was to return any borrowed farm implements and animals. It is also claimed that they made all sorts of promises to their gods to be better people in order to gain blessings and favor over

the next twelve months. I couldn't find any information as to whether the members of this ancient civilization (or others down through the ages that have passed on this custom) were successful in keeping New Year's vows. But I found mountains of evidence that 90% of us (an estimated half of the world's population) who keep this tradition going don't stick with our

resolutions. And apparently we abandon our efforts at self-improvement QUICKLY.

There are quite a few claims that most of the 4 billion of us who make New Year's resolutions know the odds of our success are slim. But each January 1st we try anyway. Researchers suggest that we do so because it is an act of hope to attempt to better ourselves. And that optimism is a natural fit for the "fresh start" we associate with the arrival of a new year, even if our hopes are unrealistic and doomed to fail.

These experts may be

right. But based on my experiences I've reached a different conclusion which is that particularly in our country, between December 26 and New Year's day, LIFE SLOWS DOWN. The big event's over but most of us (those that can) remain on "vacation." We profess to enjoy a departure from our daily routines and the demands of our busy lives. But I believe we don't always savor moments of doing nothing because we're so unaccustomed to relaxation. And I don't think I'm the only one that tends to fritter away my precious time off by

thinking about what I'm GOING to do and all the things that need to get done when life gets back to "normal."

But it's more than just making To-Do Lists. I find myself thinking about the past year, the things I've done that I want to avoid doing again. What I find it silly that simply because I have too much time on my hands that I rehash those experiences though I've already learned the lessons I needed to, taken responsibility for mistakes I've made, and mended all the fences I can. And my uneasy brooding is compounded

during this luxurious interlude of inactivity when my mind next considers the many tasks put on hold or left undone—all those things I hoped to finish or accomplish (or TO BE) this year. That's when I typically remember last year's resolution which is to "this time next year" self-control in terms of self-reflection. I suppose I'll try again...or maybe I'd be better off trying to only eat holiday treats in moderation.

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



Routine Reflections

Kim Baldwin, McPherson County farmer and rancher

We've arrived at another intersection of old

and new. A time where we say goodbye to one year while also welcoming another. The singing of "Auld Lang Syne" has been sung, well-wishes have been said, and new goals have been declared.

This is also a traditional time of reflection. Whether it's looking

back at the best movies watched, the total number of books read, the overall amount of rainfall measured or the number of acres acquired, we all have something to reflect on from the past year.

So many of these reflections tend to gravitate toward numbers as the form of official measurement. Understandably, it's a fairly easy way to look at a specific period of time and determine the wins and losses; the things that worked and the things we learned from during a year.

On our farm, we take many numbers and create many charts and graphs to measure a variety of aspects from the year. From fuel prices, household expenditures, rainfall totals, market chang-

es, sales, purchases and so much more. We can and do create visual measurements throughout the year, which allow us to reflect on a variety of areas.

To be honest, the visual measurements, while appreciated, sometimes only provide a small glimpse into the overall area being measured and reflected upon. Some of the things we reflect on might highlight one's strengths or weaknesses or areas for improvement, while other reflections remind us that we have minimal control.

If anything, 2022 has reminded me that measurements and assessments don't always tell a complete story when it comes to reflecting on one's declared victories

or admitted defeats at the end of a year.

Numbers might look good and the means of measurement at a given point might suggest an anticipated positive outcome. But if the rain doesn't fall, or if it falls all at once, or a windstorm blows through, or hail hits, those numbers and outcomes change in an instant.

While I generally declare goals at the start of a new year, I have learned over time I won't have a hard start and stop time with a straight line in between for the sake of measurement. If needed, adjustments will be made along the way based on routine reflections to help me get to where I want to be.

And yes, while we

have arrived at another intersection of an old year and a new year, we must recognize that there's traffic coming from multiple directions. In reality, it is how we react and adjust while mindfully reflecting throughout the year which will allow us the opportunity to continue to move forward, getting closer to our ultimate goals.

"Insight" is a weekly column published by Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm organization whose mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service.

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News from Kansas Farm Bureau

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Community Bulletin Board

is sponsored by



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Member FDIC

Thursday, January 5th
JH BB vs South
Barber at HOME

Tuesday, January 10th
HS BB vs
Burrton at HOME

Friday, January 6th
HS BB vs Kinsley
at HOME

Wednesday, January 11th
7:00 p.m.
BOE Meeting

Saturday, January 7th
HS BB B-team
Tournament at HOME

Thursday, January 12th
JH BB at Burrton

Monday, January 9th
HS BB B-team
tournament at HOME

HOPL HS Scholars
Bowl at Skyline

Friday, January 13th
HS BB at South Barber



Shared on Facebook?

Share with "The
Cunningham Courier
Newspaper" on Facebook

B-29 Museum

is open on Sundays from 2:00 to 4:00 pm

Pratt Army Airfield – 82 Curran Road
Visit them on Facebook at www.prairiebombers.org for more information. If you would like to visit the museum at another time call 672-8321, 672-2444 or 620-797-2919 to schedule an appointment!

**To reserve the
Cunningham
Community Center,
contact Taylor Strickland,
(620) 770-9516 or 620-298-2511**

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

Stackhouses Visit Family

Christmas was a little different this year for Bob and Mary Stackhouse. Sometime in the wee hours of the night Christmas Eve, son, Brian, arrived in Cunningham from WaKeeney. That morning, the three headed south to Denton, Texas, where they visited son, Justin, and his wife, Isabel, for a few days.

Christmas Eve brought a Nochebuena (the good night when Jesus was born) celebration at the Carrollton home of Isabel's aunt and uncle. Homemade tamales and bunuelos were enjoyed, along with laughter, singing, and visiting. The next few days included sharing gifts, food, games, a puzzle, a movie, bowling, and viewing Christmas lights.

On Wed., Dec. 28, the Kansas Stackhouses returned home "by another route" ala the Wise Men. It was interesting to see some smaller towns in Texas and Oklahoma that are missed when taking the interstate. The weary travelers were happy to arrive at home to see Stevenson, Justin's cat who had been staying with Bob and Mary since August. Courier publisher, Roberta, took excellent care of Stevenson in Bob's and Mary's absence.

Brian returned home Thursday, stopping along the way to visit Grandma, Marilyn Smiley, in Stafford. Bob and Mary arrived at the Smiley home later in the day to drive Marilyn to Wichita where family enjoyed dinner and a drive around Wichita looking at Christmas lights.

Saturday afternoon, Justin pulled up to the Stackhouse house, eager to be reunited with Stevenson. The Cunningham Stackhouses enjoyed supper at Grandma's that evening. Sunday afternoon, Justin and Stevenson headed to Texas. Mary is already awaiting their next visit.

**Legislative
Hotline
Available to
Kansans**

Powered by the State Library of Kansas

T O P E K A – Information about the 2023 Kansas Legislature is only a phone call or chat away, the State Library of Kansas reminds residents. The toll-free number for the Legislative Hotline is 1-800-432-3924. Calls are answered by experienced reference and research librarians at the State Library.

Frequently asked questions include:

Who are my legislators?

How can I contact them? and

What is the status of this bill?

Other questions may concern the legislative

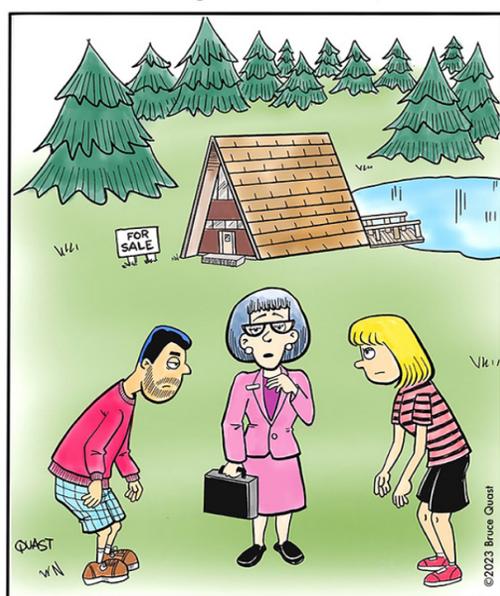
process, where to find historic information, and other Kansas government related questions.

The Hotline is open Monday-Friday from 8 am to 5 pm, however constituents can leave a brief message for their legislators, or for a librarian's response. Questions can also be emailed to infodesk@ks.gov.

Kansans can also chat with a librarian in real-time through the library's Ask a Librarian service found at kslib.info/ask. From this page, residents use the web or download the mobile app to connect to the State Library's reference services through chat, email, or phone. TTY users should call 711.

Hotline: 1-800-432-3924
Email: infodesk@ks.gov
Web: kslib.info/ask

Comfortably Dumb by Bruce Quast



"Mind if I ask why you folks are selling?"

**Department of Commerce
Announces Building a Stronger
Economy (BASE) 2.0 Grant
Application**

TOPEKA – The Kansas Department of Commerce today announced \$50 million will fund a second round of projects under the Building a Stronger Economy (BASE) grant program. BASE 2.0 will continue addressing infrastructure and economic development needs that were delayed or slowed due to COVID-19 in an effort to expand the state's base of businesses and residents.

The additional funds were designated by the Strengthening People and Revitalizing Kansas (SPARK) Executive Committee and approved by the State Finance Council in December.

Previous applicants that were not funded in round one will be considered for BASE 2.0 and do not need to reapply unless they would like to submit a new application. Awardees from the first round are not eligible for a BASE 2.0 award.

The Commerce Department received more than 440 applicants requesting more than \$1 billion in identified projects during BASE 1.0 for the available \$100 million funding. This new round will follow the same regulations established for the first round, including the requirement that awardees provide a 25% match.

County and local governments, economic development organizations, local chambers of commerce, and other stakeholders are eligible to apply. Awardees will have two years to complete their projects and utilize all awarded and required matching funds. Applications submitted are required to document how the project was delayed or affected negatively due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting downturn in economic conditions.

The BASE 2.0 grant application process opens at 2:00 p.m. today. The deadline for submissions will be 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, January 31.

