

The Cunningham Courier

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photo by Teresa McClendon

May 7, 2026
Volume 36 Number 19

Kingman County Commission Minutes

Chairwoman Lyon called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. April 27, 2026, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse. Present: Julie Lyon, Chairwoman; Jack Thimesch, Commissioner; Jeff Young, Commissioner; Carol Noblit, County Clerk

Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor
Visitors: Dale Enyart; Bob Morris, Kingman Leader-Courier; Shae Brooks, Kingman Fire Chief

Online Visitors: DH; Jack Sparrow; Buffy; Caller 01; CA; AS

Staff: Mendy Frampton, Kingman Expo Center Director; Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse; Tiffany Aumiller, Benefits Administrator; Jamie Smith, County Treasurer; Misty Jacobs, Public Works Office Assistant; Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director.

Chairwoman Lyon asked if there were any additions to the agenda.

Chairwoman Lyon would like to add an atty-client privilege executive session; Commissioner Thimesch would like to add comments during Commissioner comments.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the agenda with the addition of an atty-client privilege executive session and comments during Commissioner Comments. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Chairwoman Lyon asked for public comments.

Mendy Frampton, Kingman Expo Center Director was in with updates for the Commissioners.

Ms. Frampton discussed that a bull damaged a gate and had to have it repaired and a door had been damaged by a vehicle backing into it.

Ms. Frampton discussed having large fans installed in the indoor arena to help with air flow.

Ms. Frampton let the Commissioners know that the truck is having a starting issue. She took it to A-1 Auto and they said that there is an issue with the module in the fuel pump causing the starting issue.

MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to have the module in the fuel pump fixed for the truck. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Ms. Frampton discussed an upcoming meeting with Hometown Grants about applying for a grant for the outdoor barn.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk submitted the April 20, 2026, Commission

meeting minutes for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve April 20, 2026, Commission meeting minutes with the one correction. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session at 9:00 a.m. with Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse; LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss individual employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:05 a.m. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with 3-0 vote.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:05 a.m. with no action taken.

MOTION: Chairwoman Lyon to approve with activity #6 for the Health Department Grant.. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 2 for (Lyon, Young) and 1 against (Thimesch).

Commissioner Thimesch discussed the Spivey City meeting about the Fire District.

Shae Brooks, Kingman Fire Chief discussed the process to have a Fire District created.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session at 9:17 a.m. with Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss pending administrative proceedings pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:32 a.m. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:32 a.m. with no action taken.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session at 9:32 a.m. with Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss pending administrative proceedings pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:37 a.m. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:37 a.m. with no action taken.

Tiffany Aumiller, Benefits Administrator was in with two vacation extensions and one vacation payout for the Commissioner's approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve two vacation extension forms. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to approve a vacation payout form as presented. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to approve the change of status form received for part-time to full-time. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Jamie Smith, Health Nurse was in to let the Commissioners know that the second half of taxes are due by May 11th as May 10th is on the weekend.

Ms. Smith discussed Professional Office Services.

Ms. Smith asked the Commissioners if they were okay with the attorney fees being raised from \$150.00 to \$250.00.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session at 9:55 a.m. with Jamie Smith, County Treasurer and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss individual employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 10:04 a.m. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with 3-0 vote.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 10:04 a.m. with no action taken.

MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to approve a new-hire employee status sheet for a new part-time employee. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Misty Jacobs, Public Works Office

Assistant and Jamie Smith, County Treasurer were in to discuss the Personnel Policy #38 Safety Committee Policy for approval.

MOTION: Chairwoman Lyon moved to approve the updated Safety Committee Policy #38 for the Employee Personnel Manual. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in and the Commissioners asked him about the shavings from the Expo Center.

Commissioners decided that the shavings will go to the Harbert land that it usually goes to for disposal.

Mr. Arensdorf submitted two agreements between Kingman County and Kirkham Michael for the design and engineering of the road damage

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the design and construction contracts for Kirkham Michael. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Commissioner Thimesch gave an update on the City Meeting that he attended last week to talk about the Armory heating and air with Gerit from OSE online to help explain the remodel.

Commissioner Young discussed property next to The Outpost and that is overgrown and vehicles.

Chairwoman Lyon gave an update on the classes attended last week in Topeka.

Commissioner Thimesch discussed the ROZ (Rural Opportunity Zone) program and that the state is ending the program in June 2026 with no new applications accepted after that date.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 10:34 a.m. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

BOE Will Meet Monday Night

AGENDA Regular Meeting
Monday, May 11, 2026 7:00 p.m.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Agenda (AI)
- III. Guest Recognition
- IV. Approval of the minutes of the April 6, 2026 regular meeting. (AI)
- V. Approval of financial reports and payment of bills. (AI)
- VI. Architect Bid review and Next steps
 - a. Access Road discussion and action
- VII. Reports
 - a. Superintendent Report – Dr. Arnberger
 - b. Principal Report- Mr. Dunlap
 - c. Special Education Report -Abby Bock
- VIII. New Business
 - a. Executive session for personnel
 - b. Approve Positions (AI)
 - c. Executive session for negotiations
 - d. Approval of certified and supplemental renewals
- IX. Adjournment

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YOUR
BEST?

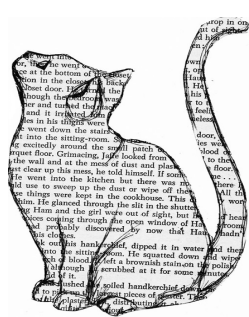
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Meanderings

'The Column on the Back Burner' is still on the back burner.

Interesting events in our home in the last week. I suppose for those who enjoy my pet stories, this is for you.

If you find those pet stories annoying, it's not for you.

Ned is writing the column this week.

Unbeknownst to this Lady of the mansion, the Cat Cabal of Kobbe Café and Cabana for Cats and Canines had a secret meeting. I am sure even Quin, the dog, wasn't invited. I can tell you this, though, I was born on a Saturday, but it wasn't last Saturday. I knew something was afoot (apaw?). And this is how I can see it played out.

I believe the cabal is led by Annoying Ned Nedlander. He's a sneaky old thing and loud and obnoxious.

The idea came to him with the adoption of the Diva Gloria Gaynor the Goddess and, no doubt, my complaining about

the cost of another cat.

Ned: "Hey, Cat Comrades, The Lady is soon to be coming into a bit of money and a great deal of time. She will squander that money on things like taxes and home improvements and her time will be squandered on things like card making and reading. We have to do something.

"I've come up with a plan," he continued.

"Her favorite no-problem cat is Marlon Brando. So, Brando, you have to come up with a health issue. Maybe get in a huge fight with gangster-wannabe Dusty Bottoms. That should cause some issues with sores in your mouth. Don't eat, don't drink. Sleep all day curled up in a ball. She'll figure it out. Vet visit will ensue. Give her lots of trouble when she wants to crate you. Run her around the house chasing you with the crate. Make her work for that vet visit. You'll have to have some blood work done, some steroids, antibiotics, but you'll feel like a new cat after the visit.

"Now, Eddie Fisher, wait a couple of days, and then you are going to have to have issues as well because you are old – really old. "Yeah, I know Peter is

old as well, but he's in great physical shape, and you are already a skanky, skinny, sickly-looking cat, so you are going to have to take one for the team. Develop a respiratory something or other. Wheeze, cough, snuffle, rale, rasp, whatever. The grosser the better. And wait until Saturday night. She'll lose sleep because she will feel guilty for having to wait until Monday to get you to the vet.

"Once she gets you to the vet, be sure Stacie sees that broken front tooth and that one at the back that isn't looking too healthy. And be sure to tell her you think a little blood work is in order to test for that hyperthyroid we all know you have. Yea, we all hate blood work, but it's got to be done. You will most likely be given some antibiotics and some meds for that thyroid issue. Those meds are really expensive, too. You'll come out having spent the most of her money.

"Hey, Dusty Bottoms, I got one for you that you might just like. Stay out all night. Just disappear around dinner time and go AWOL for 24 hours. She'll haul your galivanting bones to the vet for vaccines and dewormer. No big deal.

"Okay, I know, I

know, Lucky Day. I'll have to take a hit, too. "I'm thinking I could try and hurdle that stupid barrier of pet gates she has set up on the steps to the basement. I've been getting by it for some time now. I know she doesn't want me to go down the stairs, but there at the bottom, in front of the basement door, is great place to pee. I'll trip on that barrier and injure my back leg.

"Oh, I'm well aware that she'll make me wait to go to the vet. She doesn't trust me very much. She will say in her prissy schoolteacher voice, 'I've told you a million times, Ned, you are not to go down those stairs.' "She always exaggerates. She's probably only told me a bit more than 100 times to stay away from the basement. She's so dramatic.

"I had to laugh the last time she took me to the vet. Just because I peed on her bed. All that money on blood work and urine analyzes to find out I'm 100% healthy, I'm just a jerk. Ha! Still makes me laugh out loud.

"One-Bullet Barney, you are going to have to have some issues. Cry so much you lose your voice. Tell The Lady you want to be outside. During the night, say about 2 a.m., clamor out-

side the bedroom door. Rattle it a bunch, thump on it. Whatever wakes her. Keep up the pathetic crying about how unfair it is you can't be outside all night long. You are the one she is going to be most disgusted with.

"And anycat who can wake the dog during the night, tell him there's something outside. He will wake The Lady to 'potty'. She will really be mad about that one. Don't tell him our plan, he won't wake her if he knows there's nothing out there.

