

# The Cunningham Courier

\$1.00

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

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Photo by Dan Frick

[www.cunninghamcourier.news](http://www.cunninghamcourier.news)

(620) 298-2659

December 31, 2020  
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USPS 006-101

## County Commission Meeting: December 21st

The Board of Kingman County Commissioners met in the Commission Room of the County Courthouse, Kingman, Kansas on December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Those present: John Steffen, Chairman; Fred Foley, Commissioner; Jerry Henning, Commissioner; Carol Noblit, County Clerk; John Caton, County Counselor

Visitors Online: Trace Salzbrenner, Kingman Leader-Courier; Shanna Henry; Emergency Manager; Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director; Dennis Kerschen, The Law Company; Sheriff Randy Hill; Chief David Lux

Staff: Amanda Stucky, Field Appraiser; Becky Luntsford, County Treasurer; Stan Goetz, HR; Richard Schott, Emergency Manager; John Nye, Spark and Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director

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

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

Commissioner Henning would like to add window discussion.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve the agenda with the addition of window project discussion. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Becky Luntsford, County Treasurer was in with documents for the Commissioners signatures on the bonds.

Ms. Luntsford discussed purchasing three scanners from the County Treasurer Auto.

Amanda Stucky, Field Appraiser was in to request an extension on Mr. Blondell's NRP.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve the extension for Mr. Blondell's NRP. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was

approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Ms. Stucky discussed Rod Dixon's request for an NRP.

Mr. Goetz let the Commissioners know that Mr. Dixon helped him with some property problem in the past.

Commissioners agreed to let Mr. Dixon have an NRP.

Chairman Steffen requested an executive session for a non-elect personnel matter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Henning moved to go into executive session to discuss and employee's performance at 8:48 a.m. with Stan Goetz, HR pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act for discussion of non-elected personnel matters of nonelected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals to be discussed, and will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

The County Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:00 a.m. with no binding action taken.

Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director was online and discussed the CDBG-CV grant. Ms. Schrag requested increasing the amounts distributed for each applicant.

Ms. Schrag let the Commissioners know that Elizabeth Wallace is online to answer questions.

Ms. Wallace from SCKEDD answered questions from the County Commissioners.

Ms. Schrag reminded the Commissioners that January 7, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. is going to be by zoom meeting.

Stan Goetz, HR went over the County Wellness kickoff from last Wednesday. Mr. Goetz also submitted the wellness program contract with YMCA.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approved the contract with YMCA for the County Wellness Program. Commissioner Henning

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

Mr. Goetz presented Resolution 2020-R25 for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve **Resolution 2020-R25, A Resolution providing for the adoption of the 2020 hourly non-exempt employee pay schedule and pay matrix.** Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve Resolution 2020-R26, 2021 Salary Resolution. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement for Wastewater Services between Stan Goetz and Kingman County. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve the merit raises submitted. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Steffen opened correspondence received from Kingdom Life Ministries, Hesston, KS and a banner that was hung in their sanctuary. The Ministries prayed for all 105 counties is August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

MOTION: Commissioner Foley moved to approve a Cereal Malt Beverage License for West Side Bait Shop & Beer. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Richard Schott, Emergency Manager and John Nye, Spark were in with WITT O'BRIENS LLC representative Karen Patterson online to discuss the services extending until July 2021.

Ms. Patterson discussed the services they would provide and support through the audit. If they are not working they

will not be charging the County.

Commissioners discussed the WITT O'BRIENS LLC contract for January 1<sup>st</sup> through July 2021 and that it will not exceed \$20,000.00.

John Nye gave the Commissioners a community update on the Spark funding.

Mr. Schott let the Commissioners know that there will be a few more amendments for them to sign.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve Resolution 2020-R27 AMENDED COVID 19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY RESOLUTION. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

The Commissioners approved the abatements and escape taxes:

The County Commissioners signed county vouchers in the amount of \$375,515.31.

The County Commissioners signed Road & Bridge vouchers in the amount of \$188,849.65.

Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in to discuss the FLAP project on the NE 50 St.

Mr. Arensdorf submitted the financial reports for November.

Mr. Arensdorf let the Commissioners know that the deck poor is complete for Dale #20.

Dennis Kerschen, The Law Company joined the meeting online and asked if everything is going well since phase I has been completed or will be in the next few days.

Demolition on Phase II is moving along.

Mr. Kerschen discussed submitting a change order#3 for \$17,891.34 for the Law Enforcement Center Project for a balance not to exceed \$5,000,000.00.

Commissioners discussed the added changes that were requested.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:54 a.m. Commissioner Foley seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.



## Kansas Generates \$7 Million From Its 5 National Parks Annually

With air travel down, many Americans are hitting the roads during COVID-19. Assuming local regulations allow for it, exploring the outdoors can be a good way to vacation safely during this turbulent time. Fortunately, many National Park System parks remain open with fewer visitors than during a normal year.

The National Park System is managed by the National Park Service (NPS), which oversees 422 different parks that span over 80 million acres across all 50 states. While some of the

most visited parks are recreational areas, parkways, and national parks, the National Park System is comprised of many different types of parks, including monuments, memorials, battlefields, and historic sites. In fact, less than one-third of annual visits are visits to the 62 parks with "national park" in their name.

In a typical year, there are over 330 million visitors to parks in the National Park System. Last year, travel to these parks netted over \$40 billion in economic benefit across the U.S. and supported over 340 thousand jobs. This enormous amount of tourism and travel helps to support many "gateway towns" near parks through-

out the country. Money spent by tourists at hotels and motels, restaurants, and gas stations is often the lifeblood of these small economies.

During 2020, there's been almost a 25 percent decline in visits to the National Park System, which will impact these communities and their economies. However, even with social distancing orders in place, outdoor recreation and visiting these areas can be a COVID-safe activity.

To find the states that offer the best access to the National Park System, researchers at Outdoorsy looked at data from the National Park Service's National Park Service Visitor Use Statistics. They ranked states based on the number of NPS-managed parks that are partially or fully contained within the state. They also included the annual visits to the NPS parks in each state, a measure of the economic benefit from NPS park tourism, and the name of the most visited park in each state.

The analysis found that in Kansas, 109,729 people visit the 5 national parks annually, which generates \$7,300,000 in revenue for the state

per year. Here is a summary of the data for Kansas:

Number of NPS parks\*: 5  
Annual visitors to NPS parks: 109,729

Economic benefit from NPS park tourism: \$7,300,000

Most visited NPS park (& visits): Tallgrass Prairie NPRES (33,750)

\*Some parks are listed in more than one state; parks include national parks, national preserves, national monuments, and national memorials, among others.