An informational webinar on BASE 2.0 will be available to the public at 10:00 a.m. Friday, January 6. Registration for the webinar and guidelines for the grant application can be found at www.kansascommerce.gov/basegrant/.

Applicants can contact CommerceSPARK@ks.gov for any questions regarding this funding opportunity.



Cozy's Pizza

115 N. Main
Cunningham, KS 67035
620-298-7000

Mon., Tues., & Thurs. - 11:00 to 8:00
Friday and Saturday - 11:00 to 9:00
Closed Wednesday and Sunday

"Don't be yourself, be a pizza.
Everyone loves pizza."

— *PewDiePie, This Book Loves You*

Upcoming Auctions

Saturday, January 7th
Consignment Auction - Hamm
Auction Center @ 9:30am



Land Auction

236+/- Acres Kingman Co Land,
Dryland and Native Grass
January 16th, 1:30 p.m.
Hamm Auction Center,
Pratt, KS 67124

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

www.hammauction.com

107 NE State Road 61,
Pratt, Kansas, 67124
620-672-6996



Kingman Historic Theatre

237 N. Main in Kingman

(620) 532-1253

<http://www.kingmantheatre.org/>
All Seats \$6.00

(cash or local check only)

Showtimes:

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

January 6th - 8th

**Avatar: The
Way of Water**
Rated PG

Thank YOU for supporting YOUR
Kingman Historic Theatre.

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

W. A. Bradley / William Bradley

1918

January 4
Everett Shelton left last Saturday for Lindsborg, Kansas, where he is attending Bethany College.

The Y.W.C.A. will entertain the high school students and faculty Thursday evening January 3 in honor of our victorious foot ball team and debating team.

Lest we forget the Class of '18. The following inscription will be found near the west entrance of the New Rural High School building. "The Class of 1918. Esto quod esse videris." (translated: Be what you seem to be)

1923

January 5
Calista Oil Test is Now Practically Sure
Rumored that Derby Oil Company Will have Geologists in the Field Next Week to Pick Location
Information recently from what appears to be a reliable source has it that a test well in the neighborhood of Calista is to be a sure go. For some time it has been known that the Derby Oil Company, in which Dan F. Callanhan is a heavy stockholder, has had men at work blocking up acreage around Calista. The report is that they want something like 10,000 acres, and it now appears that the acreage has been obtained. For some little time, the progress of the effort was blocked by certain land owners refusing to lease. However, it now appears that lack of acreage will no longer delay the new test.

1928

January 6,
The alumni boys' basketball team went down in defeat, 23 to 10, to the high school boys' team last Friday night. Members of the alumni team were Bruce Askrens, Earl Ratlief, Everett Baber, Chester Ruth, Elmo Huffman, and Warren Kailer. The alumni girls' team defeated the high school girls' team in their game by a score of 24-21. Members of the alumni team were Letha Hatch, Grace Sellon, Dorothy Krehbiel, Iva Wetherall, Dorothy Watkins, Pauline Allbritten, Gertrude Crow, and Bertha Dye. Paul Wunsch of Kingman refereed both games

1933

January 6
The Cunningham High School Alumni Association held their annual banquet in the Christian Church basement last Thursday evening. James Luce served as Toastmaster, and appearing on the program were Ray Amick, Lee Gibbens, Ted Hart, Doris Franks, Warren Kailer, Pauline Stanley, and Pauline Allbritten.

1958

January 9
The high school basketball team won and lost during the past week.
They won an easy victory over Sun City here last Friday night by a 52-31 score and dropped a 62-44 decision to a good Cheney team here, Tuesday night.

Mrs. Melvin Oller was injured in an accident eight-tenths of a mile south of Cunningham about 11:45 o'clock, Monday evening, and was reported in satisfactory condition at the Pratt County Hospital Wednesday morning.

Mrs. Oller, who suffered a ruptured spleen, underwent surgery and received several blood transfusions Tuesday, has been removed from the "critical" list by her attending physician.

Investigating officers said Mrs. Oller was a passenger in a car driven by Earl Leon Wagner of Cunningham.

The northbound Wagner car and a southbound car

driven by Charles M. Ratcliff, also of Cunningham, were involved in a side-swiping accident on the Cunningham-to-Nashville road south of town eight-tenths of a mile.

Mrs. Oller was a passenger in the back seat of the Wagner car. The other passengers were Mrs. Paul Spratt and Miss Ramona Zrubek, both of this city. Neither the drivers nor the two other passengers were seriously injured.

1963

January 10
Leaman Harris, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Harris of Cunningham, recently completed his work for a Master's Degree in Geological Engineering at the University of Kansas.

Coach Joe Battles and his Cunningham Wildcats evidently decided this was a "37-point week" in basketball as they crushed two opponents, limiting them to just 37 points each. Last Friday the Wildcats swamped Partridge by a 61 to 37 score, and Tuesday evening they tied the can to Sharon, 53-37.

Eugene Huston's 25 points coupled with Robert Leiter's 21, were enough for the Wildcats as they trimmed Partridge.

Huston and Leiter paced the Cunningham scoring in Tuesday's game with 15 points each.

Chicken pox has invaded Cunningham, and at this writing, Blaine Folsom, Bruce Allen, David Steffen, and Kathy Fitzsimmons are reported down for the count.

½ gallon of Good Value Ice Milk is 49 cents at Cunningham IGA.

1968

January 11
Ned Albers, with 22 points, led the Wildcats to an easy 77 to 35 victory over the hapless Partridge Quails here last Friday evening.

Cunningham lost their third game in seven starts here Tuesday evening, going down to the Isabel Vikings, 62 to 59.

Ned Albers made 17 points to pace the Wildcat scoring and Jim McCune added 10.

The Women's Society of Christian Service met in the Methodist Church last Wednesday evening.

The guest speaker was Miss Judy Huffman, who recently returned from Korea, where she has spent two years teaching in Ewka University in Seoul.

YEARS AGO IN

The Cunningham Clipper

Publisher: Charles G. Barnes
Editor: Joyce Hartmann
Reporter: Florine Kampling

1978

January 12
YWCA Met
Crafts were the emphasis for the regular monthly meeting on January 9 of the Cunningham YWCA at the home of Jane Meyers. Each person attending brought a craft item she had either made or received, and displayed this item to the group in answer to roll call.

Mr. and Mrs. Jeff McCune of Ness City announced the birth of the New Year's baby of Ness County. The little girl was born at 7:40 a.m. January 1, weighing 8 lbs. 14 ½ oz. and has been named Jamie Carolyn.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Merle McCune of Pratt and Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Schwartz, Bazine.

Bulldogs and Cats Scratch and Fight
By Coach Dale Magnett

Friday night the Wildcats brought their record to 5-2 on the season with a very rough 72-44 victory over the Attica Bulldogs. The game was marked with much physical play with 55 fouls and 80 free throw attempts.

I was not pleased at all with our play in the 1st quarter. We shot poorly, hitting only 21 percent. We hesitated on shots, were intimidated by their physical play and gave up two many offensive boards.

This type of play may also have been due to the flu bug that struck the Wildcat team this week. We will hopefully be back at full strength by next Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Brady and Jason of Lawrence were Friday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Stillwell, Sr. Additional guests was Mr. Bob Stillwell, Jr.

Will give to good home, preferably farm home, combination Australian shepherd and German shepherd. Has been shot twice, but in excellent condition. Call between 11 – 3:30 for Debby Eckhoff at 298-2462.

Food prices up

Economists expect food prices to rise about six percent in 1978. They see a large supply of farm products, but continued increases in the cost of labor and marketing will force prices up.

The economists say there are four main factors that may affect prices. Others anticipate some moderation in retail prices for foreign foods and fish. Other factors to be considered in price variations are world wide weather, the outcome of food additive regulation and energy regulation.

1983

January 13

Having a baby is nothing new for Tresea and Brian Schnittker of Cunningham.

But having a New Year's baby was something a little different. "It wasn't really planned to be the first baby of the year," according to Tresea, mother of Tiffany Marie, who bounced into the world on January 3, at 7:44 p.m., weighing 7 lbs, 9 ½ oz.

Tiffany wasn't born on New Year's Day but that didn't keep her from being the first baby born in Pratt County.

The Cunningham girls raised their record to 5-0 last night while easily disposing of Skyline 59-37 at Skyline.

A new feature of the Cunningham Clipper starting this week will be Feature Teacher. Judy Almond, third grade instructor, was chosen to start the series of articles.

Mrs. Almond has been teaching at the grade school for 22 years, with part of those years involved in teaching fourth and fifth grades, also.

She received her education from Kansas State University in Manhattan and before coming to Cunningham Grade School in 1969, she taught in Plains, Ks. And Denison, Ks before that.

Mrs. Almond grew up in Circleville and feels her greatest pleasure in teaching comes "from seeing the students mature. At that stage, they change so much in one year," She commented. The students in her class are eight and nine-year-olds.

Mrs. Almond would like to believe she has a good relationship with her students, and according to many pupils this is true.

Final action was taken by the board authorizing the sale of Nashville School and the real estate upon which it is located to the highest bidder at the auction held November 20.

A motion was passed to allocate time at the next board meeting to discuss the consolidation of the two district high schools.

Mary J Cook and Eva Cundiff were initiated into the Delta Kappa Gamma International Honor Society for Teachers.

Thank you for the many cards, calls and visits since my accident. Your concerns are greatly appreciated. A special thanks to John Royston and Ruth Horton. Chris Meyers

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Old Photos for *Our Community Album*

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cunninghamcourier@embarqmail.com or send to 320 North Stadium Street, Cunningham, KS 67035

Consider this...

by Mike Johnson

The Power of Dreams

A fisherman friend shared his trick of navigating back bay waterways on dark, moonless nights. Pitch black, yet he was still able to skim across the surface at full speed.

"Don't look straight ahead," he revealed. "Look up through the treeline at the starlit sky. Use the treelines as borders to create a pathway in the sky. As you navigate along this pathway above, you can ignore the darkness in front of you and stay safely on course."