"I don't think we can include that weirdo, Luther Heggs. He's too unreliable. "Mr. Chicken" is the perfect

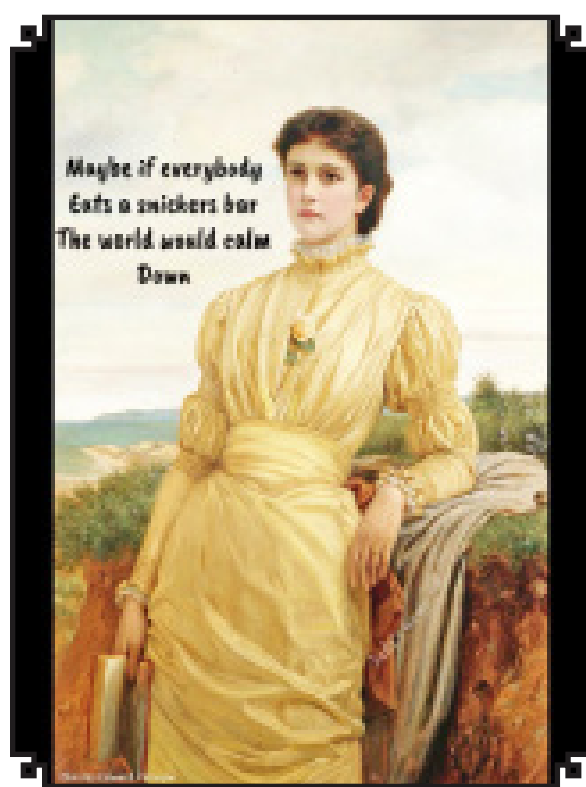
name for him. He's afraid of everything, even The Lady. What a weirdo.

"Those are all the plans I have right now. This will take up a lot of her time. She'll have to burn money on gas, she'll have to burn money on us at the vet clinic. Yep, maybe she should keep working so we are kept in the litter, treats, toys and food we deserve. She'll learn. Meeting over. Go about your injuries and illnesses." Always reading,

and currently trying to read,

What Time the Sexton's Spade Doth Rust"

by Alan Bradley, Roberta



Tallgrass and Tumbleweeds by Gaille Pike

Dear Readers, The burning season is pretty much over around these parts though occasionally one can see isolated pillars of smoke on the horizon or catch a whiff of burning prairie drifting down the road. My road is gravel and sparsely populated but don't let that fool you. It is a designated emergency route, too. A rural main artery used by police and firemen to traverse the county in times of need.

And it never fails that a couple of times each Spring it seems like every fire truck within a twenty-mile radius comes tearing down that road, lights flashing and sirens blaring, heading to extinguish a "controlled burn" that is out of control.

This happens more than people think. It is the nature of fire. Fire does not like to be "controlled" in any way and will bust loose at the slightest opportunity. Not too long ago I drove by a team of landowners getting ready for their prescribed burn. They were well outfitted with burning wands, ATVS carrying water

tanks, etc. And I rolled down the window and jokingly asked "You guys got this?" They laughed and basically told me it wasn't their first rodeo. It wasn't an hour later that a convoy of firefighters came wailing down my road. It may not have been their first rodeo but it was quite possibly their worst because though they intended to burn about 160 acres they ended up burning 6000. Now, compared to the fact that over 2 million acres are burned in the Flint Hills yearly 6000 acres might not sound like much. But to those folks whose 5,480 acres

were torched unexpectedly I'm sure it seemed like a lot. Thankfully, not a building or any livestock were lost but fence posts sustained serious casualties.

So it is with that in mind that this year when it was time to do my own meager burning, I approached it with a mix of trepidation and, well heck, fear. The reason is because due to weather and wind I had not been able to burn for over two years. And parts of the place were looking pretty shaggy, like an overdue haircut, especially around the pond. You know it's bad when you sit on

your porch and you can't even see the water for the growth along the banks. And it wasn't just tall grass and weeds. Little trees had discovered this was a great place to flourish as well.

I had waited and waited for the perfect day all Spring but if the place wasn't soaked to the point of being unburnable the wind made any ignition on my part impossible. But then the perfect conditions arose—a mild Southeast wind and recently dampened surrounding fields. So the burning began. And it was as uneventful as I hoped it would be. The

combustible grasses and plants crackled and followed their own path and fizzled out when they hit anything green, leaving behind that lovely black wake of renewable soil. Yet I still stayed up late into the night watching to see if any of the smoldering remains would reignite themselves, ravage the countryside and send that fleet of fire trucks down my road, bells ringing, tolling for me.

Keep your eyes on the stars and your back to the wind.



No Funny Stuff – True Crime in the Air

"Miss, I have a bomb in my briefcase. I want \$200,000 by 5p.m. in cash put in a knapsack. I want two back parachutes and two front

parachutes. When we land, I want a fuel truck ready to refuel. No funny stuff or I'll do the job." D. B. Cooper

Not long ago I had the opportunity to visit with one of the more colorful members of our family, intrepid Uncle Hilmer. Uncle Hilmer is an amazing guy. A mechanical genius, he can fix or build anything. Whether you need your tractor serviced, your truck repaired, or your barn rebuilt, Hilmer is your guy. He is like Leonardo da Vinci with a wrench and hammer. One of the best people to

walk this planet, Hilmer is a good person to know. And Uncle Hilmer has had some adventures.

During the course of our recent conversation, Hilmer gave me a recommendation of a good book relating to a true crime story we both find interesting, the D.B. Cooper case. This is the only unsolved skyjacking in American history, where the perpetrator parachuted out of a Boeing 727 jetliner somewhere over Washington state with \$200,000 cash and vanished into thin air. It seems Uncle Hilmer's interest in the case was peaked when, in the course of some of his cross-country trucking exploits, prowling the Pacific Northwest, he had reason to pass through the small town of Cle Elum, Washington, the epicenter of this fascinating story. D. B. Cooper and the aviation crime of the century are still talked about there in every diner, dive bar, and convenience store gas station.

There has always been speculation that Cooper may not have survived his jump, leaving money behind. Believing that there might still be parachute remains and a pile of cash lost in the woods, Hilmer's plan

was to return and search. And as a former Army Ranger, airborne qualified with plenty of experience jumping out of airplanes, he thought he might know just where to look. As fate would have it, Hilmer never made it back to search for D.B. Cooper's cash, but he was right about some of the money still being in the woods. Several years ago, some weathered bundles of \$20 bills were found in the sand along the banks of the Columbia River. According to the serial numbers, these were part of Cooper's cash.

For those unfamiliar with the gist of this story, here are the basics. On the evening of November 24, 1971, the night before Thanksgiving, a man boarded a Northwest Orient Airlines flight leaving Portland headed to Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. The man was described as being in his mid-40s with dark hair and an olive complexion. He was dressed in a dark business suit and raincoat, wearing loafers and a clip-on tie that he later left on the plane. He wore sunglasses for much of the flight. The man purchased his ticket under the name Dan Cooper, but an early wire-service report

misidentified him as D. B. Cooper and the name stuck.

Cooper sat in the back of the plane and soon handed one of the flight attendants a note, telling her he had a bomb and asking her to sit beside him. Opening his briefcase, he displayed what appeared to be a bomb, and dictated his request, demanding \$200,000 in cash along with four parachutes. His demands were granted when the plane landed at Sea-Tac Airport, where he released 36 passengers and two flight attendants.

The plane took off again, headed towards Reno, Nevada. Somewhere over southwestern Washington, Cooper lowered the aircraft's rear stairs and jumped into a freezing rainstorm, vanishing without a trace.

Since that fateful night, the D. B. Cooper case has continued to garner interest. And it has, until recently perhaps, remained unsolved. While numerous unsavory suspects have emerged over the years, one recent development appears to have merit. Enter Carl Laurin – he recently wrote a book – D. B. Cooper & Me. This is the book that Hilmer recommended to me, and it was a fascinating read.

In the book, Laurin

makes the case that his good friend, Walt Peca, was in real life the one and only skyjacker D. B. Cooper. As a former Army paratrooper and later a stunt parachutist, enforcer for Jimmy Hoffa and the Teamsters Union, contractor for the CIA and other paramilitary organizations, and more, Walt Peca was capable of almost anything. He spoke nine languages (Polish, Russian, Ukrainian, German, Filipino, Thai, Farsi, Indonesian, and Arabic) and traveled the world doing dangerous work. As lifelong members of a motley crew of daredevil misfits, the Michigan Parachute Club, Carl Laurin and Walt Peca became close friends.

Over the course of many years Laurin extracted the details of this crime, finally obtaining a confession and collaborating facts at the end of Peca's life. It is a fascinating story.

Has the mystery of D. B. Cooper finally been solved? I think it has. Read the book and decide for yourself. Happy reading...

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Community Bulletin Board

Thursday, May 7 9:00 a.m. 4th Grade Wax Museum Program	Wednesday, May 20 Shop Guild
Friday, May 8 HS Track at Bucklin *** Graduation Practice	Thursday, May 21 Regional HS Track Meet
Saturday, May 9 2:00 p.m. Graduation	Tuesday May 26 State FAA Convention
Monday, May 11 7:00 p.m. BOE Meeting	Wednesday May 27 State FFA Convention
Tuesday, May 12 K-8 Awards ceremony *** 8th grade promotion *** Play Day	Thursday, May 28 State FFA Convention
Thursday, May 14 JH/HS League Track Meet at Norwich: No School	Friday, May 29 State FFA Convention *** HS State Track Meet at Wichita State University
Friday, May 15 Last Day of School Early dismissal at 11:30 a.m	Monday, June 1 Weights Class Begins *** Morgan Meyers BB Camp *** HS VB open gym
Monday, May 18 Drivers' Education Begins	
Tuesday, May 19 Lions Club	



And Just Like That... 50 Years Have Passed



The Bicenennial class of CHS met for a 50-year reunion. The day started with lunch at Daydrinkers Café, and then a bit of shopping downtown, and what's a class reunion without a tour of the Cunningham Historical Museum and the Cunningham High School? The evening found them dining at Cozy's Pizza.