For reference, here are the statistics for the entire United States:

Number of NPS parks: 422  
Annual visitors to NPS parks: 327,516,619

Economic benefit from NPS park tourism: \$41,700,000,000

Most visited NPS park (& visits): Golden Gate National Recreation Area (15,002,227)

For more information, a detailed methodology, and complete results, you can find the original report on Outdoorsy's website: <https://www.outdoorsy.com/blog/al-park-trip-states>

**CATHOLIC Masses**

**St. Leo**  
Saturdays  
4:00 p.m.

**St. John's, Zenda**  
Saturdays  
5:30 p.m.

**Sacred Heart, Cunningham**  
Sunday  
10:00 a.m.

**St. Peter's, Willowdale**  
Sundays  
8:30 a.m.

Fr. Roger Lumbre  
620-243-5451  
620-298-2601  
620-246-5370

**CHURCH OF CHRIST Penalosa**

Worship  
11:00 a.m.

620-474-9131

**CHRISTIAN Cunningham**

**Contact the church for service schedule.**

Pastor Mike McGovney  
620-298-3201

**LUTHERAN St. John's Nashville**

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

Worship Service  
8:30 a.m.

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

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

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

Our Worship service is found on YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCrenCH1219nmpcojCFyYLA>. You can also find the service on Facebook by searching for either St. John Lutheran Church, Nashville or Trinity Lutheran Church, Medicine Lodge.

**UNITED METHODIST Penalosa**  
Worship  
9:15 a.m.

**Cunningham**  
Worship 10:45 a.m.

620-298-2090  
Pastor Mathew Ndambuki Musyoki

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Zenda**  
101 N. Main  
Sunday Worship  
9 a.m.

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

**Community Bulletin Board**

**December 21st through January 3rd**  
School Winter Break

**Monday, January 4th**  
Back to School

**Tuesday, January 5**  
Lions' Club

**Friday, January 8th**  
HS BB vs Kinsley at HOME \*\*\*\*\*

**Winter Homecoming**

**Saturday January 9th**  
HS B-Team Tourney at Cunningham

**Ninnescah Valley Bank will be closed January 1st.**

**NINNESCAH VALLEY BANK**

[nvalleybank.com](http://nvalleybank.com) Member FDIC

**Fitzsimmons INSURANCE**

**Locally owned and operated for over 30 years**  
Crop\*Auto\*Home\*Farm\*Commerical\*Life

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[www.fitzsimmonsins.com](http://www.fitzsimmonsins.com)  
[marilyn@fitzins.kscoxmail.com](mailto:marilyn@fitzins.kscoxmail.com)

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

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

**REOPENING January 8th-10th, 2021:**

**The Croods: A New Age**  
*Rated: PG*

Showtimes are Friday and Saturday at 7:30pm and Sunday at 5:30pm.  
All Seats: \$6.00

*(Although masks are not mandatory, we strongly encourage wearing masks in the lobby area and to practise social distancing)*  
Thank YOU for supporting YOUR Kingman Historic Theatre.

**- WANTED -**

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

**"So next time you go to a museum, keep your eyes open; you never know what you will see."**  
— Isaac du Toit, The Living Museum

**"Museums tell stories so much better than textbooks do. And that's what history is, isn't it? It's just a really big story. That's what makes it important. And museums get that. Textbooks don't."** — Katherine Locke, Out Now: Queer We Go Again!

**Fundraisers & Charitable Opportunities in our Community**

**Cunningham Public Library**  
4C Day Care Shop [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) or contact Kathy Albers 620-298-2725 or 620-388-0774

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

**Hands of Hope** (contact Fitzsimmons Insurance or any church)

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

**Cunningham Community Center** (leave donation at the bank)

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

**Cunningham Museum** (to donate contact Donna Glenn)

**The Cunningham Courier**  
(USPS 006-101)

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

New Year, new format. I thought I'd lay out the 'old news' from older to newer.... like a history book. I know change is difficult for some, but I think everyone will adjust just fine.

**1936**  
**January 3-** Work was resumed on the Gilchrist No. 1, Pratt county semi-Wildcat located south of Cairo Saturday when workmen began the job of killing the gas in an effort to cement the hole. As soon as the job is completed, the hole will be cemented if possible, to shut off the water near where oil was found in the Wilcox sand. The depth will be approximately 4345 feet where the first and only showing of oil was found in the Wilcox. The well probably then will be acidized to increase the oil flow.

The east Maxedon No. 2 was drilling ahead Sunday around 2350 feet and was making good progress after the shutdown for Christmas. The Maxedon is the only drilling well in the Cunningham pool at the present time. No additional offsets have been staked.

No definite information is available concerning the Shell application which has been authorized to be staked east of Cunningham. However, royalty in that section and around Penalosa has been selling at a premium for the past several weeks and enthusiasm has been running high.

**1941**  
**January 3-**Entire paper reviews 1940

**1951**  
**January 5-** A civic booster club may result from a meeting of Cunningham business men and merchants, workers, and farmers on Wednesday evening, January 17, if plans of a group of leaders, headed by Dr. D. E. Thompson, Mayor, are realized.

A dinner is to be held to encourage the formation of such an organization, with Bill Adams, Sun City; Marvin Potter, Preston; George E. Jones, Turon; Harold S. Herd, Coldwater; L.H. McShane, Haviland; J. A. Menoher, Greensburg; Frank Kumberg, Sawyer, and Webb Elson, Pratt, all noted leaders in their respective cities, included on the guest list.

Over two hundred postcards will be mailed next week to men of the community by which they may signify their intention of attending the supper and meeting.

The following college students spent the holiday vacation with their respective parents, Kenneth Watkins, James Stanley, Deem Crow, Marcellus Schwartz, Bob Huffman, Virginia Bradley, and Jerome Schnittker, from Kansas State College at Manhattan; Chester Fee, Kansas

University at Lawrence; Esther Sheldon and Jimmy Gagnebin from Southwestern College at Winfield; and Kathleen and Anita Howell, and Beverly Barr from Pratt Junior College.

Hauser's Market  
Round Steak  
89¢ lb.  
Beef Liver  
39¢ thin sliced lb.  
Cudahay's Wicklow Bacon  
45¢ lb.  
Sturgeon Bay Red Pitted Cherries  
4 No. 3 Cans \$1.00  
Sutter Pack Syrup  
Pack Fruit Cocktail  
4 Tall Cans \$1.00  
January 3, 1941  
Entire paper reviews 1940

**1956**  
**January 5-** In spite of the introduction in 1955 of the Salk Vaccine for the prevention of Polio, preparations are being made for the 1956 March of Dimes, according to Mrs. E. E. Witt, Chairman for Rural and Dresden Townships for the National Foundation of Infantile Paralysis.

Mrs. Witt points out that 1955 was only the beginning of the use of the vaccine and opened up what may be, in future years, the final assault on this crippling disease. The vaccine came too late for 30,000 persons stricken last year, including three from Kingman County, and it will be too late for thousands more in 1956.

The Salk Vaccine was developed with March of Dimes funds, but it still is not 100% effective, and neither can it be told yet how long its protection lasts.

Coin collection boxes are being place in Cunningham business firms during this week. Help the little crippled boy on the card.