Similarly, our lives can be navigated with the same approach. The darkness we need to navigate

through is the thoughtless pattern of working, eating, watching television and sleeping. Our pathway in the sky is the dreams we chase. By looking to our dreams for navigation, we too, can skim through the darkness full speed ahead.

Two photos hang in my office as reminders of the power of navigating by dreams. The first is a vacation shot, taken in 1991 in front of the Grand Tetons, a spectacular mountain range in western Wyoming. It's your typical vacation photo - Dad standing alongside the rented motorhome and the kids hanging out the window - Mom nowhere in sight because she's the one taking the picture. 13,000 foot, snowcapped peaks fill the background. I remember bathing in the grandeur, turning to my wife, and asking the obvi-

ous question, "Why don't we live here?"

She just smiled, her wordless answer saying, "Yes that would be grand, but what about the career? Our income? The house?"

At that time, I was still a corporate manager in Florida, about to mark my tenth year with the same company. As such, I was tied to a certain place, position, salary and company. Saying yes to that corporate career was the same as saying no to all my other dreams.

Like writing.

I'd wanted to be a writer since the sixth grade. Not just any writer - I wanted to become the kind of writer who worked for himself from home. I could feel it was my destiny, I just never got around to bringing it about. A part-time job with McDonalds as a teen soon turned into running

the joint as the manager, and then onto the next company in a larger role and before you knew it, two decades had passed. Despite the outward success, I was trapped in Florida and trapped in a career less than my dreams.

My wife and I sighed, took one last look at the mountain vista, climbed back into the RV and headed for Florida.

But the dream was planted. And it powered me in a way that still sends shivers up my back. I gave notice to that company just three months after returning and started a new career as a writer at a small newspaper. I soon learned the trade well enough to start and run my own newspaper for three years. As confidence grew, so did the size of my checks from selling freelance articles to other publications on

the side. And then wonder of wonders, I one day found myself with enough regular freelance writing assignments that I was no longer tied to any one location.

The second photo on my wall is another typical vacation shot. This one taken five years later at the exact location as the 1991 picture. This one has Dad alongside the family car, kids hanging out the window, 13,000 foot snowcapped peaks in the background, and Mom still invisible as photographer. The kids have grown, Dad looks a bit older, and the vehicles are different, but other than that, the photos are nearly identical - with one important distinction. This isn't a vacation shot. Now we LIVE here.

Five years of navigating life by that dream powered the hundreds of events that then fell

into place to make it so. The dream replaced my career with my destiny, my corporate salary with my writer's income and eliminated dozens of restrictions while bestowing hundreds of new freedoms.

Looking back, I'm embarrassed to say it took 25 years to realize the obvious. I'd gotten so caught up in earning a living that I'd never gotten around to designing a life.

Until I began navigating life by that dream.

UPDATE: The writing dream has expanded to include entrepreneurial dreams. I no longer write for others because I'm so busy writing for our own businesses.

Mike Johnson is an energetic writer & entrepreneur. Learn more about Mike's offerings at www.MikeJohnson.biz

Let Go

Crying, deflated from resentful, heart piercing words. Curled up in tears, wondering why the hurts keep coming. You can cry on Me.

Weary, wishing it would end, pondering how to respond, how to go on, to heal from the wrongs. I'm here with you.

Struggling, my heart in pieces, longing to heal, but wanting revenge, tempted to go into a rage,

yet yearning to turn the page. Let it go.

Knowing what I should do and yet anger wells up, heart hardens, want to retaliate, stop it once and for all and let the chips fall. Forgive.

Consider pardoning these wrongs once again. Unsure, it doesn't seem right, and yet no longer want to feel in distress, controlled by bitterness. Leave it with Me.

Desiring

to do what's right, I pray, try to let go, and fail, make another attempt. I know It's how I want to live, so I keep going until I finally forgive I am healing you.

Listening for more of the Spirit's whispers, while I embrace His love and persistence, being grateful for His leading and basking in His healing. Let Me lead you forward.

By Laurie Glass 12/14/22

Christian Humor: Jokes You Can Tell in Church

The people who followed the Lord were called the 12 decibels.

The epistles were the wives of the apostles.

One of the opossums was St. Matthew who was also a taximan.

St. Paul cavorted to Christianity. He preached holy acrimony, which is another name for marriage.

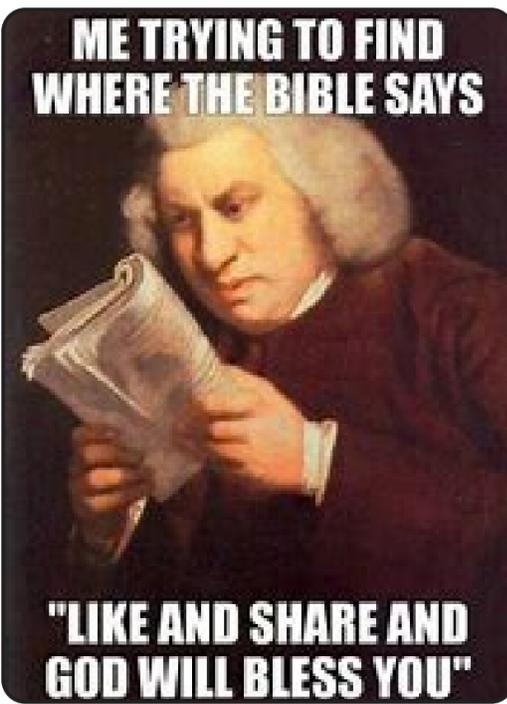
A Christian should have only one spouse. This is called monotony.

A woman went to the post office to buy stamps for her Christmas cards.

"What denomination?" Asked the clerk.

"Oh, my goodness! Have we come to this?" said the woman.

"Well give me 50 Baptist and 50 Catholic!"



What did Jonah's family say when he told them about what happened before reaching Nineveh? "Hmm, sounds fishy."

Why couldn't the Israelites initially enter the Promised Land? It wasn't the Pinky Promised Land.

What was Moses' wife, Zippora, known as when she'd throw dinner parties? "The hostess with the Moses."



Catholic Churches

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

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

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

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

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



Lutheran Churches

St. John, Nashville 620-246-5220

Trinity, Medicine Lodge 620-886-3397

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

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

Worship Service 8:30 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Our worship service is found on the YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCrenCH1219nmpcojCFyYLA>

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

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 contact Janet DeWeese 620-298-2717)

Hands of Hope (contact any church)

Cunningham Alumni Scholarship Fund

(send checks to the West Kingman County Education Foundation)

Cunningham Community Center (leave donation at the bank)

Lions' Club (Money is being raised to dig a well in the village of Kakindu, Kenya)

Cunningham Museum (to donate contact Alan Albers)

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)

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Power out? Here's How to Keep Food Safe

K-State's food safety expert gives guidelines on food storage during bad weather

K-State Research and Extension news service

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Keeping food safe during a power outage begins well before winter storms hit, said Kansas State University food scientist Karen Blakeslee.

Before the power goes out, Blakeslee advised

keeping an appliance thermometer in the refrigerator and freezer. According to guidelines from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the temperature inside the refrigerator should be 40 degrees Fahrenheit or lower, and the freezer at 0 F or below.

Blakeslee, who also is coordinator of K-State's Rapid Response Center for food safety, said having a thermometer in place before the power goes out helps to assure the appliance temperature does not stray outside the recommended range.

It may also be a

good idea to stock up on canned and non-perishable goods.

"Dried foods, such as fruit and crackers, are great for snacks," Blakeslee said. "Keep foods that family members enjoy, but also healthful foods to provide nutrient-dense nourishment."

Blakeslee recommends storing pantry foods in a cool, dry, dark location.

When power is first lost, leave the door of the refrigerator and freezer closed to preserve cold temperatures as long as possible. If the power

stays out for a longer period of time and the refrigerator is not staying cold, Blakeslee has some additional ideas for protecting food.

"Coolers filled with ice are very helpful in an emergency," Blakeslee said. "Make sure ice surrounds the food for the best chilling effect."

For food in the freezer, dry ice can be used if available – but thick gloves should always be worn when handling dry ice to prevent skin damage. Dry ice should then be kept in a ventilated area.

Food spoilage may

be unavoidable if the power outage is lengthy. Blakeslee outlines key factors that may be an indication of foodborne illness:

Color changes.

Unusual odors.

Texture changes.

The most susceptible foods are meat, dairy, eggs and cut fruits and vegetables. Extra care should be taken when examining these food items.

"Don't taste any questionable food that has thawed out," Blakeslee said. "When in doubt, throw it out."

If a power outage lasts more than four hours at

temperatures greater than 40 F, refrigerated or frozen food kept without another cold source should be thrown out.

For more information on food safety during the power outages, Blakeslee recommends consulting the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention webpage.

Blakeslee publishes a monthly newsletter called You Asked It! that provides numerous tips on being safe and healthy. More information is also available from local extension offices in Kansas.

Kansas Profile: Now That's Rural Dean Dalinghaus, Frankfort High School and Emilee Ebert, K-State basketball

Posted on December 28, 2022 by Pat Melgares

Emilee Ebert, K-State basketball player, shooting the basketball

Emilee Ebert, K-State basketball

It's game day. The high school athlete has her jersey on and prepares to go into action. All eyes are on her as she makes her move. But right now this athlete isn't using a ball, she's using a book.

On game days at Frankfort High School, the athletes don't just perform on the court, they read to younger kids in the classroom. This is small town athletics at its best.

Dean Dalinghaus is principal at Frankfort High School, home of the Wildcats. He went to high school at B&B, graduated from K-State, and has been principal at Frankfort since 2006. He has observed the significance of hometown sports teams in rural communities.

"I think it brings the community together," he



said. "It creates a sense of pride. It's the joy of seeing the kids put their heart and soul on the line, for the (town) name on the front of the jersey."

Among the competitive athletes who recently came from his school is Emilee Ebert. In fact, her parents are directly involved with the school. Her father Brian is a teacher and was Emilee's basketball coach at Frankfort. Her mother Jennifer is the school librarian.