The class graduated 31 students. Twenty-one graduates and a couple of former classmates attended the day's events.

Pictured above standing left to right: Mark Schnittker, Curt Shelman, Peggy (Cain) Halderson, Tim Renner, Debbie (Crick) Carey, Brooks Mantooth, Donna (Theis) Simon, Brian Schnittker, Tom Renner, Teresa (Deviney) Schnittker, Scott Elliot, Connie (Armstrong) Adelhardt, Linda Schwartz, Kendall Rohr, Molly (Fischer) Newman, John Huffman, Gene Parsons, Gene Panek, in the front is Melodie (Graves) Riggs.

Graduates who attended but are not in the photo: Lee Stillwell, Kathy (Kamplung) Griffis, and Mary (Vierthaler) Albers.

Classmates who have passed away were remembered as well: Greg DeWeese, Greg Kitson, Kris Osborn, and Trish (Eskew) Jarmer

Those who were unable to attend: Jan (Fischer) Goertz, Connie (Heflin) Squires, Patty (Holcomb) Burnett, Mike Reif, Denise Watkins, and Kenny Simon.

"At the time we're stuck in it, like hostages locked in a Turkish bath, high school seems the most serious business in the world to just about all of us. It's not until the second or third class reunion that we start realizing how absurd the whole thing was."
— Stephen King, *On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft*

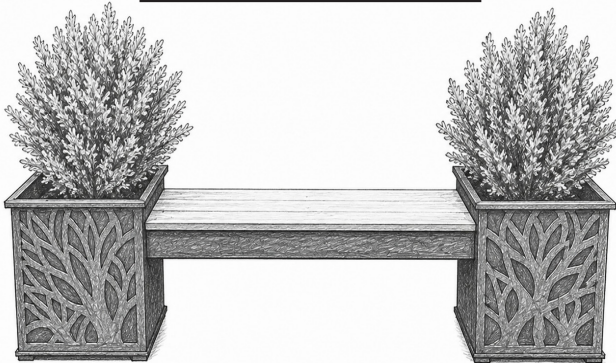
2026 SCCF \$250 Teachers' Grant Cycle Open

South Central Community Foundation is excited to announce the \$250 Teacher's Grants are now open and accepting applications until June 30th.

This grant is available to K-12 Classroom Teachers in Barber, Comanche, Kingman, Kiowa, Pratt, Rice, or Stafford County. This grant is for \$250 for any classroom need, including but not limited to classroom books, calculators, science experiments, or STEM supplies. Recipients will be announced in early August to allow teachers to best plan their school budgets.

All other SCCF grant opportunities including the \$5,000 Children's Health Grants, Community Grants, and other county specific opportunities will be open from June 1st to August 31st, with recipients being notified by mid October.

For more information or to apply, please visit our website at sccfks.org or contact Program Director, Hannah Brummer, at hannah@sccfks.org.



Legacy in Action: Main Street Bench Planters Honor a Loved One • Beautify Main Street • Leave a Legacy

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Bench planters are available for purchase in memory of a loved one or as a meaningful tribute from families or businesses. Similar to the commemorative lamp posts found throughout Dafforn and Lions Parks, each piece becomes a lasting part of our town's history.

You can view a sample bench planter in front of Cozy's Pizza.

Quantities are limited, and to keep costs affordable, orders must be placed by May 31st.

To learn more or reserve yours, please contact Casey Renner at 913-244-8612 today.

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Saturday, May 9 - Consignment Auction at Hamm Auction Center

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

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May 8 and 9
The Sheep
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We ALWAYS need photos for the paper!!

Libraries

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

Zenda Public Library
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Thursday:
4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday:
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
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Kingman Carnegie Library
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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
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Saturday: 10:00 - 2:00
Closed on Sundays
(620) 672-3041

*A Column
by
Dean Marple*

Mom

Alexandria was a highly successful attorney, recognized as one of the most skillful litigators in her field. On the wall behind her desk, a diploma from Harvard Law School announced to the world that she was a force not to be taken lightly.

Jake was not impressed.

Men who entered her office noticed the two-carat diamond on the

fourth finger of her left hand, while women noticed the custom-made Jimmy Choo shoes on her feet. Once a year, Alexandria flew to London just to shoe shop.

Two-month-old Jake was not impressed by the nameplate on her office door, the one that spelled out her name in two-inch-high, gold-plated numbers. He just knew her as the lady that took him in her arms at night and breastfed him as she softly sang lullabies to him.

Unlike Alexandria, Hannah worked in a more physical world where there was farm machin-

ery to operate. Hannah could handle the big and brawny John Deere tractor just as easily as she harvested corn with a Deere S7 combine. Her light touch on the combine's computerized controls was actually a little better than her husband's more heavy-handed approach.

Olivia was not impressed.

This time of year, Hannah's outfit consisted of scuffed work boots, old blue jeans and a faded Kansas State sweatshirt. Tromping through the mud and manure in the feedlot with chores to be done, she was no-non-

sense and all business.

Three-year-old Olivia was not impressed with Hannah's ability to slog through the mud and get things done. She just knew Hannah's was the side of the bed she could run to at night when flashing lightning and roaring winds scared her.

While Hannah handled mud and cows, Madison dealt with teenagers. Today she was hustling down the school hallway with geometry problems she wanted to post on her classroom's smart board before her students arrived. While Mrs. M, as she was known to her students,

could easily solve these problems in her head, she knew it would take patient explanations and time to lead her students through the problems.

Crystal was not impressed.

Popular with her students, Mrs. M was in constant contact with them both inside and outside of the classroom. It was not unheard of for Mrs. M to drop by the girls' basketball practice and scrimmage with them for a few minutes. More than one 16-year-old had found out the hard way that Mrs. M could still drive to the basket with authority.

Six-year-old Crystal was not impressed by Madison's knowledge of geometry, or her basketball skills. She just knew that when her pet cat died and the sobs came, it was Madison's arms that wrapped around her.

There was nothing special about these three ladies. They were just trying to do the best they could. Offering nourishment or a safe shelter or a soft shoulder to cry on, they were there for their children.

Maybe there's a little magic in all moms.



The Forgotten History of Mother's Day

"There's no way to be a perfect mother, and a million ways to be a good one."

Jill Churchill

Mother's Day is important. Celebrated in the U.S. on the second Sunday

in May, it's a day when we honor those brave women who have born us and blessed us with love beyond measure. Most don't know how we came to mark this special holiday. It's forgotten history that we need to remember...

Ann Maria Reeves Jarvis was born in Culpepper, Virginia in 1832, the daughter of a Methodist minister. In 1850, at the age of 18, she married Granville Jarvis, a merchant. During the course of their marriage, Jarvis bore eleven children. Only four survived. The others succumbed to a laundry list of diseases, among them typhoid fever, diphtheria, and measles. Sadly, the infant mortality rate in the 19th

century was nearly 30%. Throughout Appalachia, childhood illness and death was common.

Ann Maria Jarvis was a dynamic and determined woman who decided to channel her grief productively and meet the needs of her community. She had an idea and launched Mother's Day Work Clubs in several neighboring towns to improve health and sanitary conditions. These became part of a growing public health movement in the U.S. The clubs provided assistance and education to families in Appalachia, with the goal of reducing disease and infant mortality.

These Mother's Day Clubs provided vital services to their communities. Before there were state requirements, they developed programs to inspect bottled milk and food. They raised money to buy medicine and to aid families with health problems. Members of-

ferred home visits to educate mothers about health and sanitation.

During the Civil War, western Virginia became a hotbed for conflict, with both northern and southern sympathizers living in the region. Jarvis' Mother's Day Work Clubs altered their mission to meet new demands brought about by the war. Jarvis pledged neutrality, providing aid and comfort to both Union and Confederate soldiers. They fed and clothed soldiers stationed in the area from both the North and the South. When measles and typhoid fever epidemics broke out, Jarvis and her club members nursed suffering soldiers from both sides.

After the Civil War ended, Jarvis' efforts to keep her community together continued. In 1868, with public officials in Taylor County seeking her help, she and her club members planned a Mother's

Friendship Day for soldiers and their families from both sides. They held the event on the grounds of the Taylor County Courthouse. Despite opposition, the event was a success. Jarvis shared a message of unity with the crowd. Bands played the Star-Spangled Banner and Dixie. The event ended with all singing Auld Lang Syne. Many in attendance were moved to tears.

Throughout her life, Jarvis continued her social activist work. She taught Sunday School and was very involved with her church. She gained popularity as a public speaker for audiences at schools, churches, and organizations, lecturing on subjects ranging from public health to literature to religion.

Throughout her life, Jarvis worked to honor and help mothers. After the death of her husband in 1902, she moved to Philadelphia to be near her two sons and two daughters. Her daughter Anna became her caretaker as her health declined. Ann Maria Jarvis died peacefully at home on May 8, 1905, surrounded by her four surviving children.