The high school basketball return to the "basketball wars" following a holiday vacation by playing host to Sun City, Friday evening, in the new high school auditorium. The preliminary game will start at 7:00 o'clock. The local quintet, sporting an undefeated record of four wins against zero losses, anticipate a tough game with the Sun Citians. Coach Bill Laney says it has been reported that the Sun City team practiced all during the holiday vacation with the intention of knocking Cunningham off their undefeated ladder, but, he says the Cunningham boys have not been idle during the vacation period.

Coats comes to Cunningham next Tuesday night for a pair of games.

Barber County's oil industry got a discouraging year-ending blow last week with the announcement by the Skelly Oil Company that it is ceasing purchase of crude

oil from the county's largest oil pool, effective February 1.

Skelly officials at Tulsa, Oklahoma said they are discontinuing purchases from the Rhodes Oil Pool because of the poor quality of crude oil. J. B. Sleeper, Skelly's Crude Oil Purchasing Department Manager, said that the Rhodes crude oil is causing damage to the refinery facilities of Skelly's El Dorado plant "due to excessive salt, sulpher, and metal content of the oil."

Aurora Gasoline Company's No. 3 Conrady, a Willowdale Oil Field well, has drawn a permanent pump potential of 124 barrels of oil daily from the Viola Line, with a total depth of 4506 feet.

Cable tools have been moved to Bennett and Roberts No. 3 McMichael well in the Dresden Oil Field, six miles northeast of Cunningham. Pipe was set two weeks ago in the Viola Lime, the formation from which other wells in the field have been producing oil.

Drillers are cutting holes below 3900 feet at Bennett and Roberts No. 2 Sale, located on the northwest edge of the Dresden Oil Field and slightly more than a half a mile south of their present well, the No. 3 McMichael six miles northeast of Cunningham.

**1961**  
**January 5-** Five teenage girls received minor injuries, New Year's Day, when they were involved in a two-car mishap on Highway 54 one mile east of town, when cars driven by Nora Ditto, 16, of Medicine Lodge, and Gene Mertens, 17, of Cunningham collided as Miss Ditto attempted to make a U-turn at the crossing.

Both cars, a 1955 Pontiac belonging to the Dittos, and a 1956 Chevrolet driven by Mertens, were totally wrecked, but the occupants of both cars escaped serious injuries.

Miss Ditto received a sprained ankle and minor abrasions, and another passenger in the car, June Crosley, suffered a slight brain concussion and minor bruises, while the third passenger in the car, Mary Zrubek, escaped unhurt.

Passengers in the Mertens car, Maxine Lagree, 14, Nancy Lagree, 13, of Cunningham, and Sondra Baird, 15, of Hutchinson, received abrasions and cuts, as did the driver, but none of too serious consequences.

Miss Crosley was taken to the Pratt County Hospital, but is reported recovering nicely.

The regular monthly meeting of the Cunningham 4-H Club was held in the High School Recreation Room, Monday evening.

The meeting opened with the 4-H Club Pledge, after which Joel Pelzl led the group in singing "Taps." During the business session the members made plans for participation in the Kingman

### The Saints Defeat the Cats

The Classical School of Wichita traveled to Cunningham to take on the Wildcats in a non-conference contest. The Saints managed a 56 to 37 win over the Wildcats.

The Wildcats have had a tendency this year of missing the mark in one of the quarters. In this game, it was the first quarter. The Classical school jumped out to a 13 to 2 lead in the first quarter. Erik Paris scored the lone basket for Cunningham and we were zero for four at the free throw line.

Cunningham played a solid man to man defense and held the Saints to nine points in the second quarter. Lane Halderson carried the load for the Cats scoring five points along with two points from Isaiah Reed had the Cats trailing at halftime 22 to 9.

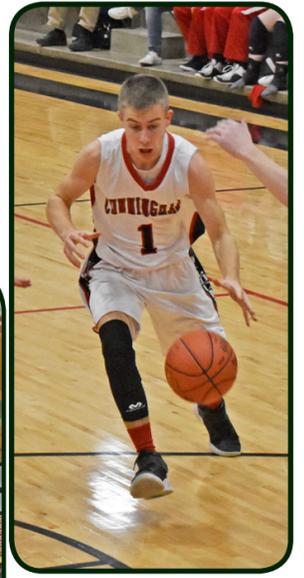
The Cats scored 10 points in the third quarter with Luke McGuire and Nathan Lohrke each scoring five points. The Saints added 20 points to their total as foul trouble forced Cunningham to go to their bench.

Halderson again led the Cats in the fourth quarter, making 12 points. Lohrke added 4 and McGuire made two free throws which gave the Cats 18 points. Classical put in 14 points to secure the victory.

4

Name	2pt. made	3pt. made	FTM/FTA	TP	Reb.	Asst.	Stl.	Chg.
McGuire		1	4/8	7	7	3		
Halderson	6		5/8	17	7	1		
Lohrke	2	1	2/2	9	3		1	
Ruckle					1	2		
Paris	1			2	3			
Reed	1		0/2	2	5		1	
Morgan					1			

	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	Final
Cunningham	2	7	10	18	37
Classical	13	9	20	14	56



Above left: Lane Halderson  
Middle: Isaiah Reed  
Right: Luke McGuire

### Cats Lose to 'Stangs

With some schedule adjustments made by the athletic directors, the Wildcats travelled to Macksville to take on the Mustangs on December 21, 2020. After two players were injured in the JV game, the Cats took on the Mustangs with seven players and fell short by a score of 35 to 66.

The first half belonged to Macksville as they scored 25 and 21, respectively in the first two quarters. Nathan Lohrke and Isaiah Reed scored five and two points in the first quarter and Luke McGuire and Lohrke added six points in the second quarter for a 46 to 13 half-time score.

Cunningham pressed some in the third quarter causing turnovers on Macksville. The offense ramped up and scored 16 points while holding Macksville to 12 points. Lohrke had six points. Reed put in four points and McGuire and Erik Paris each had three points.

The clock ran most of the fourth quarter because of the 30-point mercy rule. Reed and Lohrke added two and four points, respectively with Macksville scoring eight to finish the game with a score of 66 to 35.

Cunningham finished 2020 with a 1-6 record. Our next game will be on January 8, 2021 against Kinsley. It will also be Homecoming.

by Coach Bob Stackhouse



Nathan Lohrke



Luke McGuire



Jack Ruckle

Name	2pt. made	3pt. made	FTM/FTA	TP	Reb.	Asst.	Stl.	Chg.
McGuire	3		1/1	7	4	4	2	1
Lohrke	5	2	1/3	17	8		2	
Ruckle					3	2	1	
Paris		1		3	7	1	2	
Reed	4			8	4	5		

	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	Final
Cunningham	7	6	16	6	35
Macksville	25	21	12	8	66

*“Nervous means you want to play. Scared means you don’t want to play.”*  
— Sherman Alexie, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*



**“Basketball Rule #1**

*In this game of life your family is the court and the ball is your heart. No matter how good you are, no matter how down you get, always leave your heart on the court.”*

— Kwame Alexander, *The Crossover*

## Wichita Classical No Match for Lady Cats

Cunningham displayed their advantage of experience and skill to completely dismantle the youthful squad from Wichita Classical. The box score is very telling as we blanked our opponents 27-0 in the first quarter and yet, with no more than 3 starters in the game at a time during the second quarter, much of the same prevailed as we tacked on another 19 to lead 46-4 at halftime. "Hanging a hundred" on a team serves no good purpose though, so as I reached even deeper down the

bench in the second half, and this proved to level the playing field. No starter played more than 15 minutes and the playing time for non-starters was both plentiful and productive in all aspects except scoring. The final score of 52-16 evidences the fact that our offense stalled out without more than one starter on the floor to facilitate.