Emilee Ebert had a standout athletic career at Frankfort. She set the school record with 1,648 career points in basketball. A four-time Kansas Basketball Coaches Association honoree, she earned first team honors in 2018 and 2019. She completed her basketball career as a four-time All-Twin Valley League First Team recipient, and a four-time All-Flint Hills First Team honoree by the Manhattan Mercury.

At the end of her senior season in 2018-19, Emilee was a McDonald's All-American nominee and garnered top-15 All-Class honors as well as Class 1A All-State First

Team honors from multiple sources. Not only was she selected to play in several all-star games, she was selected as most valuable player at two of them.

Ebert was also an outstanding competitor in volleyball and track and field.

Emilee Ebert chose to come to K-State to play basketball for women's coach Jeff Mittie. By her sophomore season, she was the only Wildcat to start all 27 games. That year, she finished among the Big 12's best in assists, blocks per game, and assist to turnover ratio. Ebert set the school record for blocks by a guard in a season and was the only player in the Big 12 to appear in the top-15 in assists and blocks.

In her junior year, she played in a career-high 31 games with 24 starts. As this is being written — partway through her senior season — she has helped lead the Cats to a 9-2 record and a top 25 ranking. On December 7, she led K-State in scoring in its win against Kansas City, and has been consistently good from the free-throw line.

She is also an excellent example of a student-athlete. Ebert has made the Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll twice, plus the Big 12 All-Rookie Academic Team, and the Academic

All-Big 12 Team the following year.

Dalinghaus said he wants his students to appreciate academics as well. Frankfort has a K-12 attendance center, so all grades are in the same building. This creates an opportunity for interaction between older and younger students.

Three years ago, Dalinghaus created an initiative called Wildcat Readers. On game days, the athletes take turns reading a book to the elementary school children while wearing their jerseys or dress clothes,

depending on the sport.

"It lets the little kids see the older kids as student-athletes, not just athletes," Dalinghaus said. By modeling reading and encouraging the kids to read, it is a win-win for academics as well as athletics.

This type of interaction works especially well in a school in a rural community such as Frankfort, population 723 people. Now, that's rural.

All eyes are on the athlete as she makes her move – not to the basket, but to the book. We commend Dean Dalinghaus

for making a difference with this initiative to connect learning and athletics, and we salute Emilee Ebert and all small-town athletes for representing their communities so well.

Ron Wilson, director of the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University writes Kansas Profile. The weekly posts highlight individuals or companies in rural Kansas who are making a difference to their community and state.

How Barbara Walters Crafted Her Incomparable Career

by Peter Funt

Barbara Walters might never have become a powerful force in broadcast journalism had she lacked the chutzpah to extract a promise from her bosses at NBC News in 1973.

As she explained it to me, she had already worked at the "Today" show for a dozen years, serving first as a writer and then as the "Today girl" on set — a bubbly balance to the program's male host, the journalist Frank McGee. If McGee were ever to leave, NBC pledged, she would be named co-host, an un-

precedented role for a woman.

Eight months later, McGee died of cancer. Five days after that, Walters was named co-host and given a voice in selecting her new on-air partner, the unassuming newsman from local TV, Jim Hartz.

Almost every obit about Barbara Walters, who died Dec. 30 at 93, mentions that she "broke the glass ceiling" in TV news. A measure of the enormity of that challenge was contained in Frank McGee's own arrangement with NBC, stipulating that during in-studio interviews he would always ask the first three questions, lest viewers conclude that the woman at his side was of equal status.

I suppose it would be

considered a compliment to say that McGee was a shrewd negotiator. But to use the same term about Walters would be perceived quite negatively, especially a half-century ago. She was, indeed, shrewd. And demanding. And often manipulative in dealing with superiors, writers like me who covered her and, most of all, the wide range of politicians and showbiz celebrities whom she persuaded to open up — even shed tears — on camera.

She left NBC in 1976 to become TV's highest-paid news anchor at the time, seated alongside Harry Reasoner on the "ABC Evening News." Her \$1 million annual salary was roughly double what CBS icon Walter Cronkite was earning.

Privately, Reasoner dismissed the new pairing as so much network gimmickry. For her part, Walters acknowledged on her first broadcast that some viewers might have tuned in, "out of curiosity, drawn by the rather too much attention and overblown publicity given to my new duties and my hourly wage."

She survived the flop that the ABC newscast turned out to be and managed to parlay it into a robust career focused primarily on interviewing, for which she was best known. Even that included careful calculation. Though she did interviews both live and recorded, she preferred the latter format. "Whoever holds the scissors controls the entire interview," she told me.

Whenever I wrote about her, even a brief mention, I received a hand-written thank you note in the mail. I wasn't flattered so much as I was impressed by a woman who knew she had to work harder to compete in a male-dominated field.

There are a lot of women in broadcasting today who would like to send Barbara Walters a note of thanks.

Copyright 2023 Peter Funt distributed by Cagle Cartoons newspaper syndicate.

Peter Funt's new memoir, "Self-Amused," is now available at CandidCamera.com.

"It's good to fail sometimes. When you fail, you have to prove yourself. That's often the best thing than can happen, because then you're sure your success isn't just luck. - Barbara Walters"

"What touched me the most about the Dalai Lama was his definition of the purpose of life. It was, he said, 'to be happy.' How does one accomplish that? I asked. 'I think warm-heartedness and compassion,' he replied. 'Compassion give you inner strength, more self-confidence. That can really change your attitude.'"

— Barbara Walters, Audition: A Memoir

Mary Oller Celebrated 90th Birthday with Family and Friends



photo submitted by Meha Oller

I would like to give a big "90 Years" thank you to everyone for the cards and phone calls and to all who came to my birthday party! A special thank you to my wonderful family for traveling many miles to be here to help me celebrate. The party was the best! I can't wait until the next one! - Mary Oller



Cunningham 4-H Club Happenings



On December 3rd, eight of our club's 4-Hers were able to participate in the Zenda parade. It was a walking float and they received the first place prize of \$5.

The Cunningham 4-H meeting was held on December 4th at 6 pm at the Community Center. This was our annual Christmas meeting. The community center was decorated for Christmas and hosted by the Dittmer, Hageman, and Schultzs families. We colored nativity scenes posters to display at Hilltop on their doors. We also made props for our parade day float like giant rubik's cubes, giant toy blocks, and yo-yo's. We ate snacks, drank hot chocolate, and played musical chairs. During the meeting, the leaders presented our club awards for record books and perfect attendance.

On December 10th, our club participated in several events on Cunningham Santa Parade Day. Several 4-Hers served food and drinks at the soup supper at the community center. During the parade, 4-Hers rode our float. It was decorated with large toys and we were holding toys that we donated to toys for tots at Cozy's. We received first in the float judging. After the parade was over, the 4-Hers went to clean the gym after the craft fair. It was a busy day.

-Kendall Rogers, Reporter

How to Maximize the Value and Timeliness of Your Tax Return

(StatePoint) Research shows that if you're dreading tax season, you're not alone.

According to the Pew Research Center, 47% of Americans say they are bothered a lot by the complexity of the federal tax system. Other taxpayers stress out over getting the details right. In a Credello survey, 22% of respondents say not maximizing their refund is their biggest fear around doing

taxes, while another 22% said their biggest fear is making a mistake.

"Many Americans rely on their tax refund to make ends meet. Accessing those funds should be fast and easy," says Chad Prashad, president and CEO of World Finance.

To help you get a handle on your taxes, World Finance is drawing on its 26 years of filing expertise to offer these timely tips:

- Get ready early. As soon as your employer provides your W2, you can file your taxes. Having all other documentation and receipts ready to go will help ex-

pedite the process, which means you will get your tax return faster, too. Collect the necessary materials in one place before filing.

- Consider significant life changes. Did you move in 2022? Have a baby? Get married? Change jobs? Each of these monumental life events can have an impact on your taxes, so be sure to disclose these factors when filing or to the professional filing on your behalf.

- Know what's new. Visit IRS.gov to learn about any changes to tax filings that are applicable to you. A tax services professional can also help

you identify relevant updates. World Finance tax pros have year-round training to stay on top of the latest tax filing requirements and are ready to tailor tax services to each tax customer's financial situation.

- Review and adjust. Once you know what your return is going to be this year, make any necessary adjustments to your W2 to make sure you're withholding enough during the year. If this is your first year working with a professional tax service, have them review your previous years' filings as well. You may be able to recover additional refunds if anything was

missed. World Finance offers this service for no additional charge.

- Consider a tax refund loan. After filing, you can potentially take out a loan for the amount of your expected refund. This is known as a tax refund loan and an option to consider if you need your refund as soon as possible.

- Work with a professional. Filing your taxes with a software program is a low-cost option, but only if you have time to dedicate to the task, and the know-how to get your biggest possible tax return. Working with a reliable, trusted tax preparation service can help ensure your taxes are filed

correctly, and your return is as substantial as it can be. Look for a service that offers transparent pricing, flexible filing options and same-day Tax Advance Loans, such as World Finance. For more information, visit loans-byworld.com/taxes.

Tax season doesn't need to create headaches, fears, or anxieties. By gathering important tax documents in advance and understanding your filing and refund options, you can have confidence that you've maximized the value and timeliness of your tax return.

Governor Announces Kansas State Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen to Retire

TOPEKA – Today,

Governor Laura Kelly announced that Kansas State Fire Marshal Doug Jorgensen will retire from the position in January 2023 after serving in the role for 11 years. Jorgensen will temporarily stay with the agency as Deputy Fire Marshal

to help the new State Fire Marshal transition into the role.

"I thank Doug Jorgensen for his 43 years of public service in Kansas, including 11 years as State Fire Marshal," Governor Laura Kelly said. "He has

worked tirelessly to protect Kansans and property from devastating fires and to support communities in times of loss. His service has been appreciated, and we thank him for making this transition as smooth as possible."

Prior to his role as State Fire Marshal, Jorgensen served four years with the Ellis County Sheriff's Department, 28 years as a Special

Agent with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, and one year as Director of Alcoholic Beverage Control in the Kansas Department of Revenue.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed serving three governors as the State Fire Marshal for the last eleven years, and most importantly, supporting the state fire service and helping keep the citizens of Kansas safe,"

Jorgensen said. "It has been a very rewarding career."