After Jarvis' death, her daughter Anna recalled hearing her mother's prayer during a Sunday School lesson in 1876, asking for

someone to start a day to honor mothers.

On the first anniversary of her mother's death, Anna announced plans for a memorial service the following year. On May 8, 1907, a private service was held in honor of Jarvis.

The following year, in 1908, Anna organized the first official observance of Mother's Day. It was held on Sunday, May 10, 1908, at St. Andrew's Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia. A donation of 500 white carnations, Jarvis' favorite flower, was made for those in attendance. Another service was held that afternoon at the Wanamaker Store Auditorium in Philadelphia. 15,000 people attended.

In the years following the first celebrations, Anna's Mother's Day holiday gained recognition in several states and a few foreign countries. Intent on making Mother's Day an official holiday in the U.S., Anna mounted a campaign to do just that. And she succeeded. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a congressional resolution making the second Sunday in May a national Mother's Day. We love our moms - Happy Mother's Day!

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Cunningham Community Center (leave donation at the bank)
Lions' Club
Cunningham Museum (to donate contact Alan Albers or Mike McGovney)
Cunningham Public Library (to donate, contact Debi Dunlap)
Cunningham EMS (to donate, contact Monte Rose or Kathy Albers)

1 John 3:15 NIV
Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has earned eternal life in him.
submitted by Alan Albers

Free Groceries at the Cunningham Methodist Church 2 to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays

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

Catholic Churches		First Christian Church	
 Sacred Heart, Cunningham Sunday 10:00 a.m.	St. John, Zenda Saturday 5:30 p.m.	Cunningham Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Jr High Youth Group 4:00 p.m. Sunday Sr High Youth Group 7:30 p.m. Sunday Wednesday Prayer Service 7:00 p.m. Pastor Mike McGovney 620-770-9507	
St. Leo Saturday 4:00 p.m.	St. Peter Willowdale Sunday 8:30 a.m.	† † † † † † †	
Father Daryl Befort 316-706-1627	620-246-5370	United Methodist Church	
† † † † † † †		Penalosa Worship 9:15 a.m.	Cunningham Worship 10:45 a.m. Pastor Mathew Ndambuki Musyoki 620-298-2090
Lutheran Churches		† † † † † † †	
 St. John, Nashville 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sunday 620-246-5220 Sunday School & Bible Class 8:45 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m.	Trinity, Medicine Lodge 1st and 3rd Sundays 620-886-3397 Sunday School & Bible Class 8:45 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m.	† † † † † † †	
Rev. Timothy Schmeisser		Zenda Methodist Church Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School: Children 8:30 a.m. Adults 10:00 a.m. Pastor J L Nichols 620-243-6953	
† † † † † † †		† † † † † † †	
Church of Christ Penalosa Sunday 11:00 a.m.			

YEARS AGO IN

THE CUNNINGHAM CLIPPER

W. A. Bradley / William Bradley

1931

May 8, 1931 - Boy Scouts receiving Second Class Bades at a Court of Honor last Friday evening were Delmer Huffman, George Crow, Wayne Lash, Winton Lash, Elmo Finch, and Eugene Carter. Rex Shelman is Scoutmaster.

Cunningham won the annual Kingman County League Track and Field Meet here last Saturday. Local tracksters won seven first places in the various events, with Wilbur Slattery coming in first three times. Local winners were Frank Allbritten Jr., 50-yard dash; Wilbur Slattery, 100-, 220-, and 440-yard dashes; Harold Renner, mile run; Lester Nighswonger, discuss, and the half-mile relay (Allbritten, John Baber, Lee Gibbens, and Slattery).

1936

May 8, 1936 - The McCoy Little Symphony will present their annual Mother's Day Concert at Pratt next Sunday afternoon. Dr. D. E. Thompson of Cunningham, is a member of the orchestra.

The Cunningham Oil and Gas Field was extended westward into Pratt County this week, with the completion of a large gas well on the Elbert Maxedon farm. The well has a potential of 27,000,000 cubic feet of gas daily.

1941

May 9, 1941 - Ex-Mayor A. I. Jones turned over his duties to the newly elected Mayor, W. D. Creamer, at the regular meeting of the City Council last Monday night. Ed Renner has been selected as temporary City Marshal, taking the place of Wilbur Lash; Francis Wilson was appointed City Clerk, succeeding Henry Gibbens; Rufus Leiter was re-appointed City Treasurer, and the new Councilmen are Frank Doty, S. T. Kincheloe, Bedford Taylor, Dr. Ferd Burnett, and Frank McCool.

For the third straight year, a local high school tennis player has won the Kingman County League Tennis Tournament. This year's champion is Charles Cooley. Previous winners were Bill Bradley in 1939, and Leroy Carter in 1940.

1956

May 10, 1956 - That surprising Viola Lime wildcat gas well struck two weeks ago five miles southwest of Willowdale (11 miles southeast of Cunningham) is a whopper, which makes it all the more amazing.

D & M Drilling Company and Pryor and Tracy's No. 2 Goetz, nw nw sw of section 29-29-9w, gauged 24 million cubic feet of gas daily on open flow through an eight foot interval of perforations between a depth of 4,406-4,414 feet after only light acid treatment. It is one of the largest gas wells ever found in Kingman County, although several in the Cunningham Oil and Gas Field have topped it.

The depth (4,406-4,416 feet) is in the extreme top eight feet of the Viola Lime formation. The Viola nearly always produces oil where there is sufficient commercial gas in it, but that's not the case in the Goetz well.

Five miles to the northeast, the Willowdale Oil Field has 29 Viola Lime oilers on the pump making about 30,000 barrels of oil a month, but no gas.

The new Goetz well is in southern Kingman county's gas district, and is the first to produce gas from the Viola Lime formation. Throughout the Rago, Spivey, Zenda, Nashville region the commercial gas production is from the Mississippi Chat. These gas pools will be tapped by the Magnolia Petroleum Company's new multi-million-dollar absorption plant now under construction near the Kingman-Harper County-line south of Spivey.

Total depth of the Goetz well is 4,574 feet in the Arbuckle Lime. The Lansing Lime was logged at 3,596 feet, the Mississippian Chat at 4,186 feet, and the Simpson Sand at 4,460 feet.

The Amerada Oil Company has started their No. 2 Stroot well at the west edge of the Dresden Oil Field (six miles northeast of Cunningham). The test is located in the sw se ne of section 15-27-10w, about a quarter of a mile west of the No. 1 Stroot and about the same distance north of the No. 4 McCartney well.

The Anschutz Drilling Company were taking a drill-stem test the first of the week at their No. 1 Hageman, a wildcat well in the sw nw nw of section 15-29-9w, approximately a mile west of the Willowdale Oil Field (eleven miles southeast of Cunningham). The test is being made in the Mississippian Chat formation.

1971

May 6, 1971 - The Cunningham Lions Club held their bi-monthly dinner-meeting at Virginia's Café, Tuesday evening.

Following dinner, President Larry Ruckle conducted the business meeting. Broom Sale Chairman Lynn Darcy gave a report of last Saturday's sale, stating the club sold over \$500 of blind-made products, and realized over \$125 profit. He thanked the members for their selling activity, and also the people of the community for their response as many people waited until this sale to make their needed purchases.

President Ruckle presented Charter Monarch 15-year Pins to Evan Thornhill, Jack Meyers, and Bill Bradley, and a Monarch 10-year Pin to Alvin Rohr.

Two officers, Lion Tamer Merle McCune and Director Francis Starr, asked to be relieved of their offices, as both are moving from Cunningham. Mr. Starr is going to Burdett, and Mr. McCune is moving to Bazine.

The Cunningham 4-H Club held their regular monthly meeting in the high school study hall, Monday evening.

President Mary Kampling called the meeting to order, and the members answered roll call with May baskets which were taken to the Hilltop House Care Home. Marlene Oller was selected as our club's queen candidate at the Kingman County 4-H Club Fair in August. Our Spring Tour will be held Saturday evening, June 7, starting at 5:00 o'clock, with the Sternekers' as hosts. A special club meeting will be held at the Joe Pelzl home next Monday evening, May 10, at 7:30 o'clock.

Janet Rohling had charge of the program music; Mary Kampling gave a project talk; Marlene Oller conducted a demonstration; Lance Sheldon was in charge of music appreciation, Marvin Oller conducted an active number; Elaine Starr gave a parliamentary report, and Melva Oller had charge of the remainder of the program and recreation.

Refreshments of cookies and Kool-aid were served by the Steffens'.—Kathy Kampling, Reporter.

YEARS AGO IN

THE CUNNINGHAM CLIPPER

Publisher: Charles G. Barnes

Editor: Nancy Briggeman

Reporter: Marie Ann Mantooth

1976

May 6, 1976 – Melodie Graves of Cunningham has been awarded an Achievement Scholarship to Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas, for the 1876-77 academic year.

Five members of the Cunningham Club received pins at their meeting Tuesday, April 20. Francis Dafforn, Evan Thornhill and Jack Meyers each received 20 year pins Alvin Rohr a 15 year pin and Dan Cusenbary a 10 year pin.

Connie Branstetter, Kingman County Health Nurse, was guest speaker at the meeting. Mrs. Branstetter explained about the new Titmus Visual Screening equipment for testing school students eyes. At present, equipment is borrowed from some other organization for checking students eyes.

The Lions Clubs in this zone, namely, Kingman, Norwich, Zenda-Nashville, and Cunningham are donating \$3 for each member to be used toward the purchase of this needed eye testing equipment so it won't be necessary to borrow elsewhere.