We had a nice distribution of scoring among nine contributors, led by Madie McGuire's 11. Additional scoring came as follows: Morgan Meyers 8, Alayna McGuire 7, Taylor Schultz 7, Reese McGuire 5, Maddi Panek 4, Abby Hansen 4, Maranda Lohrke 4, and Hannah Ellis 1. As

a team we shot better from long distance (42%) than overall (37%). We didn't shoot a lot of free throws, but making good on 8 of the 13 attempts we did have is a respectable 62%.

We have a new leader for this game in terms of rebounding and that would be Hannah Ellis as she pulled down 6 boards while Madie and Abby each added 4. To counter our 10 team turnovers we had 17 steals, led by Morgan and Reese with 3 apiece. Morgan also paced us with an impressive 8 assists in her 13 minutes of play.

by Coach Eric Meyers

## Lady Wildcats



Madie McGuire



Taylor Schultz

photos by Molly Morgan



## Lady Cats Corral Mustangs

In this 50th year of girls basketball at CHS and on the 129th anniversary of the invention of basketball, the Lady Cats honored the game with good play throughout. We actually didn't shoot well, but in this road game against Macksville our execution of set plays and of our defensive game plan was super. Cunningham had its usual good start to the game and dumped in 20 first quarter points to lead by 14. Another dozen in the second quarter and we were able to enjoy a half-time lead of 32-13. I've been harping on the girls to win the second half of the game since that's been an issue, and while scoring was more limited in the second half, especially in the third quarter, we did win every quarter of play and won convincingly, 52-24. More than anything, I was pleased with our defensive effort. It's the type of result we frankly got more of last year than so far this year.

While we shot just 32% from the field, we did put up 50 shots, and when you're able to do that it's not as imperative to shoot a high percentage. Offensive rebounding (17) extended possessions and produced extra shots as we managed to hit the magic threshold of 1 point per possession, which is a good number. When we have scored 1 or more points per possession, we have not lost a single game since I began tracking this number 4 years ago. At the free throw line we were solid as we made good on 13 of

19 attempts for 68%.

Morgan returned to form with 19 points to lead a balanced attack. Madie McGuire has emerged as a consistent scorer and she tallied 15. Others scoring on this night were Reese McGuire with 8, Maddi Panek with 7, and Alayna McGuire with 3. Alayna was asked to do a lot defensively and carried out that task very well. I mentioned how satisfied I was with our defense, and support for that can be seen by looking at defensive rebounds (19), deflections (9), steals (11), and blocked shots (4), the latter statistic belonging mostly to Maddi Panek.

The leader in rebounding was Madie with 12 while Maddi added 10, the second consecutive game these two have earned double digit rebounds! Alayna added 5 as well. Madie also led us in steals with 5 while Maddie and Morgan snared 4. And in terms of assists, Alayna led the way with 3.

As we enter the holiday break, I'm pleased with our 6-1 record, but happy the girls are not. They won't get a chance to avenge their only loss to the AAU team called Life Prep Academy, but they'd like to, as would I. All eyes must be forward looking as we will get into the meat of our schedule by mid-January and will get some stiff challenges by some of our league counterparts during the 54 Classic and in league play. This group has some toughness and meanness that I kinda like!

by Coach Eric Meyers



Alayna McGuire



photos by Molly Morgan



Morgan Meyers



Madie McGuire



Reese McGuire



Maddi Panek



Reese McGuire

YEARS AGO IN

## The Cunningham Clipper

William E. Bradley, Editor

County 4-H Club Days. Roll call was answered with a good grooming habit, after which Bobby Witt led the singing of "Swing Low Sweet Chariot," and Carolyn Witt gave a project talk about pigs.

Sherril Hutchison gave a short talk on Composer Franz Litz, followed by an excellent discussion of fire safety by City Fire Chief Floren Rose. The meeting was closed with a talk on parliamentary procedures, and a film on the national parks and monuments of the eastern United States, shown by Rollin Dillinger.

Linda Kampling served refreshments to 18 members, six leaders, and six guests, Mrs.

R. L. Dunn and Sheryl, Mrs. Dale Sheldon, Mrs. Leroy Kampling, Rev. Sidney Dillinger and Mr. Rose.

Rollin Dillinger, Reporter.

### 1966

**January 6**-State Supt. of Schools Adel Throckmorton has denied a proposal to unite the Attica School District with the recently created-but as yet without jurisdiction until July 1 of this year-Unified School District No. 332, according to a statement issued this week by the district's school board.

In denying the proposal Supt. Throckmorton listed three deciding factors: 1. The proposal would result in dividing

each of three elementary school districts between different unified districts; 2. No evidence was presented to show that educational advantages would be improved, and 3. The proposal would create a district of such size and shape as to be impracticable.

The proposal was explained to the patrons of both the Attica and the Unified School District at a series of public hearings in December. The Attica district patrons approved the proposal by a 3 to 1 majority, and Unified School District No. 332 patrons, comprising schools at Nashville, Zenda, Willowdale, St. Leo, and Cunningham, approved the proposal by a 2 to 1 majority.

The regular monthly meeting of the Cunningham 4-H Club was held in the

high school recreation room, Monday evening, December 6.

Roll call was answered with "What Christmas Means to Me," after which the group enjoyed "Family Night," with the parents of the club members presenting the program.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Mantooth sang "O Little Town of Bethlehem," and Jeff McCune gave a project talk on working. Mrs. Melvin Oller gave a health report on care of the scalp, after which Mrs. Ed Hageman presented an account of the life history of Elvis Presley, and a parliamentary report, and Tom Strohl gave a talk on soil conservation.

The Dale Sheldon and Alva Hellar families served refreshments of cookies and candy bars.



### Meanderings

The summer after I graduated from Southwestern College in Winfield, I took a job as a Girl Scout Counselor at Camp Weidemann.

Over one hundred new Girl Scouts were bused in every Monday for a week of fun and activities in the Flint Hills. One Monday, four girls got off the bus, giggling and laughing. They got quiet when the camp leader "Hi" welcomed them. They already had their campsite assignments, and when I was pointed out as their lead counselor, they came up giggling. One of them said, "Jamie has gum in her hair." Well, yes, you could tell which was Jamie because she had a lot of gum in her hair. I looked at them, I looked at the other 16 girls waiting on me. I looked back at Jamie. She was a cute little 13-year-old blonde. Her shorts outfit looked expensive. I know her sneakers were. "I didn't mean to," she said.