In retirement, Jorgensen plans to spend more time with his family and volunteer at his church and in the broader community.

The State Fire Marshal is a Senate-confirmed position. A new State Fire Marshal has not been appointed at this time.



"Twilight fell: The sky turned to a light, dusky purple littered with tiny silver stars."

— J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix

Sunset Christmas Day

This was taken east of town by Teresa McClendon



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Nearly \$3 Million to Support Kids Exposed to Drugs

TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly today announced that the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) will receive nearly \$3 million from the U.S. Department of Justice to better identify and support children exposed to drugs, increase public safety, and reduce overdose death. These efforts are part of KDHE's All Hands on DECK (drug-endangered children in Kansas) project.

"It is critical that we make resources and help available to stop the impact of drug addiction on our children," Governor

Laura Kelly said. "This funding will be instrumental in curbing the generational impact drugs have on Kansas families."

In Kansas, an estimated 140,860 children live in environments where their parent or caregiver has a substance use disorder (SUD), and an estimated 5,155 Kansas infants are born exposed to substances every year. Drug-endangered children are more likely to develop chronic diseases like diabetes, heart disease, and obesity. They are also more likely to develop substance use disorder, financial difficulties, and employment challenges.

"This important All Hands on DECK funding is an investment in Kansas children and a lifeline for family mem-

bers with substance use disorder," Joan Duwve, M.D., KDHE State Health Officer, said. "The funds will provide the support needed to implement DECK coalitions in six funded communities and will help to increase education and awareness of drug-endangered children in Kansas."

The project will work with populations of focus who are disproportionately impacted by substance use disorder and drug overdose. It divides the state into six regions to ensure geographic equity between rural/frontier and urban areas of the state and will engage Kansas tribes, including Iowa, Kickapoo, Potawatomi and Sac and Fox. For more information, visit preventoverdoseks.org.

"The whole world is a series of miracles, but we're so used to them we call them ordinary things."

(Hans Christian Andersen)



We're cutting back our spending...

www.readingclubfun.com



Newspaper Fun!



Kids: color stuff in!

Annimills LLC © 2022 V53



The Family Budget

There's a "bottom to every family's pocketbook." So, many families sit down and talk about money matters and ways they can work together to stay inside the family budget. One thing they talk about are the things the family **needs**: shelter, food, clothes and so on. After that, they can talk about things they **want** to have, but that are not truly necessary. They might put limits on spending any extra money or find ways to cut back a bit, if needed.

What things do families **need** to budget for? What things are nice to have or do, but are "extras" that they **want**? **Read each item and circle "W" for things a family might want and "N" for things they need.**

- | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|-----|------------------|---|---|
| 1. clothes | W | (N) | 12. magazines | W | N |
| 2. furniture | W | N | 13. food | W | N |
| 3. new toy | W | N | 14. water | W | N |
| 4. amusement parks | W | N | 15. dinner out | W | N |
| 5. transportation | W | N | 16. family phone | W | N |
| 6. electricity | W | N | 17. computer | W | N |
| 7. newer furniture | W | N | 18. candy | W | N |
| 8. shelter | W | N | 19. extra car | W | N |
| 9. heat | W | N | 20. cable T.V. | W | N |
| 10. savings | W | N | 21. video games | W | N |
| 11. vacation | W | N | 22. (pay) taxes | W | N |



Next, find and circle each word in the family's house.



W V A C A T I O N T L T T N U H S E S X O A M
 F U D K X J C C U F D Q V G N V N E W T O Y O
 A U X E W N Z O W H U S Z S T G G R N W Q S H
 M X I W N J R I M C A R H E U F O O D S W H E
 I J Z B A E E Q W P A R L D V P H E E T A E A
 L A D T N T K J L C U B I N T U R A K C E L T
 Y D Q N B C E B A D A T X L K W D R S H X T B
 P U I E J Y E R P C Y Y E C E L Z P H Z N E S
 H D G B I R T P O Y X S I R T F L T G V F R T
 O L F C H X T V K F U R N I T U R E L V M T X
 N S H L E Q Z P U A M U S E M E N T P A R K S
 E A Q O U T R A N S P O R T A T I O N T H M K
 G V W T C A N D Y P I K E L E C T R I C I T Y
 Z I H W H U W E F M W P E B Y O S D G R Y X
 P N L E P M N E W E R F U R N I T U R E Q L M
 Y G U S D P J O M I I T R J U I S J D P N K Q
 H S M A G A Z I N E S J B S C J I P T K O N S
 D Y A (V I D E O G A M E S) I Z Q K C T A X E S

Our class got together to brainstorm ideas for ways **kids** can help with their family budgets. You can talk to your parents or the grownups who care for you, and choose which ideas might work for your family.



Spend time at your library reading, playing games or using computers!

Every penny saved helps.

Brainstorming Ideas (Using Money Wisely)

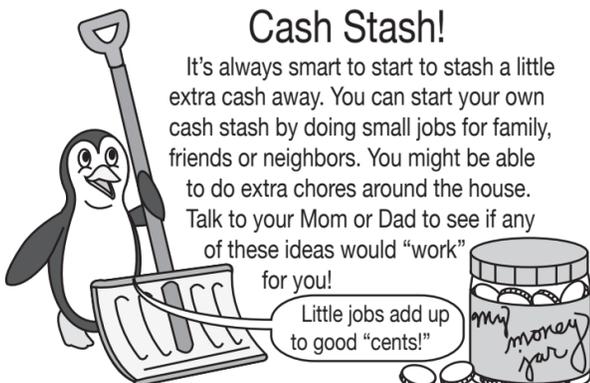
Read our ideas to fill in the crossword puzzle:

- save extra _____ and put them in a jar
- keep an eye out around town for thrifty _____
- rent a _____ instead of going to the theater
- toss your _____ into the laundry every other day instead of every day
- help your Mom and Dad by clipping _____
- update your card at your local _____ and take out books, DVDs, CDs
- dress sensibly so you can keep the _____ at a reasonable temperature
- help hand-wash your family _____ rather than taking it to the car wash
- make your own _____ rather than buying them from the school cafeteria
- turn off the _____ when you leave a room
- accept hand-me-down _____ (no complaints!)
- try and spend no more than 15 minutes when in the _____

Cash Stash!

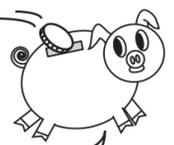
It's always smart to start to stash a little extra cash away. You can start your own cash stash by doing small jobs for family, friends or neighbors. You might be able to do extra chores around the house. Talk to your Mom or Dad to see if any of these ideas would "work" for you!

Little jobs add up to good "cents!"



Chitter did **four** extra chores this month to earn a little extra cash. He made **\$12.75**. Read Chitter's list of jobs (that his parents gave him permission to do). Check off four chores that add up to \$12.75.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> walk dog 75¢ | <input type="checkbox"/> shovel walk \$5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> clean out closet \$4.50 | <input type="checkbox"/> dust the house \$2.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> wash dishes \$1.25 | <input type="checkbox"/> water plants \$1.75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fold laundry \$2.50 | <input type="checkbox"/> vacuum \$3.25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> wash windows \$3.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> organize family CD/DVD collection \$4.25 |



Hint: You might need a pencil and paper or a calculator to help add up the money. There is more than one answer.

(Answers on page 10)

Minutes from the Pratt County Commission December 27, 2022

The Pratt County commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, December 27, 2022 at 9:30 a.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.

Tyson Eisenhauer, county counselor, please state your name and title when speaking,

Heather Morgan, economic development/covid consultant, gave a report of recent legislation which passed in Washington, D.C. that changed the way that large cities and the state can use their federal ARPA allocations. The state of Kansas cannot use some of their allocation for more purposes than currently allowed. This change does not impact Pratt County because of the size exemption already in place.

She also went into detail about how the state voted last week to divide their ARPA dollars into different buckets. Those buckets include connectivity, efficiency and modernization, health and education, and economic development. Under each of those buckets she explained the different opportunities for the county or other entities within the county to apply to state ARPA funds. The county will be looking at applying for funding for communications interoperability and possibly multiple other areas where the county could support others in ap-

plying including child care, businesses hiring people from out of state, aviation supply chain, and broadband expansion. She also updated the Commission on two applications pending at PAEDC for incentive consideration.

Jimmy White, Sheriff and Cameron Quick, lieutenant, presented the sheriff's office pay step program he is planning to implement January 2023. He presented raise slips for the Sheriff's employees effective January 8, 2023. They will be approved at the January 9, 2023 meeting. They discussed the availability

of mental health facilities in the area.

Commissioner Shriver made a motion to approve the hiring of Nicole Morgan full time in the county clerk's office at \$19.00 per hour. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Shriver made a motion to approve the 2023 public defender contract with Mandi Stephenson of Stephenson Law, monthly payments of \$3,250.37. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to ap-

prove the minutes from December 19, 2022 with a correction, the cost of the sign at the PSB should have been \$17,000 not \$7,000. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the payment vouchers for December 27, 2022. Commissioner Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Adams made a motion to adjourn at 10:14 a.m. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 10:14 a.m.



Wheat Industry Celebrates 10th Anniversary of the Kansas Wheat Innovation Center

Traditionally, the 10th anniversary is celebrated with a gift symbolizing the strength and resilience of a relationship. Those traits describe well the ties between Kansas wheat farmers and the public and private research partners that come together at the Kansas Wheat Innovation Center in Manhattan for the betterment of the wheat industry.

The halls of the Center were filled with cheer in mid-December as these partners celebrated the 10th anniversary of the state's single-largest, farmer investment in wheat research. The open house and holiday party also recognized the successful conclusion of the Fields Forward campaign supporting the Kansas Wheat Commission Research Foundation and unveiled a brand-new virtual tour of the facility.

"I don't think we could have imagined the relationships and the projects that would have resulted from the Kansas Wheat Innovation Center 10 years ago when the building just opened," said Aaron Harries, Kansas Wheat vice president of research and operations. "It's exciting to know that it's exceeded expectations, and we anticipate even bigger things in the next couple of decades."