The Cunningham City Council met briefly on Tuesday, May 4, to pass an ordinance concerning the bond it is issuing.

In order to legally issue bonds, the city is required by law to publish an ordinance to that effect.

The bonds are being issued to help spread the cost of the curb-and-guttering project over the next ten years. The cost of the project is being borne by the property owners. While some of the owners were able to pay the special assessment in a lump sum, but many could not. In effect, the city is borrowing the money for these citizens so the work can be paid for now, while the payments are spread out.

The advantage of doing it this way is that municipal bonds are exempt from income tax. For this reason, the city can borrow the money at a much more favorable rate than an individual could. The bonds were at a rate just over five percent.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kerschen, Nancy, Becky, and Kristie, left last Friday for Des Moines, Iowa, where they were guests of Mrs. Kerschen's sister, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Knoblauch and family. On Sunday they attended the First Communion of the Knoblauch's daughter. The Kerschens returned home Monday afternoon.

Cunningham riders attending the Gypsum Hills Trail Ride held southwest of Medicine Lodge last weekend were Al Joe Sterneker, Bruce Sterneker, Bob Sterneker, Rick Sterneker, Marty Sterneker, Rob Sterneker, Chris Meyers, Terry Elliot, Glenda Thornhill, Bonita Thornhill, and David Thornhill.

Terry Elliot was selected for the Boys Jr. Horsemanship Award given at the 1976 Gypsum Hills Trail Ride held Saturday and Sunday, May 1 and 2. He received an engraved western belt buckle for the award.

There was an estimated 350 riders in attendance and this was the fifth Gypsum Hills Trail Ride Terry has attended.

Terry was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Durall of Coats for the ride.

School board: There were six letters of resignation. These were from : Rose Theis, cook at St. Leo; John Royston, industrial arts teacher at Cunningham; Joy

Ware, music teacher at Zenda; Debbie Eckhoff, grade school teacher at Cunningham; Merle Cordray, grade school teacher at Zenda; and John Harrison, custodian at Cuningham. Several other registrations have been reported this year, but one was apparently overlooked by this reporter; that of Mary Eichorn, grade school teacher at Cunningham for many years.

Mr. Turner reported that he had received 206 letters of inquiry about teaching positions in the district thus far this year. He reported to the Board about some candidates who had been offered contracts already, but these have not been accepted yet.

Hilltop: "Brownie Joe" Northrop, our bulldog, was just a stray pet dog that lived at the Hilltop House until May 1, 1969, then he became a foster son of Olin Stanley Northrop.

YEARS AGO IN

THE CUNNINGHAM CLIPPER

Publisher: Charles G. Barnes

Editor: Florine Kampling

1981

May 5, 1981 – Things around and in the post office have taken on a new look. A slight change in structure inside the post office has given extra space for 80 new boxes. The building next door to the post office has been completed to house the Culligan business.

Al Theis was elected student president and president of the Student Council for next year in a vote of the student body last Friday, May 1. Vice-president-elect is Rhonda Ruckle. Candidates for this office gave campaign speeches before the voting took place. Student president for this year has been Mike McGovney. STUCO sponsor is Leo Kerwin, counselor.

The newly chosen cheerleaders for next year are Becky Kerschen, Sherry Simon, Brenda Crick, Debbie Zrubek, Pam Simon, and Stacy Schnittker.

On April 29 the Coldwater Eagle Jazz Band, under the direction of Wes Johnson, and the Coldwater High School Singers, under the direction of Cindy Anthony, presented a concert to the students of Cunningham Grade and High Schools.

Mrs. Anthony, vocal director, will be remembered as Cindy Mantooth, an alumna from Cunningham High School, Pratt Community College, and Northwester Oklahoma State University in Alva. She has taught at Coldwater since her graduation from Alva.

1986

May 3, 1986 – Wanted: Spring Cleanup Work, painting, cleaning, yard work, minor repairs and miscellaneous odd jobs. Reasonable rates. Orin Stillwell.

Wanted: Summer job. Have had tractor safety course. Call anytime. Pat Lubbers.

Adv: Harold's Place versus Mighty First National Bank. Cunningham 6 p.m. Saturday night.

Dennis Hageman of Spivey and Treva Westerman of Zenda have been accepted for admittance to Fort Hayes State University for the 1986 fall semester.

In celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary on May 9, Calvin and Lillian Rakestraw, Cunningham, KS, will be honored Saturday, May 10, with a family dinner.

Hosts of the occasion will be their children and their families.

Mr. and Mrs. Andy Pelzl and daughter, Thanna, of Rogers, Ark., were weekend houseguests of his grandmother, Mrs. Rose Pelzl.

Play-goers who attended the all-school play "Cheaper by the Dozen" on Saturday, May 3, in the CHS auditorium were awarded by seeing a delightful performance of the all-time favorite "Cheaper by the Dozen."

The family was dominated by the father, played expertly by Orin Stillwell, who had self-assurance of a successful man who was proud of himself, his wife, and his family. He had an obsession for efficiency and motion-saving techniques. Mrs. Gilbreth, played by Vickie Becker, was a gracious attractive woman who understood psychology and how to get results from the big family.

The children were played by Jennifer Albers, Rod Holcomb, Jason Ruckle, Pat Lubbers, Ed Jarmer, Kerry House, Andrea Holcomb, Tamara Wiesender, and Kelli Liebl.

Museum Hours

Saturday:

Morning 10:00 - 12:00

Afternoon 1:00 - 3:00

For guided tours call

Mike McGovney 620-770-9507

Joe Sterneker 620-243-2534

Alan Albers 620-243-2553

Spotlight on Graduating Seniors



Tyler Winter

is the son of Mike Winter.
"I will attend Life Skills and On the Job Training".

Skyler Thimesch

is the son of Randy and Sarah Thimesch. He plans to attend Fort Hays State University where he will major in Technology Studies/ Construction Management

Isabella Thimesch

is the daughter of Shannon Thimesch and Matthew Thimesch. "I will be attending Pratt Community College to study social work and then transfer to a four-year school to obtain a bachelor's degree.



Blake Shane Swope

is the son of Cheri and Chris Swope. He plans to attend Pratt Community College and study Wildlife Outfitting and Operations.

Andrew Schultz

is the son of Barbara and Tim Schultz. "My future plans are to attend Fort Hays Tech in Beloit for the Construction Technology Program, after that end up at Kansas State University or Fort Hays State University to finish with a Bachelor's Degree in Construciton Management."

Kendall Rogers

is the daughter of Jennette and Nick Rogers. He will attend Kansas State University to pursue a Master's Degree in Architecture.



Emily Ogg

is the daughter of Aimee and Tony Ogg. "I plan to attend Fort Hays State University and major in accounting."

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Spotlight on Graduating Seniors



Kyra Morgan

is the daughter of Molly Morgan. She plans to attend Pratt Community College, but is undecided in her field of study.



Logan Kinsler

is the son of Heidi and Matt Simon and Sam and Jordyn Kinsler. He plans to attend Fort Hays State University to study Political Science and obtain a Bachelor of Arts degree.



Wendolyn Kinsler

is the daughter of Amanda Kinsler and John Kinsler. She plans to work at a daycare and attend college to become a Pre-K or middle school teacher.



Sean A. Kostner

is the son of Justina and Andrew Kostner. He will attend Benedictine College, studying Mechanical Engineering.



Dylan Halderson

is the son of Miranda and Bjorn Halderson. He plans to attend Fort Hays State University to study Construction Management.



Grace Hageman

is the daughter of Gwen Pritchard and Darrel Hageman. She plans to attend Colby Community College and enter into the veterinary nursing program to become a certified veterinary technician.

Thank you to our Spotlight Sponsors!

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Kingman County Sheriff's Report

Sunday, April 26

- Traffic Stops 1
- Civil Paper Service 6
- Miscellaneous 200 Blk E Don Lock Dr, Kingman
- Animal Complaint 13000 Blk SE 30 Ave, Rago
- Agency Assist/KMPD/Non-Injury Accident 300 Blk E D Ave, Kingman
- Traffic Complaint 12000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney

Monday, April 27

- Traffic Stops 3
- Civil Paper Service 3
- Trespassing 400 S Valley St, Cunningham
- Warrant Service/Arrest 130 N Spruce St, Kingman
- Miscellaneous 120 N Spruce St, Kingman
- Agency Assist/KHP/Traffic Stop 6000 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
- Transport Civilian 100 Blk W 1st St, Cunningham
- Non-Injury Accident 1300 Blk W D Ave, Kingman
- Unlock Vehicle 300 Blk N Henderson St, Cunningham
- Accidental 911 Dial 16000 Blk NE 10 St, Cheney
- Agency Assist/Medical 100 Blk E 3rd St, Cunningham

Tuesday, April 28

- Civil Paper Service 4
- Check Welfare 8400 Blk SE 60 St, Murdock
- Transport Prisoners 120 N Spruce St, Kingman
- Warrant Service/Arrest 120 N Spruce St, Kingman
- Warrant Service/Arrest 120 N Spruce St, Kingman
- Check Welfare 7700 Blk E Hwy 42, Rago
- Traffic Complaint 13000 Blk SE 20 St, Murdock
- Animal Complaint NE 20 St & NE 140 Ave, Cheney
- Traffic Complaint 3000 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman
- Miscellaneous 200 Blk S Westview St, Norwich
- Agency Assist/Medical 200 Blk N Main St, Spivey

Wednesday, April 29

- Traffic Stops 1
- Civil Paper Service 1
- Animal Complaint Sw 70 St & SW 10 Ave, Spivey