"Well, Jamie, I can't think of many young ladies who would intentionally put gum in their hair." Giggles. One of her companions said, "You should have seen the bubble she blew. It was as big as her head." Laughter.

Obviously, the hair framing her face was gunked with gum. I reached out and wiped a bit off her jaw.

"Jamie, you will have to go to the nurse. I am sure she will be able to deal with this."

Her reply, "If you have some scissors in her first aid kit, we can just cut it out."

"And what would your mother say about that?"

She looked at her friends, then she said in a rather adult voice (no doubt her mom's) "I spend a great deal of money on your hair, you need to take better care of it."

"Well, there you go. The nurse's office is right over there."

"Okay. Can my friends come with me?"

"No. They are going with me."

Then one of them asked, "Where are we going?"

"To the horse barn."

Big mistake mentioning that. Jamie wasn't having it. "I'll go to the nurse's after the horses. PLEEEASE don't make me miss the horses. I love horses. PLEEEEEASE?"

Of course, she loved horses, she's a 13-year-old girl. She was a cutie with an engaging and charming smile.

I relented. "You will go right to the nurse after we are done at the horse barn." She agreed.

To the horse barn we go. Those four are walking together. Laughing and talking. Jamie swings her hip over to bump her friend, catches her foot

on her friend's foot and falls down on the gravel. Seriously.

The girls, all laughing, reach down to help Jamie up. She looks at her hands. They have that white scraped look to them. "I'm fine."

I looked at her knee. It had a gash in it. Blood running down her shin. I didn't know whether to laugh or cry. "Okay, Jamie..."

"NO!! No! I want to go to the horses! I love horses! Don't you something in your first aid kit?"

I sighed. I got out some wet wipes and a couple of Band-aids. I went with the rest of the group to the horse barn. She and her friends cleaned up her knee and put the Band-aids on and joined us.

I kept a close eye on her while we were there.

Thirty minutes later we are done. I told Jamie she was going to the nurse's office by herself. The rest of us were going to the camp site, put on our swimsuits and go to the pool. AND NO! YOU HAVE TO GO TO THE NURSE!

She started to argue.

"Jamie, I know you want to swim. It is hot. But you have to wear a swimcap."

"I know. But I want to go."

"What will happen when you put your swim cap on with gum in her hair?"

"Oh. Yeah. You're right."

When you get done at the nurse's come and join us at the pool."

We made it two days. One evening, after dark, two of her tent mates come running to my tent. "Jamie fell! Her head is bleeding!"

We had platform tents. They were built a few feet off the ground, which was good because sometimes the creek filled up, and the water ran mere inches below the tents. Jamie had laying on her bed laughing when she rolled over, off the bed and dropped to the ground below, hitting her head on a small rock.

When I got to her tent, she was sitting on her bed with a towel pressed to the back of her head.... Laughing. Blood on her jammies, blood on her face, the towel covered with blood.

"Head wounds always bleed more than wounds on other parts of your body!"

"Thank you, Nurse Jamie."

I sent a couple girls up to the nurse's station, about 1/2 mile across the camp. Cindy, the nurse, came in the camp truck. She examined Jamie, decided the cut wasn't deep, but she wanted her where she could keep an eye on her. Jamie went to spend the night at the first aid station, and I breathed a sigh of relief.

Next morning Jamie is there, feeling just fine.

But the week isn't over, folks.....To be continued..

Always reading, and currently reading, "May Bird Among the Stars" by Jodi Lynn Anderson Roberta



## 4-H youth, volunteers leading local efforts to 'Beat the Virus'

**State 4-H program joins with Kansas Leadership Center to promote healthy communities**

MANHATTAN, Kan. – An ambitious group of Kansas 4-H members and adult volunteers recently took the bull by its proverbial horns in helping their communities cope with the ongoing grind of the COVID-19 pandemic.

They are helping to lead local discussions on the challenges that people are facing during a time when they are staying at home more, seeing friends less and – in some cases – missing out on family gatherings.

Aliah Mestrovich Seay, a youth development specialist for community vitality, said the 4-H members' efforts

are part of the statewide program, Kansas Beats the Virus, a public health partnership between the Kansas Leadership Center and the State of Kansas.

Throughout December, the Kansas Leadership Center is helping to fund groups to lead community meetings and inspire local solutions to keep Kansans healthy, schools and businesses open, and the economy strong.

The KLC set a goal to host 1,000 community meetings in December. As of the middle of the month, the organization reports 1,150 meeting commitments, and 209 action plans launched in Kansas communities.

In most instances, the KLC provides trained professional facilitators to guide local meetings. In the case of Kansas 4-H, however, the organization is lending a helping hand by providing youth and adult facilitators that have received training through its Community Conversations program.

"I think the KLC thought that was pretty amazing that we have these youth and adults that are trained in posi-

tive youth development and know how to facilitate community conversations," Mestrovich Seay said.

According to Mestrovich Seay, 4-H youth and volunteers will help lead 20 community meetings by the end of December. Some ideas that have come from the conversations include volunteers making goodie bags for essential care workers – "including a handwritten 'Thank You' note," she said – and promoting a social media hashtag encouraging people to stay connected at a distance.

"I think this was the perfect time to do this type of activity because morale is down, people are tired, it's the holidays, and this is when we typically get to see family and friends, do caroling ... (but) we aren't going to be able to do those in the same way as we've done before," Mestrovich Seay said.

"Youth are able to speak to the fact that they miss their friends, but that they want to stay safe and they want to be leaders in their community to promote healthy living," she said. "I would say this

activity not only created safer local environments, but also boosted morale. They are truly living out their 4-H pledge to pledge their health to better living."

In some early meetings, Mestrovich Seay said it was "interesting to see first-hand what youth are really thinking about."

"Some of them expressed worry about the fact that they could be asymptomatic and could carry or spread that to a high-risk family member, or to their grandparents or a very young sibling. To hear them speak so eloquently, in an educated way, about this virus, I was really impressed not only by the background information they had but also how they put their understanding into practice to stay safe and better their community."

A growing number of 4-H youth continue to receive training in facilitating community conversations around many topics. Persons interested in hosting a conversation led by youth in their area can contact Mestrovich Seay by email, [aliah@ksu.edu](mailto:aliah@ksu.edu).

## Suggested New Year's Resolutions



1. May all your troubles last as long as your New Year's resolutions.
2. A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other.
3. My New Year's resolution is to be more optimistic by keeping my cup half-full with either rum, vodka, or whiskey.