The Kansas Wheat Innovation Center was built by the Kansas Wheat Commission, through the Kansas wheat checkoff, to get improved wheat varieties into the hands

of farmers faster at a time when private research in wheat was limited. The Center was built on land owned by Kansas State University; the Kansas Wheat Commission has a 50-year lease on the property.

Construction on the \$15 million Kansas Wheat Innovation Center began in October 2011, and the facility was completed in November 2012. An additional four greenhouse bays were completed in spring 2018. Today, the facility boasts more than 10,000 square feet of office space, 15,000 square feet of laboratory space and 23,000 square feet of greenhouse space.

"The Kansas Wheat Innovation Center is a great story," Harries said. "It's really from the ground up about how farmers were telling the board of directors they wanted more investment in wheat research because they see the tangible results of that from the new varieties that are released."

"The leadership of Kansas Wheat at that time really went out on a limb and decided to invest a large amount of producer dollars in the Kansas Wheat Innovation Center. Research was the main motivator, having a public face for the wheat organizations and the research that was being done. And it has just led to bigger and better projects."

The Kansas Wheat Innovation Center is home to public and private wheat breeding programs conducting cutting-edge research on advanced wheat breeding, end-use quality and ancient wheat relatives, in addition to consumer outreach. While each project has its individual aims, they have a unified goal — using advanced techniques in wheat research to improve yield and quality of new wheat varieties while shortening the time needed to

develop those varieties.

"In 20 years, or even in 10 years, from this anniversary, we'll be talking about how we're developing novel traits here in the Kansas Wheat Innovation Center, about wheat varieties that result from work in the center that are specialized with nutritional value or other features," Harries said.

There is no doubt the future of Kansas wheat has excellent support, especially as the 10th anniversary also celebrated

the successful conclusion of Fields Forward, the campaign for a sustainable wheat future by the Kansas Wheat Commission Research Foundation.

The KWCRW was established in 2011 as the official fundraising organization for the Kansas Wheat Commission. The Foundation works to raise private dollars to combine with public funds for the advancement of wheat research, including the accelerated

release of wheat varieties. The Fields Forward Campaign was launched in January 2019 and accepted many types of gifts to support wheat research, including cash, stock transfers, donations of grain and deferred gifts such as will bequests.

While the doors to the Kansas Wheat Innovation Center are open during regular business hours, anyone can take a virtual tour of the facility and its research projects anywhere at any time, thanks

to a new virtual tour unveiled during the open house. Check out what the partners at the Center have accomplished over the last 10 years and what they have planned for the decade ahead at <https://innovation.kswheat.com> or watch a video overview at <https://www.youtube.com/kansaswheat>.

Written by Julia Debes for Kansas Wheat

Public Notice

First published in the Cunningham Courier, Thursday, January 5, 2023 (3t).

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS CIVIL DEPARTMENT
Ditech Financial LLC
Plaintiff,
vs.
Jason Eric Hurt; Shawna Lou Hurt; Linda Hurt n/k/a Linda Zrubek, a/k/a Linda Mare Moore
Defendants.
Case No. 2019-CV-000003
Court Number:
Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 60

Notice Of Sale

Under and by virtue of an Order of Sale issued to me by the Clerk of the District Court of Kingman County, Kansas, the undersigned Sheriff of Kingman County, Kansas, will offer for sale at public auction and sell to the highest bidder for cash in hand, at the Front Door of the Courthouse at Kingman, Kingman County, Kansas, on January 26, 2023, at 10:00 AM, the following real estate:

TRACT I - A TRACT OF LAND IN THE SOUTH HALF (S/2) OF SECTION 10, TOWNSHIP 30 SOUTH, RANGE 7 WEST OF THE 6TH P.M., KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 10, TOWNSHIP 30 SOUTH, RANGE 7 WEST OF THE 6TH PM; THENCE NORTH ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID SOUTHEAST QUARTER 1353.06 FEET, THENCE WITH A DEFLECTION ANGLE 89 DEGREES 15 MINUTES 47 SECONDS RIGHT-NORTH 222.90 FEET FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE WITH A DEFLECTION ANGLE 89 DEGREES 54 MINUTES 44 SECONDS LEFT-WEST 361.71 FEET; THENCE WITH A DEFLECTION ANGLE 90 DEGREES 05 MINUTES 16 SECONDS

LEFT-SOUTH 361.28 FEET; THENCE WITH A DEFLECTION ANGLE 89 DEGREES 54 MINUTES 44 SECONDS LEFT-EAST 361.71 FEET; THENCE WITH A DEFLECTION ANGLE 90 DEGREES 05 MINUTES 16 SECONDS LEFT-NORTH 361.28 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

TOGETHER WITH AND SUBJECT TO A 30.00 FOOT WIDE EASEMENT FOR INGRESS-EGRESS AND UTILITY PURPOSES, SAID EASEMENT BEING DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE SE/4 OF SECTION 10-30S-7W OF THE 6TH P.M., THENCE NORTH ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID SOUTHEAST QUARTER 1353.06 FEET FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE WITH A DEFLECTION ANGLE 89 DEGREES 28'35" LEFT-WEST 2245.92 FEET; THENCE WITH A DEFLECTION ANGLE 2 DEGREES 49'44" RIGHT-WESTERLY 330.67 FEET; THENCE WITH A DEFLECTION ANGLE 86 DEGREES 15'47" RIGHT-NORTH 222.90 FEET; THENCE WITH A DEFLECTION ANGLE 89 DEGREES 54'44" LEFT-WEST 361.71 FEET; THENCE WITH A DEFLECTION ANGLE 89 DEGREES 54'44" RIGHT-SOUTH 224.75 FEET; THENCE WITH A DEFLECTION ANGLE 86 DEGREES 15'47" LEFT-EASTERLY 301.79 FEET; THENCE WITH A DEFLECTION ANGLE 2 DEGREES 49'44" LEFT-EASTERLY 2244.94 FEET TO THE EAST LINE OF SAID SOUTHEAST QUARTER; THENCE WITH A DEFLECTION ANGLE 89 DEGREES

28'35" RIGHT-SOUTH ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID SOUTHEAST QUARTER 30.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

TRACT II - A TRACT OF LAND IN THE SOUTH HALF (S/2) OF SECTION 10, TOWNSHIP 30 SOUTH, RANGE 7 WEST OF THE 6TH P.M., KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF TRACT II, SAID CORNER ALSO BEING THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF TRACT I; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 42 MINUTES 12 SECONDS WEST, ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID TRACT II, SAID SOUTH LINE ALSO BEING THE NORTH LINE OF TRACT I, A DISTANCE OF 361.71 FEET TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID TRACT II, SAID CORNER ALSO BEING THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID TRACT I; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 23 MINUTES 04 SECONDS WEST, ON THE WEST LINE OF SAID TRACT II, A DISTANCE OF 258.58 FEET TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID TRACT II; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 42 MINUTES 12 SECONDS EAST, ON THE NORTH LINE OF SAID TRACT II, A DISTANCE OF 361.71 FEET TO THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID TRACT II; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 23 MINUTES 04 SECONDS EAST, ON THE EAST LINE OF SAID TRACT II, A DISTANCE OF 258.58 FEET TO SAID POINT OF BEGINNING.

TOGETHER WITH AND SUBJECT TO A 30 FOOT WIDE EASEMENT FOR INGRESS-EGRESS AND UTILITY PURPOSES, SAID EASEMENT DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE SE/4 OF SECTION 10-

30S-7W OF THE 6TH PM, THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 00'00" WEST AN ASSUMED BEARING, ON THE EAST LINE OF SAID SE/4, A DISTANCE OF 1353.06 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 28'35" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 2245.92 FEET; THENCE NORTH 86 DEGREES 38'51" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 330.67 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 23'04" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 481.48 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 42'12" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 361.71 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 23'04" WEST, A DISTANCE OF 30.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 42'12" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 391.71 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 23'04" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 483.33 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 86 DEGREES 38'51" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 301.79 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 28'35" EAST, A DISTANCE OF 2244.94 FEET TO THE EAST LINE OF SAID SE/4; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 00'00" EAST ON SAID EAST LINE, A DISTANCE OF 30 FEET TO SAID POINT OF BEGINNING, commonly known as 2495 SE 137 St, Rago, KS 67142 (the "Property")

to satisfy the judgment in the above-entitled case. The sale is to be made without appraisal and subject to the redemption period as provided by law, and further subject to the approval of the Court. For more information, visit www.Southlaw.com
Randy L. Hill, Sheriff

Kingman County, Kansas
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(217039)

The Sheriff Deputy's column will return next week.

Save Valentine's Day With These Last-Minute Gift Ideas

(StatePoint) Valentine's Day is an age-old tradition, and it falls on the same day each year, but that doesn't necessarily mean you've planned ahead for

the occasion. The good news? There are more thoughtful ways to spontaneously express your love than ever before, thanks to new digital tools. In addition to the classic options, like flowers, you might consider treating your loved one to their favorite meal via a delivery service like Door

Dash or Uber Eats, or sending them a heartfelt, customized video greeting with SmashUps from americangreetings.com. If Valentine's Day catches you by surprise this year, fear not. These days, meaningful, creative gift options that can be delivered in hours, or even seconds, abound.

FLOWERS IN A FLASH
Whether you forgot about the holiday or want to be spontaneously romantic, stop by the local store to pick up a bouquet and make a surprise personal delivery. Or, if in-person delivery is not an option, most florists offer last-minute delivery in 4 hours or less!

SWEETS FOR YOUR SWEETIE
It's easy to make your Valentine's Day gesture a sweet one, as gifts like chocolates and cookies are plentiful (and often already wrapped) for the special day.

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS
You may score a last-minute reservation, but it's never too late to whip up their favorite meal and enjoy a candlelit dinner from home. Or surprise them with lunch via a delivery service, such as Door Dash or Uber Eats.

LAST-MINUTE MESSAGES
For Valentine's Day (or any special occasion), SmashUps by American Greetings has you covered with heartfelt and completely customized video greetings that can be created and sent in seconds!