- Harassment 14000 Blk SW 165 Ave, Nashville
- Miscellaneous 200 Blk S Parkway St, Norwich
- Accidental 911 Dial 9000 Blk E Hwy 54, Murdock
- Suspicious Person 10000 Blk E Hwy 54, Murdock
- Miscellaneous 100 Blk S Sandpiper St, Norwich
- Accidental 911 Dial 2200 Blk NE 30 St, Kingman
- Traffic Complaint 7000 Blk E Hwy 42, Rago

Thursday, April 30

- Traffic Complaint 13000 Blk E Hwy 2, Norwich
- Agency Assist/KHP/Traffic Stop 8000 Blk E Hwy 54, Murdock
- Traffic/Arrest NW 50 St & NW 20 Ave, Kingman
- Alarm 16000 Blk SW 10 St, Cunningham
- Agency Assist/Medical 700 Blk N Main St, Kingman
- Transport Inmates Court 130 N Spruce St, Kingman
- Transport Civilian 120 N Spruce St, Kingman
- Agency Assist/KMPD/Disturbance N Cedar St & W E Ave, Kingman
- Traffic Complaint 1700 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
- Agency Assist/KMPD/Disturbance 900 Blk N Cedar St, Kingman
- Harassment 16000 Blk SE 30 St, Cheney

Friday, May 1

- Traffic Stops 5
- Civil Paper Service 2
- Miscellaneous 16000 Blk SE 30 St, Cheney
- Animal Complaint SW 170 Ave & W Hwy 42, Nashville
- Traffic Control 10000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
- Traffic Complaint 2000 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman
- Motorist Assist 3200 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
- Found Property 120 N Spruce St, Kingman

Saturday, May 2

- Traffic Stops 2
- Agency Assist/Medical 14000 Blk W Hwy 54, Cunningham
- Traffic Complaint SE 150 St & S Hwy 14, Rago
- Traffic Complaint NE 50 St & NE 150 Ave, Cheney
- Disabled Vehicle NW 110 Ave & W Hwy 54, Kingman
- Agency Assist/Medical 12000 Blk SE 120 St, Norwich
- Traffic Complaint 6000 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman
- Traffic Complaint E Burns Ave & N Robbins Rd, Norwich

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Extension Kingman County

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and Assistant Professor of Plant Pathology), Logan Simon (Southwest Area Agronomist), and Allan Fritz (K-State Wheat Breeding Professor) – will share insights on this year's crop and what to

expect for future wheat production.

Participants will gain valuable perspective on wheat variety performance, including disease resistance and adaptability to our local growing conditions. This tour provides a hands-on opportunity to observe how different wheat varieties

have responded to the variable conditions we've experienced this season.

Lunch will follow. We would like to thank our event sponsors: Bock Seeds, Farmers Co-op Equity, Wheat Alliance, Scoular Grain, and White

Star Machinery.

For more information, please contact Grace Schneider and the Kingman County Extension Office at 620-532-5131 or gschnei@ksu.edu

Free Developmental Screening Planned

A free screening clinic for children from birth to 5 years of age will be held in Kingman to help parents determine if their child's development is age-appropriate. The screening is planned for Friday, May 8th, at the Kingman United Methodist Church, 133 E D Ave.

Areas to be screened include concepts, motor skills, social development, speech, hearing, and vision. Immunization, physical, and nutritional

information will also be available.

Arrowhead West, Inc., and South-Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative District sponsor the screening clinic. The staff from these agencies will assist in identifying any special needs your child may have and in locating services to meet those needs.

To schedule an appointment to have your child screened, please call (620) 672-7500.

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Statepoint Crossword Theme: Graduation

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- ACROSS
- "___ Louise"
 - Unsolicited email
 - Parentheses, e.g.
 - Not mainstream, as in art
 - Heap
 - Chesterfield, e.g.
 - Not sharp
 - Katy Perry's hit
 - Grammy of sports
 - *Bachelor of Arts, e.g.
 - Autumn mo.
 - Opposite of outs
 - Muslim ruler, respectfully
 - Retirement safety net (2 words)
 - Completely isolate (2 words)
 - "That feels good!" exclamation
 - Programmer's bane
 - Mozart's "L' ___ del Cairo"
 - *Same as #11 Down
 - #me ___
 - Paleozoic or Victorian, e.g.
 - Yoda: "Do or do not. There is no ___"
 - River port in Belgium
 - Not figurative
 - Wavelike patterned silk
 - "For ___ a jolly..."
 - Bass product
 - *Student speaker at graduation, usually
 - Regrettably, exclamation
 - Immanuel ____, German philosopher
 - Fortune teller's props
 - Welcome ____, pl.

- "Cogito ___ sum"
 - Subdivision of an act
 - Olden day "you"
 - Whitetail, e.g.
 - Late actor Kristofferson
- DOWN
- Type of ape
 - Twist together
 - Not products, in chemistry
 - Dietary mineral
 - Spring, ____, sprung
 - Devoutly religious
 - Winglike
 - F te des M res honoree
 - Industrial plastic
 - Luxury furniture wood
 - *Part of graduation regalia
 - Slovenly abode
 - Pilot's estimate, acr.
 - Fire starter
 - Santa ___ winds
 - Half of NFL
 - *BA alternative
 - Same as Dao
 - "Friends, Romans..., lend me your ____, " sing.
 - *Stand-in teacher
 - Self-centered one
 - Undergarment
 - *What guest graduation speaker is supposed to do
 - Dadaist Jean ___
 - *A in #27 Down
 - Marbled toast
 - *#36 Across for PhD recipient
 - Lennon's widow

- Fish family
- Sushi restaurant staple
- *Professor, technically
- Faultfinder and scoffer
- *Former students
- Part of eyeglasses, pl.
- Door holder
- Barely got by
- Foolhardy challenge
- Roman goddess of fertility
- Nordstorm's outlet
- Invoice qty.
- Note that follows soh

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Second Graders Love Their Service Workers

photos and captions submitted Ingrid Ricke

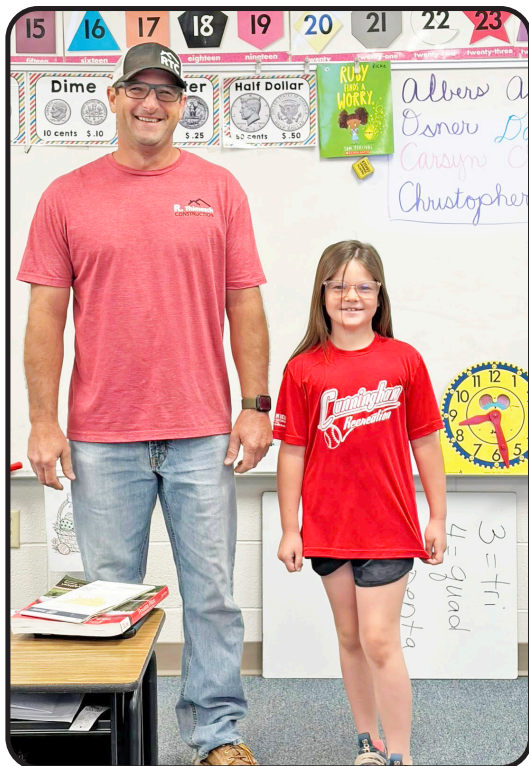


Morgan Kurtz, Neuro ICU P.A. at St. Francis in Wichita, taught the class all about her job and the brain. We learned the 3 main parts of the brain and signs to look for in possible stroke victims. Morgan also talked about her duties as a member of the Acute Stroke Response Team and answered many questions. Thank you, Morgan, for sharing the love you have for your service job!



Kate Thimesch introduced her friend, Morgan Kurtz.

Randy Thimesch, private pilot, taught us all about his service job. He showed us pictures of his 1965 Cessna 172 plane and explained how to fly and what requirements there are to get a license. Randy has used his pilot skills to volunteer for Pilots for Pups and loves to fly his friends and family places. Thank you, Randy, for sharing your love of flying with us!



Emma Ruckle poses with her service worker, Randy Thimesch



Nicole Kernohan, PRMC Emergency Room RN, presented to our class all about her nursing job and duties. She showed us some of the equipment she uses at her job and demonstrated how several of them work. Nicole answered a lot of questions about her service job. Thank you Nicole for sharing your love of nursing with us!



Max Kernohan introduced his mother, Nicole Kernohan



Thank you to Debi Dunlap, librarian, from the Cunningham Public library for letting us come to the library to learn about your service job. We enjoyed learning about all of your different duties and the variety of responsibilities you have. We also enjoyed learning how the library is set up and appreciate you sharing your love of books with us!



Romina Aguayo poses with Debi Dunlap





I Hate to Watch 'em Leave

Thomas Eisenbarth, Pottawatomie County farmer and rancher

"So I'll sit still as seasons move on, Though I hate to watch 'em leave."

Oh I hate to watch 'em leave."

I'm an absolute music junkie. Any genre, any singer, any time. Driving around the last couple evenings, those Dylan Gossett lyrics hit a little different, and not just because of the music. They lined up with what I was already noticing.

Kansas seasons have definitely changed. In most places, bright headlights on a hilltop might raise concern. Around here, tractor, planter and stock trailer lights mean something entirely different. They signal the start of another prayer. I've always believed putting a seed into cool spring dirt or turning a cow out to pasture are some of the clearest displays of the faith we have. You're trusting sun, rain, nature and time to do their part. It marks the turning of a season.