4. My New Year's resolution is to start buying lottery tickets at a luckier store.
5. My New Year's Resolution is 1080 pixels.
6. My New Year's resolution is to stop hanging out with people who ask me about my New Year's resolutions.
7. I have only one resolution. To rediscover the difference between wants and needs. May I

8. I will avoid taking a bath whenever possible and conserve more water.
9. I resolve to work with neglected children – my own.
10. I will not tell the same story at every get-together.
11. I will think of a password other than "password."
12. I will no longer waste my time relieving the past, instead I will spend it worrying

13. Just for today, I will not sit in my living room all day in my nightdress. Instead, I will move my computer into the bedroom.
14. I will not bore my boss with the same excuse for taking leaves. I will think of some more excuses.
15. I will do less laundry and use more deodorant.

copied from humorpedia.com

## Libraries -- call to verify openings/restrictions

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Tuesday - Thursday  
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Closed Fridays, Saturdays,  
& Holidays  
298-3163

**Zenda Public Library**  
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Thursday:  
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Saturday:  
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
620-243-5791

**Kingman Carnegie Library**  
620-532-3061  
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Tues. : 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Wed. : 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Thurs. : 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Fri. : 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Satu. : 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Pratt Public Library**  
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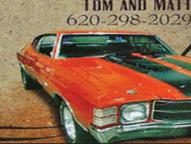
# The Spotlight is on USD 332 Music



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## Women in Academic Medicine Remain Less Likely than Men to be Promoted

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS – According to a study published this week by researchers at the University of Kansas Medical Center in the New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM), there has been little progress over the past 20 years for women seeking advancement in academic medicine. Though women have closed the medical school admissions gender gap, their chances of attaining a leadership position at a medical school are just as poor as they were 20 years ago.

The study, *Women Physicians and Promotion in Academic Medicine*, is an update to a landmark study published in the NEJM in 2000 by a researcher at the Association

of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). That study demonstrated that female graduates of U.S. medical schools working at academic medical centers in the United States were advancing from assistant to associate professor, and from associate to full professor, at lower-than-expected rates.

The new study analyzed data from 1998 to 2018 and from the years of the original study (1979 to 1997).

“We compared rates of promotion across medical school graduates included in the first study with more recent graduates and found that promotion rates for women have not improved,” said Kimber Richter, Ph.D., MPH, professor of population health at KU Medical Center and lead author of the study. “So, things have not gotten better. In fact, for promotion to full professor, they’re clearly worse.”

Across all years, Richter and her colleagues found that wom-

en were 12% more likely than men to choose a career in academic medicine. But after being hired, women assistant professors were 24% less likely than men to be promoted to associate professor, even after the data were adjusted for department type, race (female physicians are more diverse than males) and year of graduation. Women were 23% less likely to be promoted to full professor. And they were a whopping 54% less likely to become chair of a department.

Women in the first study, who graduated between 1979 and 1997, were 21% less likely to be promoted from associate professor to full professor than men. Women in the current study, who graduated after 1997, were 38% less likely to be promoted to full professor than men—a decrease of 17 percentage points in rates of promotion.

These findings were true across all levels of

promotion and within both basic science and clinical departments. “The data are incredibly, depressingly consistent,” said Richter. “You’d think that maybe half the time more women than expected would be promoted, but almost never are as many women promoted as you’d expect.”

Academic leaders agree that gender equity is key to excellence in academic medicine. “Women academic leaders bring unique perspectives, skills and talents to each part of the academic missions of research, education and practice,” said Robert D. Simari, M.D., executive vice chancellor of KU Medical Center and a co-author on the study. “Current methods to support women in academic medicine are insufficient. We must find new and more effective strategies.”

These disparities contradict the notion that the scarcity of women physicians in senior academic positions is a pipeline is-

sue. Women have made up at least 40% of incoming U.S. medical students every year since 1992, and surpassed men for the first time in 2017.

The study cites potential reasons that women remain under-promoted: an “old boys’ club” climate; a tendency of male leadership to promote other men; higher rates of sexual harassment among women; and the failure to retain women because of any of these factors. Women also continue to bear more child and elder care responsibilities that can impact their career goals, a problem that the COVID-19 pandemic could exacerbate.

Some factors critical for advancement in academic medicine come with an inherent bias, such as the need to publish research in medical and science journals, Richter noted. Women are underrepresented among editors and editorial boards.

“That can create publication gaps, due not

only to how research is reviewed but also the kinds of research that are viewed as important,” she said. “Service on editorial boards is a big factor in promotion, so if women are not getting those positions, they have less ammo for the promotion and tenure process.”

Study data came from the AAMC and included 559,098 students who graduated in academic years 1978-79 through 2012-13 from 134 U.S. schools that grant M.D. degrees. Data on faculty promotions and department chair appointments extended through 2018 and came from AAMC’s Faculty Roster. The study was funded by the KU Medical Center Joy McCann Professorship for Women in Medicine and an international fellowship from the American Association of University Women awarded to Erica Cruvinel, Ph.D., a co-author on the study.



Will You Be America’s Next Top Bread Baker?

Prizes and Rules Now Posted for 2021 National Festival of Breads

For audio version, visit [kansaswheat.org](http://kansaswheat.org).

The holidays are the perfect time to turn pandemic baking projects into entries for the 2021 National Festival of Breads. The event is going virtual for 2021, further expanding the opportunities to compete in the premiere yeast bread baking contest for youth and adults. Winners will receive cash prizes and baking bundles from the event’s sponsors: Kansas Wheat, King Arthur Baking Company and Red Star Yeast.

“The National Festival

of Breads is the only baking competition of its kind, recognizing the best bakers’ skills and creativity,” said Cindy Falk, co-chairperson of the event and nutrition educator for the Kansas Wheat Commission. “This year’s virtual contest builds upon the rich tradition of grassroots support that has made the festival an experience like none other.”

The official rules and regulations for the contest are now posted at <http://nationalfestivalof-breads.com/>. Entries for the National Festival of Breads must be an original yeast bread recipe, must use a Red Star Yeast product as a leavening agent and 75 percent or

more of the total flour in the recipe must be King Arthur unbleached wheat flour. A variety of both branded products are eligible for use in the competition.

The contest is split between two divisions - adult and youth - with sub-categories for each, including:

Adult Categories

Savory Rolls: herb, garlic, onion, cheese, etc.

Sweet Bread/Rolls: tea rings, braided breads, variations of cinnamon rolls, fruit/nut rolls, twists, etc.; with or without icing.

Traditional Breads: white, wheat, whole grain, multi-grain, etc. May be any shape: rectangle, round, braided, etc. A bread great for sandwiches.

Youth Categories

Sweet Rolls: variations of cinnamon rolls, fruit/nut rolls, twists, etc.;

with or without icing.

Creative Bread Shape: edible yeast bread sculpture, i.e. animals, flowers, team mascot, sports theme, holiday, colored yeast dough, etc.

Entries open at 12:00 AM Central Standard Time (CST) on Jan. 8, 2021 and end at 11:59:59 PM CST on Feb. 22, 2021. Each entry must adhere to specific requirements outlined on the contest’s website.