Just visit the American Greetings app or website; select your favorite video greeting from a variety of options (even from celebrities); personalize it with your significant other's name; and instantly deliver it straight to their inbox or phone.



"Death, jewelry, or magic; it sounded like Valentine's Day."
— Laurell K. Hamilton, Blue Moon

"It was February sixth: eight days until Valentine's Day. I was dateless, as usual, deep in the vice grip of unrequited love. It was bad enough not having a boyfriend for New Year's Eve. Now I had to cope with Valentine datelessness, feeling consummate social pressure from every retailer in America who stuck hearts and cupids in their windows by January second to rub it in."
— Joan Bauer, Thwink

A COLUMN BY TOM PURCELL

Best 2023 Resolution? Get a Pet.

It was late December of 2020. COVID cabin fever was hitting me hard. As a writer and communications consultant, I've long worked from an office in my home.

I was used to working alone at home, but COVID isolation was pushing me beyond my limits.

Family issues were also weighing me down. My father, then 87, was facing a series of health challenges.

I was on guard day and night, waiting for a phone call to ask me to help get him off the floor because his legs were no longer able to hold him.

Isolation and stress — and constant worry about getting COVID and passing it on to my parents — were weighing me down.

My oldest sister, Kathy, offered what she thought was the perfect solution to my woes:

"You need to get a dog," she said matter-of-factly one day.

I've always loved dogs and routinely stop to pet any pup who crosses my path. And I still miss my

childhood puppy, Jingles, a sweet collie mix.

But I'd never considered bringing a canine companion into my home permanently.

I'm away from the house too often, I told myself. I don't want to leave a dog isolated in a crate. And I travel for work too often.

But the truth is, I didn't want the responsibility. I wanted to come and go and do as I pleased.

Luckily, I woke one morning sick and tired of the COVID isolation.

"I'm getting a dog," I said to myself.

I contacted local rescue shelters, assuming I'd have my pick of dogs that day. But many other people had decided to get rescue dogs during the pandemic, and, after six weeks of trying, no shelter had replied to my applications.

One Saturday, after I'd spent hours calling and emailing various places, I spotted an ad for Labrador puppies that were available in Punxsutawney. I thought it might be a scam, but it was legitimate.

I woke early the next day and made the 90-minute journey to pick out my puppy. Only nine days old, five of the pups had already been claimed. I had my pick of four boys.

The first three wanted nothing to do with me and thrashed about uneasily in my arms. But then I picked up the fourth and

he settled contentedly as though he'd found his perfect human.

He did. And I'd found my perfect pup.

Thurber turned 2 on Christmas Day, and throughout my 60 years, he's one of the very best decisions I ever made in my life.

I didn't realize how often I'd not been laughing until he came into my home. I still laugh out loud at least five times every day. (See some reasons why at ThurbersTail.com!)

I share this story for the simple reason that one of the best things any human being can ever do to benefit their mental and physical well-being is to get a pet.

The companionship, the exercise, the pure joy of having such a creature share life with you is incredibly beneficial. Several studies show this.

According to PsyPost, a recent study finds that dogs especially improve the health and physical activity of elderly dog parents.

Pets make us more empathetic and more civil toward each other.

And they certainly help us escape from the never-ending noise and stress of modern life and bring us a peace and calm that we badly need.

So as we wrap 2022 and head into 2023, here's one resolution that you should strongly consider: Get a pet!

Kingman County Humane Society Pets Ready for Adoption

Banjo

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Male Retriever, Yellow Labrador
49 pounds
10 months
Intake Date: December 5, 2022
Adoption Fee \$200
People friendly
Lab puppy personality! Loves everything and everyone! Eager to please and learn.

Banjo will be the life of the party and the love of your life.

"If there are no dogs in Heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went."
— Will Rogers

You or your business can sponsor a Humane Society pet for \$10.00 a week per pet. Fifty percent of the profits will be donated to the Humane Society.

Peaches & Cream

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Female Domestic Shorthair
8 pounds
10 months old
Adoption Fee \$40.00
Intake Date: September 13, 2022
We love peaches and we love cream....why settle for just one when you can have both!

Please consider volunteering or adopting or fostering or donating!

KCHS Donation Wish List



The pets at Kingman County Humane Society are in need of the following items:
13-gal. kitchen trash bags
dry cat and kitten food
clumping cat litter
canned dog food
Purina Puppy Chow
long-lasting chews

stainless steel flat-sided water buckets
paper towels
bleach
liquid laundry detergent
poop bag rolls
disposable gloves (large)
The items can be brought to KCHS at 811 East C Avenue in Kingman
Monetary donations can be sent to KCHS
P.O. Box 103
Kingman KS 67068

Swaney Veterinary Clinic
Stacie Swaney DVM
620-532-5544

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

The Family Budget

We set a goal. Then save for it.

Did you circle "W" for things a family might want and "N" for things a family needs to pay for?

1. clothes	W	N	12. magazines	W	N
2. furniture	W	N	13. food	W	N
3. new toy	W	N	14. water	W	N
4. amusement parks	W	N	15. dinner out	W	N
5. transportation	W	N	16. family phone	W	N
6. electricity	W	N	17. computer	W	N
7. newer furniture	W	N	18. candy	W	N
8. shelter	W	N	19. extra car	W	N
9. heat	W	N	20. cable T.V.	W	N
10. savings	W	N	21. video games	W	N
11. vacation	W	N	22. (pay) taxes	W	N

Every penny saved helps.

Cash Stash!

- walk dog 75¢
- clean out closet \$4.50
- wash dishes \$1.25
- fold laundry \$2.50
- wash windows \$3.00
- shovel walk \$5.00
- dust the house \$2.00
- water plants \$1.75
- vacuum \$3.25
- organize family CD/DVD collection \$4.25

There is more than one answer to this puzzle.

Every family has a budget!

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 January 9th

Recycle - Reduce - Reuse - Repurpose

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

Cunningham Auto Service
Complete Auto Care
Call Tom or Matt
620-298-2029
cunninghamautoserviceatgmail.com



Conrardy Seeds
Custom Seed Cleaning
7681 SW 80 Ave Kingman, KS
(620) 532-5508
AgriPro Alfalfa Seeds
"Wheat is Our Specialty"

NISLY BROTHERS, INC.



(620) 662-6561
Serving Cunningham Since 1993

C-1 Construction
620-532-4195
Soil Conservation Practices,
Site Grading, Pond Dam Restoration
- SOIL EROSION MEASURES -
Building Pads
GREG CONRARDY

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.

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Public Notice

First published in the Cunningham Courier, Thursday, December 29, 2022 (3t).

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS
NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing
Plaintiff,
vs.
Freda M Fisher, et al.,
Defendants.
Case No. 22CV27
Division
K.S.A. 60
Mortgage Foreclosure
(Title to Real Estate Involved)
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
Under and by virtue of an Order of Sale issued by the Clerk of the District Court in and for the said County of Kingman, State of Kansas, in a certain cause in said Court Numbered **22CV27**, wherein the parties above named were respectively plaintiff and defendant, and to me, the undersigned Sheriff of said County, directed, I will offer for sale at public auction and sell to the highest bidder for cash in hand at **10:00 am, on 1/26/23, at the front door of Kingman County Courthouse**, the following described real estate located in the County of Kingman, State of Kansas,

to wit:
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Respectfully Submitted,
By: /s/ Sara Pelikan_
Shawn Scharenborg, KS # 24542
Sara Pelikan, KS # 23624
Dustin Stiles, KS # 25152
Bryan Cardwell, KS # 21478
Bonial & Associates, P.C.
12400 Olive Blvd., Suite 555
St. Louis, MO 63141
Phone: 314-991-0255
Fax: 972-764-5752
Email(s): shawn.scharenborg@bonialpc.com; sara.pelikan@bonialpc.com
Attorney for Plaintiff
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Mike Schrant

Michael Joseph Schrant, 69, went to be with his Lord and Savior on December 15, 2022 after a valiant fight with brain cancer.

Michael was born on November 8th, 1953 in Great Bend, Kansas to Vernon and Armella (Wasinger) Schrant. As a child Mike was described as ornery, often being in trouble and having to go ride with his dad to do work to stay out of trouble. When he was extra ornery, he got sent to Grandpa and Grandma's house for a week. He was also the organizer of his siblings, always having a game plan for them. He attended Cunningham High School, and was a very involved student, and skilled athlete. He graduated in 1972 and went on to continue his education at Pratt Community College, and then earned his bachelor's degree in Education at Fort Hays State University. Education was very important to Mike, and he eventually went on to get two master's degrees, one at Fort State Hays State and the other at Newman University. Mike started his teaching career at Eskridge, Kansas and that is where he met the love of his life, Adel. They were married on June 7, 1980. To this union were born 3 amazing boys, William "Bill," James "Jim," and Matthew "Matt." Mike's wife, children, and family were his top priority. He showed them love and dedication until his last days. His career and service to others was also important to him. Throughout his life he served others in many roles-teacher, administrator, journalist, etc.

Perhaps Mike's greatest joy in life was seeing and spending time with his 8 grandchildren: Jordan, James, Ember, Addison, Jacob, John Jon, Hunter, and Eli. He left an impact on everybody he came into contact with, and while he will be missed terribly, his legacy will live on through his children and grandchildren.

Mike was preceded in death by his mother, Armella. He is survived by his father, Vernon Schrant of Anthony, KS; wife, Adel Schrant of Sylvan Grove, KS; sons, Bill (Tasha) Schrant of Wichita, Jim (Chelsea) Schrant of Tonganoxie, KS, Matt (Savannah) Schrant of Arkansas City, KS; grandchildren, Jordan, James, Ember, Addison, Jacob, John Jon, Hunter, and Eli. He is also survived by his siblings, Terry (Pam) Schrant, Tim (Lisa) Schrant, Debbie (George) Barnes, both of Wichita, KS, Sue (Brian) Meyer of Winfield, KS, Sandy Schrant of Wichita, Patrick (Kimberly) Schrant of Harper, KS, Tom (Tanja) Schrant of Wichita, KS, and Kelly (Rebecca) Schrant of Columbus, NE.