Seasons have been on my mind a lot lately. Growing up in production agriculture, you learn early on there's a season for everything. Cows step off the trailer and onto green pasture with calves at their side and bulls not far behind. Seeds get tucked into the ground with the assumption things will grow. Hay gets laid down and rolled up, preparing for what's ahead. Cows come home. Crops get harvested. And eventu-

ally, things slow down.

Winter. Cold winds blow. The pace changes. Agriculture battens down the hatches. Cows still need fed, of course, but winter, in many ways, is a season of rest. A season to take a breath, to take inventory and to remember your "why." Now, on a personal note, I'm a little jealous of those lyrics.

"So I'll sit still..." What a struggle. I'm getting better at noticing it in myself, better at pulling back to where my feet are planted. But my word, it doesn't come naturally. Being wired as a "go-getter," winter has always been a tough season for me. Less sunlight. Less movement. More isolation. It wears on you if you're not paying attention. But agriculture and nature have a way of teaching, whether you're ready or not. When plants go dormant and life resets, I've had to learn to be OK doing the same. God created a near-perfect system in nature, why fight it?

Spring. As seasons change, I tend to approach life like cows chasing green spring grass ... FULL. BORE. Spring brings energy. There's fence to check, calving to finish, things to do. It makes me come alive. And yet, every single year, without fail, there's a small part of me that misses the slower pace of a season passed. It's subtle, almost easy to ignore, but it's there.

Turns out, seasons don't just exist in agriculture. They show up in life too. There are seasons of pause, rest and waiting... ones I don't particularly enjoy. And then there are seasons of movement, action and momentum. The transitions aren't always obvious, but when they happen, you feel it.

Right now, I find myself entering a season of "falling into place." I've done some waiting. I've spent time in that slower space doing my fair share of praying. And now, the things I've hoped and prayed for... well, they're happening.

But here's what I'm learning. Those busy seasons rarely unfold the way we imagined they would. When we're waiting, we tend to map it all out. "Here's how this should go." But life has a funny way of remind-

ing us we're not fully in charge of that plan. The busy is often uncomfortable, sometimes even a little overwhelming. There's uncertainty mixed in with the excitement. And that's where the lesson comes in.

Being named the Kansas Farm Bureau Rural Minds Matter Young Advocate of the Year in 2025 has given me a chance to pause and take inventory of where I've been and where I'm headed. It's an honor I don't take lightly, but

more than anything, it's a reminder that this work matters and that the conversations we're having are needed. As I step into this next season with my company, GROUNDED, there's a mix of excitement and uncertainty, much like any spring we've ever faced. The path isn't fully clear, but I'm learning it doesn't have to be. Just like in agriculture, we don't wait for perfect conditions, we trust the season we're in, we show up and we do the work in front of us.

"Oh, I hate to watch 'em leave..."

Thomas Eisenbarth was the recipient of the 2025 Rural Minds Matter Young Advocate of the Year Award. The application and nomination process for the 2026 awards are now open at www.kfb.org/ruralmindsmatter.

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News from Kansas Farm Bureau

KCHS Pets Ready for Adoption

Shadow

Sponsored by Baker Accounting



And yet another gorgeous feline. Shadow is an older cat – about 12 years old. He's not a big kitty, weighing only about 7 pounds. Purrfect for a lap companion.

He's been at the shelter since May 4 and is listed as "Senior Citizen" and "Special Adopt Event – Ask staff."

I'd say he's worth asking about as he is good with other cats, but should be an indoor kitty only. I can't think of anywhere else to keep a cat.

Marlon Brando

Kathy and Alan Albers



Marlon Brando, very handsome, he is. This gentleman is about 3 to 4 years old and an all-around good dog. He is housetrained, he's good around other dogs, he is people friendly, and he's just flat out handsome.

Marlon Brando has been at the shelter and can be adopted for \$180.00.

But, the shelter has this to say about such a treasure: "Just like his namesake, Marlon is introverted, quiet, contemplative and stubbornly refuses to conform to societal "norms". You want to play ball? Meh.

Wanna go to the dog park?

You're joking, right?

How about we go to Petco and find you a fun squeaky toy?

Forget about it!

I know...how about just you and me take a quiet walk together, get to know each other a little and then figure out what we might want to do next?

Now you're talking. I think we're going to get along just fine.



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604 N. Walnut
Medicine Lodge, Kansas 67104
620-886-3222
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
Seth Thibault, OD
Andrew W. Piester, OD
104 West C Ave.
Kingman, KS 67068
620-532-3154
1-800-371-3154
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Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Friday

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 Thanks for recycling The Courier on May 11

Help Wanted

Substitute City Clerk for Turon, KS. We are looking for an organized, reliable person to perform basic office tasks. You will be trained on the tasks you are expected to do. This is a part-time as needed position with the option of picking up extra hours. Need to fill this position immediately.

Help Wanted

The City of Turon is looking to hire Lifeguards and a Pool Manager for the City of Turon's swimming pool. If interested please call the city office at 620-497-6443. The City of Turon is also asking for donations to provide free admission to the pool again this year.

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Trash and recycling schedules are available at City Hall.

If you have large, bulky items for pick up (i.e. appliances or furniture) please call Nisly at 620-662-6561. They pick up bulky items once a month. This service is included in your trash bill with the city! No extra charge!

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Visit them on Facebook at www.prairie-bombers.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!

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Funded in Part by KDOT Public Transportation Program

Nisly Recycling Information

Acceptable Items
Glass jars and bottles
Aluminum and tin cans
Plastic recyclable containers with a recycle symbol from 1-7 (emptied and triple-rinsed)
Paper: newspapers, office papers, books, etc.
Cardboard (unless it is contaminated with food waste)

Non-Acceptable Items
NO PLASTIC BAGS
No Styrofoam
No Food waste (e.g. cardboard pizza boxes with grease)
No Yard waste
No Shredded paper
No Aerosol cans
No Batteries and electronics
No Oil and paint cans
No Ceramics
No Mirrors, windshields, light bulbs, or window glass
NO PLASTIC BAGS

Please do not bag or bundle recyclables. Simply place them into the recycle container. (Feel free to collect your recyclables in cardboard boxes.)

For residential curbside pickup, place your cart beside curb by 5:00AM.

Recycle bins are only for recyclables and not for trash.

Include only containers with a recycling symbol of 1-7. (Label on lid shows number.)

Empty and triple rinse recyclable plastic containers. Remove caps, lids, and rings from bottles. Labels do not need to be removed.

Recyclables do not need to be sorted unless the recycle bin is reserved for a specific type of recycling only.

Please flatten cardboard boxes before placing them into your bin.

Recyclable Paper must be clean and dry.

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Sondra Clinesmith

Sondra Lucille Clinesmith, 83, passed away Sunday, May 3, 2026 at Pratt Health and Rehab. She was born on July 31, 1942 in Minneola, Kansas to Arthur Glenn and Gladys Leona (Woods) Mooney. Sondra married Roger Lee Clinesmith on May 27, 1961 in Pratt. He preceded her in death on November 7, 2013.



Sondra graduated from Pratt High School and went on to earn an Associate of Nursing from Barton County Community College. She worked as a Licensed Practical Nurse at Pratt Regional Medical Center and Parkwood Village. She was a member of First Christian Church and Eastern Star. She enjoyed crocheting, sewing, reading, fishing, camping, playing Pitch, Rummy and Yahtzee.

She is survived by her sons, Daron L. (Elaine) Clinesmith of El Dorado, Ty (Chris) Clinesmith of Amarillo, Texas and Alex Clinesmith of Sahuarita, Arizona; brother-in-law, Ted Clinesmith of Claflin; grandchildren, Matt (Jessica) Clinesmith, Sara Clinesmith, Benjamin (Nicole) Eastes, Sysha (Josh) McGuire, Aleena Hernandez, Cameron Clinesmith, Devin Clinesmith, Lisa Newman, Lori (Jay) Honey and Laci Letterman; and numerous great-grandchildren.

Sondra is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Roger Clinesmith; daughter, Angie Clinesmith; and siblings, A. G. Mooney, Jr., Donna Thompson and Bill Mooney.

Cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life was held on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at Larrison Mortuary, Pratt with Pastor Mike McGovney presiding. Inurnment will follow at Greenlawn Cemetery, Pratt.

Memorials may be made to First Christian Church. Online condolences may be made at www.larrison-mortuary.com.

Janet Wilt

Janet Ann Wilt, better known as Grammy, went to be with Jesus on May Day, Friday, May 1, 2026. Janet was born Janet Ann Hindman on September 9, 1935, to George and Hyla Hindman in El Dorado, Kansas. She graduated from Medicine Lodge High School in 1953.



In August of 1956, she married her Elvis Presley look-alike, Delmar Wilt. On January 3, 1957, they welcomed their son, Ron, and on March 19, 1958, their daughter, Deb. Together, they raised their children to be hardworking and to value family above all. They enjoyed horseback riding, attending rodeos, and fishing. Janet was well known for her homemade cheeseburgers, french fries, chicken fried steak, dough, and mashed potatoes-meals that brought family together around the table time and time again.

She worked at Litwin Clothing for 18 years and then dedicated 25 years to Pratt Regional Medical Center as a nurse in labor and delivery. Throughout her career, she helped bring many babies into the world, including three of her own granddaughters-something she held especially close to her heart.