Winners will be notified in early May 2021, with online voting for the contest’s “People’s Choice” award beginning on May 14, 2021. Prizes for the contest include:

\$2,000 + Baking Bundle: THREE (3) Category Winners will be selected, one from each category (Savory Rolls, Sweet Breads/Rolls and Traditional Breads). Each will receive a \$2,000.00 check and a “Baking

Bundle” from sponsors, ERV \$250.00.

Best of Breads Champion: One (1) Overall “BEST OF BREADS” Champion will be selected from the three Category Winners. The Champion will be determined by the Judges’ score. The Champion will receive a year’s supply of Red Star Yeast (eighteen 3-strip packets of Platinum® Yeast); a year’s supply of King Arthur Flour (twelve coupons for a free 5-pound bag of flour); and a \$500.00 King Arthur Baking Company Gift Card that may be used towards a baking class.

Youth \$500 + Bundle: TWO (2) Category Winners will be selected, one from each category (Sweet Rolls and Creative Bread Shape). Each will receive a \$500.00 check and a “Baking Bundle” from Sponsors, ERV

\$250.00.

People’s Choice: Winners will be selected from the three (3) ADULT Category Winners and the two (2) YOUTH Category Winners. One (1) YOUTH and (1) ADULT “People’s Choice” award winner will receive bakeware, ERV \$100.00.

In addition to these category winner prizes, one entrant will win the grand giveaway of a KitchenAid® Artisan® Series 5-quart Tilt-Head Stand Mixer and 10 additional entrants will win various bakeware prizes.

Read the full set of rules and tips to perfect your entry and learn more about the National Festival of Breads at <http://nationalfestivalof-breads.com/>.



## Governor Issues Executive Order Waiving Waiting Week for Unemployment Benefits

TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly today announced that she has signed Executive Order #20-71, providing temporary relief from the waiting week requirement for Kansans applying for unemployment benefits.

“Kansans who have a lost their jobs as a result of COVID-19 cannot afford to wait a week to receive the unemployment benefits they need to make rent payments or feed their families,” Governor Laura Kelly said. “This executive order will be crucial in

our state’s ongoing response to the pandemic and to ensuring unemployed Kansans can access their benefits as soon as possible.”

The “waiting week” is a required non-payable week that typically needs to be served on new benefit years. E.O. #20-71 temporarily waives the waiting week requirement for all claimants. For states that have temporarily waived the waiting week requirement, Congress will federally fund 50% of the first week of compensable regular unemployment until March 14, 2021.

The Order is currently in effect and remains in force until rescinded or until the current state-wide State of Disaster emergency expires, whichever is earlier.

*“The heaviest penalty for declining to rule is to be ruled by someone inferior to yourself.”*  
— Plato, *The Republic*

*“Loyalty to country ALWAYS. Loyalty to government, when it deserves it.”*  
— Mark Twain

## Governor Announces First Statewide Housing Needs Assessment in 27 Years

TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly today announced that a planning and design firm with extensive statewide experience will lead Kansas’ first comprehensive housing needs assessment in nearly 30 years. RDG Planning & Design, an Omaha-based consultancy, will conduct an in-depth discovery process, assess current housing opportunities and identify goals, and develop strategic initiatives to guide the state’s future housing development efforts.

“A shortage of quality, affordable housing is one of our state’s biggest barriers to growth and development, particularly in our rural communities,” Governor Laura Kelly said. “This statewide housing assessment

will provide us with a starting point on how we can positively affect communities’ abilities to grow and provide the quality of life that every Kansan deserves regardless of their zip code.”

RDG has worked in Kansas communities ranging from Scott City to Chanute, De Soto to Dickinson County. The firm’s initiatives have included collaborating with Dodge City officials to pioneer developing some of the state’s first Rural Housing Incentive Districts (RHID), working with Salina leaders to encourage greater re-investment in core neighborhoods, and helping Johnson County navigate tremendous new growth.

“Dodge City has put a major focus on addressing our housing shortage to provide essential homes for our workforce,” said Joann Knight, Executive Director of the Dodge City/Ford County Development Corporation. “RDG plays a vital role in our success, and their at-

tention to detail makes understanding housing needs much easier.”

“RDG has had the pleasure to work in every corner of Kansas, from the state’s largest cities to its smallest communities,” said Amy Haase, RDG Principal. “We have developed a deep understanding of the wide breadth of housing opportunities and challenges facing Kansans, and we are proud that communities continue to seek us out both for the expertise we provide and the passion we bring for creating great places.”

Kansas has not conducted a significant housing study in decades, resulting in a shortage of data on existing housing resources and current and projected needs. The Office of Rural Prosperity’s Housing Work Group, an inter-agency team of state leaders led by KHRC Executive Director Ryan Vincent, identified a needs assessment as a crucial first step in addressing the state’s hous-

ing needs and priorities, particularly in rural and underserved areas.

“As I have discussed with Kansans across the state, housing is a barrier for communities to recruiting and retaining skilled workers,” Lt. Governor Lynn Rogers said. “This statewide assessment will allow us to determine what our current housing needs are and how best to address them.”

The state’s Office of Rural Prosperity, in conjunction with Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC), the state’s housing finance agency, selected the firm through a competitive RFP process and will manage the project. The assessment process is expected to extend throughout 2021, with the final report’s delivery anticipated in December 2021.



## Wildcats Spin the Tornadoes

Cunningham Junior High boys hosted the South Barber Tornadoes on Thursday, December 17. It was our last game before an extended Christmas break, and it's safe to say that the visitors ran into a tornado. Wildcat boys played well on both ends of the court to start the game, allowing only one South Barber basket and one free throw in the first quarter. It was the only full quarter the varsity would play as they split the rest of the game with an eager JV squad. Overall, the varsity group shot 61% from inside the arc and 66% outside the arc. We also had more assists than turnovers which is a great sign for how much we shared the basketball and took good shots. It was a fun game, and the young guys got more varsity minutes and held their own for the

most part. The boys are looking forward to the second half of the season and the challenges it will bring.

Dagim Reed and Will Wegerer led the team in rebounds with 5 a piece followed by Nate Sterneker with 4. Steals were led by Dagim and Nate who each had 3.

by Coach Lance McGuire



### Wildcat Scorers

Dagim Reed	20
Will Wegerer	12
Trent Schnittker	6
Nate Sterneker	6
Wylan Betzen	2
Lucas Hageman	2
Kendall Rogers	2
Andrew Schultz	2

TEAM	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	Final
Cunningham	19	6	19	8	52
South Barber	3	6	9	13	31



Nate Sterneker



Dagim Reed

photos by Molly Morgan



## And some Great Shots of the Junior High Young Lady Wildcats vs. South Barber Tornadoes



I really love this photo of Ellie McGuire completing a layup.