Services to celebrate Mike's life took place Thursday, December 22, 2022 at Countryside Christian Church in Wichita, Kansas.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Sylvan Senior Center at the Bennington State Bank in Sylvan Grove, Kansas-102 N Main St, Sylvan Grove, KS 67481.

Share tributes online at: www.dlwichita.com

Ronald Hillard

Ronald Vernon Hillard, 70, passed away Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at Wesley Medical Center. He was born on April 23, 1952 in Pratt to Vernon Charlie and Reva Ruth (Rezeau) Hillard. Ronald married Lynn Sue (Goertz) Hillard on October 27, 1984 in Trousdale. They were married for 38 years.

Ronald attended Pratt High School. He went on to attend Northwest Kansas Area Vocational Technical School in Goodland where he received his automotive and diesel technician certificates. He worked for as a diesel technician for Case IH and previously BTI-Bucklin. He was a member of First Christian Church and Pratt Elks Club. He enjoyed firearms, hunting, gunsmithing, locksmithing and anyway to get his hands dirty.

He is survived by his wife, Lynn of Pratt and brother, Randy (Christy) Hillard of Wichita.

Ronald is preceded in death by his parents. Cremation has taken place. Friends may sign the book Sunday, January 8, 2023, from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt. A memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Monday, January 9, 2023 at Larrison Mortuary, Pratt with Jan Blasi presiding.

Memorials may be made to the Kidney Foundation or American Diabetes Association in care of Larrison Mortuary.

Tammy Rohlman

Tammy Lynn Rohlman, 51, died Dec. 29, 2022.

She was born June 25, 1971, at Cleveland, Ohio. A Kingman resident since 2014, previously of Wichita, she was a former Avionic Crew Chief for Cessna Aircraft and also worked for K-Town Liquor.

On Oct. 27, 2000, she married Duane Rohlman. Other survivors include a son Cody Webb and his wife Lucy; daughter Tori Carmine and her husband Tyler; mother Bobbie Hendrix; step-son Ryan Rohlman; brothers Tony and Kevin Dykstra; and 5 grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son Zachary Webb.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

Memorials may be made with the Kingman County Humane Society.



Shirley Adamson

Shirley Lou Adamson, 78, of Hutchinson, died November 10, 2022, at Hospice House. She was born May 2, 1944, in Cunningham, to Charles and Ethel Benson.

Shirley graduated from Cunningham High School and went on to complete her training as a CNA. She worked as a CNA for many years and was a caretaker by nature. Shirley truly loved and cared for her patients. She also enjoyed, drawing, crafting, and reading. Shirley loved to fish and camp and her family remembers many fond trips to do so. More than anything, she loved to be with her family, especially at Christmas.

In 1962, Shirley married Charles Adamson, in Cunningham. They shared 44 years of marriage before he passed away in 2006.

She is survived by: son, Charles Adamson, Medicine Lodge; daughters, Helen Houghan, Caroline Adamson, Joy Martinez, all of Hutchinson; grandchildren, John, Victoria, Braedon, Joshua, Chelsea, Lauren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

Shirley was preceded in death by: her parents; husband; a sister; and three brothers.

Cremation has taken place. The family will announce plans for a celebration of life at a later date.

Arrangements made with Elliott Mortuary, 1219 N. Main, Hutchinson, KS 67501.



Gina Anderson

Gina Danelle Anderson, 60, passed away Friday, December 30, 2022. She was born on July 13, 1962 in Des Moines, Iowa to Cleve Bobst Lesh and Marthanna Rae (Stumph) Cunningham.

Gina enjoyed cooking, gardening and crafting and loved rock and roll music and her animals, especially her cat, Luna.

She is survived by her children, Lindsay (Matt) Jones of Longmont, Colorado, Kyle (Anna) Crump of Virginia and Jacob (Alexandria) Anderson of Northglenn, Colorado; and grandchildren, Kyler Crump, James Jones, Owen Jones, Laila Crump, Paislee Jones, Penny Jones, Theodore Anderson, Jeremiah Anderson and Jameson Anderson.

Gina is preceded in death by her parents; sons, Eric Crump and Christopher Buzzard; brothers, Scott Lesh and Todd Lesh; and sister, Lelani Lesh.

Cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to Pratt Area Humane Society in care of Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt.



Virginia Steele

Virginia K. (Jarmer) Steele passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2022. She was born to Joe and Bertha (Werner) Jarmer and grew up in Zenda, Kansas. Virginia graduated from Zenda High School as Valedictorian and attended Sacred Heart College in Wichita. In 1960 she married Jack Glenn Steele. Throughout her life, Virginia was known for her vibrant personality, kind heart and love of her family. She served as a La Leche League Leader for more than 50 years and designed the E-Z Baby Tote, a popular infant carrier. Starting in 1977, Virginia worked alongside Jack at Mail Marketing Plus, Inc., a family business that became a national direct marketing company for almost 40 years.

Preceded in death by her parents and sister, Lu Ann Pankratz. Survived by husband, children: Linda (Mike) Thom, Janet (Dwain) Parker, Eric Steele, Valerie (Michael) Ma, Sarah (Jason) Steele; grandchildren: Alaina, Nathan (Haleigh), Joseph, Ella, Trent, Garrett, Alexandra, Harrison, Sam, Maleiha, Madeleine, Amani; step-grandchildren: Malissa, Matthew; great-grandchildren: Mia, Jade, Ariana, Ronan, Charlotte, Palmer; sister: Jo Zane.

Rosary will be held on Saturday, Feb. 4 at 9:30 a.m. at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 124 N Roosevelt, Wichita, KS. Funeral Mass will follow at 10 a.m. Burial will be at Ascension Cemetery, 7200 E 45th St N, Bel Aire, KS.

In lieu of flowers, memorials to Kansans for Life, 3301 W. 13th St., Wichita 67203 or A Better Choice, 3007 E. Central, Wichita 67214 would be appreciated.

Rhonda Monaghan

Pratt - Rhonda Gayle Monaghan, 70, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at her home surrounded by family. She was born on April 24, 1952 in Pratt to Ronald and Jo (Rogers) Hoener. Rhonda married Marvin Monaghan on March 24, 2018 in Pratt. They were married for 4 years.

Rhonda graduated from Pratt High School in 1970. She and Marvin attended Pratt Friends Church and volunteered by delivering meals for the Pratt Senior Center. She enjoyed collecting jewelry and knick knacks, attending craft fairs, auctions and estate sales and traveling.

She is survived by her husband, Marvin; daughters, Dawn Jantz of Hillsboro, Jacki (Seth) Beck of Plevna and Joleen Monaghan of Aztec, New Mexico; mother, Jo Hoener of Pratt; brothers, Brent (Bev Hollowell) Hoener of Pratt and Todd Hoener of Iuka; grandchildren, Clayton Jantz, Dakota Parkhurst, Jenaka Parkhurst, Chance Monaghan. Ethan Beck and Jake Beck.

Rhonda is preceded in death by her father, Ronald Eugene Hoener.

Cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, January 6, 2023 at Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt with Pastor Mike Niefert presiding. Inurnment will follow at Greenlawn Cemetery, Pratt.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Childrens Hospital in care of Larrison Mortuary.

Shining Light on Fall Prevention in Nursing Homes

(StatePoint) Falls are the leading cause of injury-related death in U.S. adults aged 65 or older, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The economic impact of falls is immense, with fatal falls estimated to cost \$754 million and nonfatal falls \$50 billion annually. As the aging population enters long-term care facilities, fall prevention will become an increasingly important public health priority. The good news is a novel approach has recently come to light.

A first-of-its-kind, two-year study conducted by investigators at Brigham and Women's Hospital's Division of Sleep and Circadian Disorders—a division of Harvard University—and the Midwest Lighting Institute (MLI) found that dynamic, tunable lighting systems, when implemented at long-term care facilities, reduced falls by 43% compared to facilities that retained traditional lighting. The

study focused on the positive effects of lighting on alertness, cognitive function, and sleep and how this affects fall risk.

For people who seldom get outside to experience daylight, such as older adults living in nursing homes, the body's natural sleep-wake cycle is disrupted. While this disruption can cause dangerous falls leading to injuries and worse, the results of this study show how institutional settings can implement lighting changes to their environment to make it safer for both residents and workers.

"The lighting we used in the study implemented specific spectrum and intensity levels timed to regularize sleep-wake cycles and boost the daytime alerting effects of light," says Brian Liebel, director of research at MLI, the non-profit organization that designed the study as part of its mission to improve lives by putting existing scientific findings about light into real-world practice. "When residents experience improved alertness and cognitive function during the day and better sleep at night, it not

only improves their well-being, but also improves the working conditions for staff."

The system was installed in several long-term care facilities with goals of maximizing the home-like environment and helping residents, especially dementia patients, with "sundowning," which is the increased confusion, exit seeking, anxiety and verbal/physical aggression many experience in the afternoon and evening.

"There was just a general calmness at 6 p.m. with the lights dimmed, noticeably different as soon as it was installed," says Jennifer Nelson, dietary aide at Maple Ridge Care Center in Wisconsin. She noticed a tremendous difference in terms of behaviors such as exit seeking and anxiety, especially among dementia patients.

Current strategies to reduce falls typically include complex, multi-component interventions requiring significant resources, staff time and resident education. The study's promising results, published in the "Journal of the American Medical Directors Association,"

provide a noninvasive and relatively inexpensive method for lowering the risk of falls in nursing homes and long-term care facilities.

"What we know now is that modern lighting technology can promote the body's health and overall well-being, resulting in a decreased risk of falls among seniors," says Rodney Heller, president of MLI. "We believe these findings could pave the way for improving the health outcomes of those not only in nursing homes and long-term care facilities, but also in schools, hospitals, office buildings and in industrial environments with 24-hour shifts."

To learn more about this patented lighting system and how to get it installed in your institution, contact bliebel@midwestlightinginstitute.org.

In the years ahead, fall prevention will become an increasingly important public health priority. The good news is that we have a solution to reducing falls and it has enormous potential to improve well-being and save lives.