From 1983 to 1990, Janet was blessed with four granddaughters. She loved taking them shopping, playing outside, going to Lemon Park for picnics, and making memories on trips to Table Rock Lake. When she wasn't spending time with her family, she was caring for others-babysitting or serving as a devoted caretaker. She took great pride in her home, always keeping it clean and the laundry done-you could say she was a little particular, in the best way. Janet was later blessed with 11 great-grandchildren, each of whom brought her immense joy and pride.

She is preceded in death by her parents, George and Hyla; her husband, Delmar; and her daughter, Deb and great-granddaughter, Chandler.

She is survived by her son, Ron (Lisa) Wilt; her sister, Judy Montague; her granddaughters, Abra Pumphrey (Bradly Bishop), Holly (Cody) Graves, Linsey (Elizabeth) Friesen, and Lauren (Zach) Thornhill; and her great-grandchildren, Kyndel, Dalton, Gatlin, Beckett, Ledger, Palmer, Avett, Sunny, Golden, Wynona, and Camp Holiday.

Cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life will be held at 11:00 a.m., Monday, May 11, 2026 at Larrison Mortuary, Pratt. Inurnment will follow at Coats Cemetery, Coats.

Family would like to extend their gratitude to Keepsake Kottage and their staff for the exceptional care that they provided.

Memorials may be made to Pratt Parks Department.

Florence Loomis

Florence Porter Loomis, quiet and cheerful benefactor of the City of Pratt parks and long-time director of The Peoples Bank, died Wednesday, April 29th, 2026, in Pratt, Kansas.

Born December 23, 1930, Florence was the daughter of Joseph F. and Julia Shellabarger Porter and graduated from Sunset Hill School in Kansas City in 1948. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1952 from Connecticut College, New London, Connecticut. Her senior yearbook noted that she "was in her seat at 7:30am for her 8:00am class." After returning to Kansas City, she had an arranged date with Howard K Loomis. They were married ten months later in the Second Presbyterian Church of Kansas City on April 24, 1954.

Florence and Howard were blessed with four sons: Arthur L. II, Frederick, "Ted," Howard Jr., and Porter. Florence is survived by her brother, Joseph F. Porter III; sons Arthur L. II (Patricia) of Niskayuna, NY; Howard Jr. (Karen) of Los Gatos, CA; and Porter (Anne) of Pratt; daughter-in-law Linda Loomis of Iuka; nine grandchildren and their partners; and ten (soon to be 11) great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Howard Sr., and son Frederick, "Ted."

Believing strongly in the importance of education and reading, Florence cherished being a Haskins room mother for her four sons, as well as being a Cub Scout Den Mother for ten years. As nurturing and encouraging as she most often was with her family, she also made it quite clear that any punishment due to trouble at school or in the community would be nothing compared to the consequences at home! Florence was a founder of the Pratt High School Scholarship Recognition Dinner. After her sons graduated, she found great joy in elementary school classrooms listening to children read. She also served on the Pratt chapter of the Barbara Bush Literacy Group.

A member of Pratt Presbyterian Church for more than 60 years, Florence sang tenor in the church choir. She was a member of the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri, the American Association of University Women, and Pratt Chapter F, P.E.O., as well as past president and member of Pratt Coterie. During the 1970s, Florence was a leader of the Pratt Pride group which tackled projects including the re-construction of the Pratt County Lake and purchasing the first community ride service van.

Florence was very proud to be a member of the original City of Pratt Park Board, serving for more than 30 years as it transitioned to be the Park and Recreation Board. She regarded Pratt's parks as the best in Kansas and encouraged Mark Eckhoff and Bruce Pinkall to continually enhance them. Florence inspired a wide variety of projects, from the various iterations of the Avenue of Flags and sidewalks in Sixth Street and Lemon Parks to the fountain (Kansas City roots!) near the Pratt Public Swimming Pool and The Point Pavilion currently being developed.

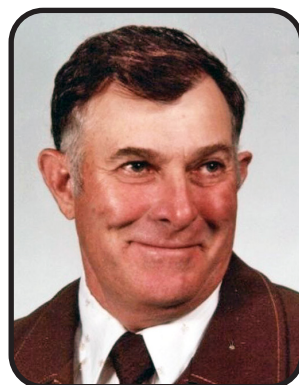
For nearly 90 years, Florence spent summers on the shores of Lake Michigan, with fond memories of being on the beach with her grandmother and mother. In more recent years, it was her best life to have the cottage filled with grandchildren and, eventually, great grandchildren.

Cremation has taken place and there will be no memorial service. Memorials can be made to The City of Pratt Recreation Fund at The Peoples Heartland Foundation, in care of The Peoples Bank.

Florence believed in advanced preparation, hard work, exercise, finding something nice to say to anyone, and civic duty. She loved the Kansas prairie. She will be remembered for her poise and positive outlook.

Albert Ziegler

Albert G. Ziegler, 94, passed away May 4, 2026 at the Kingman Health Care Center.



He was born March 29, 1932, at Cleveland, Kansas the son of Andrew P. and Katherine Thimesch Ziegler. A lifetime resident of the Kingman community, he retired from the Kingman County Road and Bridge Department. During his lifetime he was a farmer, manager of the Kingman Bowling Alley, and a CNA.

Albert was a member of the St. Patrick Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus, both of Kingman; and was a U.S. Army veteran.

On January 15, 1977, he married Marilyn Gayle Fairchild McCullough at St. Peter Catholic Church, Willowdale. Other survivors include son, Stan Ziegler and his wife Julie; daughters, Shelia Jayne and husband Richard, and Kay Hallacy and husband Aaron; sister Joan Boor; 13 grandchildren; and 3 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by brothers Wilford, John, Leo and Levi; sisters Marge Detmer and Lucille Vierthaler; and grandson Jesse Henning.

The family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday, May 11, 2026 at the Livingston Funeral Home, Kingman. Parish rosary will be 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, May 12, 2026 followed by Mass of Christian Burial, both at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Kingman. Burial will be in the Walnut Hill Cemetery.

Memorials have been suggested to the St. Patrick Church Building Fund or Tunnels to Towers, both in care of Livingston Funeral Home.

Evelyn Simon

Evelyn L. Simon, 95, died April 29, 2026 at her home in Wichita.



She was born July 31, 1930, at Cunningham, Kansas the daughter of Joseph and Anna Mertens Kathman. A longtime resident of the St. Leo community, she was a homemaker.

Evelyn was a member of the St. Leo Catholic Church, the Daughters of Isabella and the Altar Society.

On May 28, 1953, she married Gerald E. Simon in Wichita; he died Sept. 18, 2004. Survivors include sons Dean (Debra), Jerry, Steve (Donna) and Kenny (Terri); daughters Cheryl Swinney, Catherine Brewer, Karen Lahey, Linda Simon and Sherry Simon; sisters Jane Ward and Kathy Reiter; 18 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and 3 great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by brothers Rich Kathman and Bill Mertens; sisters Viola Henning, Emma Adelhardt, Judy Tiemeyer, Rose Adelhardt, Edna Schneeweis and Ann Seal; and great-grandson Elijah Johnson; and son-in-law Tom Lahey.

PMass of Christian Burial was Monday, May 4, 2026 also at St. Leo Catholic Church followed by burial in the St. Leo Church Cemetery.

Memorials may be made with the St. Leo Catholic Church or the Smile Train and may be sent to Livingston Funeral Home, 1830 N. Main, Kingman KS 67068.

Dwane DeWeese

H. Dwane DeWeese, 84, passed away Monday, May 4, 2026 at Hilltop Manor in Cunningham. He was born on October 28, 1941 in Kingman to Harold Eugene and Vivian (Brady) DeWeese. H Dwane married Sue (Crowl) DeWeese on August 15, 1964 in Pratt. They were married for 61 years.



H Dwane graduated from Cunningham High School in 1959. He earned his Associate Degree from Pratt Community College and Bachelor Degree from Emporia State University. He later went back to Emporia State University to earn his Master's Degree in Diesel Mechanics. He taught at Campus High School and Pratt Community College. He was a member of Pratt Optimist Club for 50+ years, Epsilon Pi Tau at Emporia State University and Pratt County 4-H where he implemented the Bucket Calf program followed by the Rent-A-Calf program. He enjoyed farming, helping others, serving the community Thanksgiving Dinner, going to the sale barn and loved to be a volunteer in the community and supporting PCC.

He is survived by his wife, Sue DeWeese of Pratt; children, Jerry (Anita) DeWeese of Pratt, Jennifer (Mike) Manderino of Wichita and Julie (Brian) Zitlow of De Soto; sisters, Jean Tharp and Ruth Gamboa both of Pratt; grandchildren, Taylor (Adam) Flowers, Jessica (Daniel) Hacker, Jarod DeWeese, Savana (Trever Eberl) Larrison, Annika (Oliver) Krehbiel, Carson Zitlow and Lauren Zitlow; and great-grandchildren, Maverick, Charlotte and Hudson Flowers and Rhett Hacker.

H Dwane is preceded in death by his parents; sister, Marilyn Mavity-FitzSimmons; and brother, Dale DeWeese.

Visitation will be Thursday, May 7, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. with family receiving friends from 5-7 at Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt. Funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m., Friday, May 8, 2026 at Larrison Mortuary, Ltd., Pratt with John Hamm presiding. Burial will follow at Maud Cemetery, Cunningham.

Memorials may be made to Pratt Optimist Club, Pratt County 4-H Foundation or PCC Foundation.

Thank you

Thank you to all my friends and family for the wonderful birthday cards, blessings and gifts celebrating my 90th birthday. They are so very much appreciated!

-Janet Sterneker-