Rylee Miller



Kate Jackson

photos by Molly Morgan

## The Forensics class performed "Little Red Cowboy Hat" for the PreK - 2nd grade.



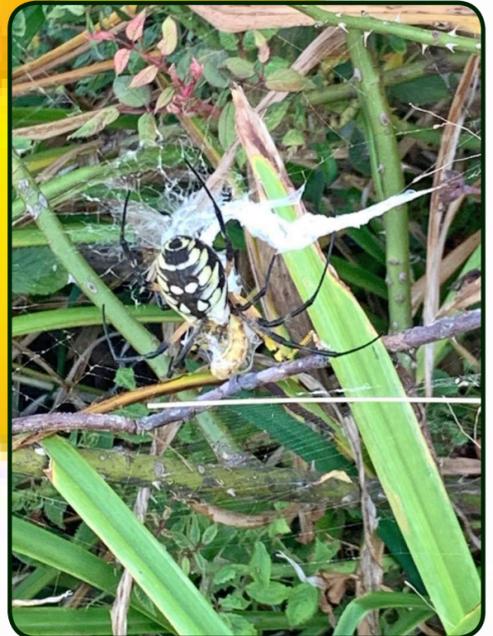
The paper is close to being done, and I have little spaces here and there in the paper to fill in. It is, after all a larger paper this week. I wanted to get in all the ball-games and the spotlight pages. Because these spaces are sometimes difficult to fill, I go 'shopping'. For these delightful photos, I shopped on USD 332's Facebook page. I don't know the story or anything. I don't know the actors, and I copied the headline from the page.

But, it looks like Mrs. Huelskamp, once again, did a great job making learning fun and creative.

photos courtesy of USD 332, of course



I Don't Know About You All.... But I am Tired of Winter and Snow and Cold



photos by Joyce Depenbusch



**KANSAS: STRONGER TOGETHER**

Kansas Crisis Counseling Program  
for COVID-19

**STAY SAFE & INFORMED.**  
**WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS TOGETHER.**

Contact the Kansas Crisis Counseling Program for COVID-19 crisis assistance hotline anytime, at no cost at:  
**1-800-273-8255**

For other related assistance contact:

**SAMHSA Disaster Distress Hotline**

SAMHSA's Disaster Distress Helpline provides 24/7, 365-day-a-year crisis counseling and support to people experiencing emotional distress related to disasters. Call the Disaster Distress Helpline at: 1-800-985-5990. Spanish-speakers can call the hotline and press "2" for 24/7 bilingual support.

**Text the Disaster Distress Hotline**

To connect with a live DDH crisis counselor 24/7 via SMS, from the 50 states text "TalkWithUs" for English or "Hablamos" for Spanish to 66746. Spanish-speakers from Puerto Rico can text "Hablamos" to 1-787-339-2663.

**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline online chat:**

<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/> and click on the CHAT option.

Help is just a phone call, online chat, or text away.

Visit us online at [ksstrongertogether.org](http://ksstrongertogether.org) or on FaceBook at: Kansas: Stronger Together

**WIC Services Available at the Kingman County Health Department**

Are you, or do you know someone who:

- ...is pregnant;
- ...is breastfeeding and infant up to one year of age;
- ...is a child under 5 years old;
- ...has just had a baby

and isn't breastfeeding a baby under 6 months old; ...or has recently miscarried?

You or those people you know may qualify for the WIC (Women, Infant, and Children) supplemental food program-many working people do qualify for WIC and don't realize it. Fruits, vegetables, dairy, protein, and whole-grains foods are available to WIC-eligible people.

Please call the Kingman County Health Department at 620-532-2221 for more information or to schedule an appointment!

For more information about the Kansas WIC Program, visit their website at <http://www.kansaswic.org/families/>

Kingman County Health Department is an equal-opportunity provider.

**Cunningham Liquor**  
 OPEN — 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. — Monday thru Thursday  
 10:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. — Friday & Saturday  
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**Conrardy Seeds**  
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 Site Grading, Pond Dam Restoration  
 • SOIL EROSION MEASURES -  
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 **Thanks for recycling**  
**The Courier on**  
**January 11th**  


**Miscellaneous**

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ATTENTION MEDICARE RECIPIENTS! Open enrollment is upon us! We want to save you money on your medicare supplement plan. FREE QUOTES from top providers. Excellent coverage. Call for a no obligation quote to see how much you can save! 855-587-1299

Effective June 1, 2019: Ads are \$5.50 per column inch, \$6.00 for full-color ads. Front page box ads are \$9.00 per column inch. All ads are subject to approval of this paper, which reserves the right to edit, reject, or properly classify any ad. Note: The views and opinions expressed in advertisements in The Cunningham Courier do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of the Courier or staff. Errors will be corrected when brought to my attention. Classified Ad Rates \$5.00 minimum charge for one-week run. DEADLINES: 2:00 p.m. Tuesdays

**Kingman Public Transportation**  
 305 North Cedar, Kingman, Kan.  
**Phone (620) 532-5744**  
  
**Service Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.**  
**First Come - First Served**  
 Funded in Part by KDOT Public Transportation Program

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

**Cunningham Auto Service**  
 Complete Auto Care  
 Call Tom or Matt  
 620-298-2029  
 cunninghamautoservice@gmail.com  


**Theis**  
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**Support your hometown paper!!!**

Use the classified ads to say "Thank You".  
**\$5.00 - \$10.00**

**For Sale**  
 Approximately 100  
 round bales of prairie hay  
 Call Don Hellar 620-450-8233

**Cunningham Hands of Hope, Inc.**  
**Who are we:** A Not-for-Profit (501c3) organization providing assistance through donations and volunteers.  
**Who do we serve:** Residents within the USD#332 school district  
**What do we serve:** Food  
**When do we serve:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month from 2:00-5:00 p.m.  
**Where do we serve:** 117 N Main (Old School Board Office - Alley Access)  
**Why do we serve:** To provide food assistance to those in need.  
**How to be served:** Attend monthly distribution. Adult of household must be present.  
**Do you need assistance outside distribution hours?**  
 Please call 620-491-0292 and leave a message. Your call will be returned as soon as possible. This institution is an EOE provider.

**For Sale**  
 Steel Cargo/Storage Containers available In Kansas City & Solomon Ks. 20s' 40s' 45s' 48s' & 53s' Call 785 655 9430 or go online to [chuckhenry.com](http://chuckhenry.com) for pricing, availability & Freight. Bridge Decks. 40'x8' 48'x8'6" 90' x 8'6" 785 655 9430 [chuckhenry.com](http://chuckhenry.com)

**Thanks!**  
 Thank you to everyone who purchased a newspaper gift subscription for someone you were thinking of! The Courier needs readers. Thanks for your support!

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 217 N Main St. Kingman, KS 67068  
 620-532-3667  
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 420 S. Jackson Suite 200  
 Pratt, KS 67124  
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 620-532-5821  
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 Equal Housing Lender  
 Member FDIC

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 532-2631

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 Bus: 620-298-5291  
 Toll Free: 800-536-5291  
 For more information  
 see display ad on page 2

State Farm Insurance  
 Jon Wollen, Agent  
 152 N Main Street  
 Kingman, KS 67068  
 Bus: 620-532-3179  
 Toll Free: 800-824-6681  
[www.jonwollen.com](http://www.jonwollen.com)

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 Troy Maydew, OD  
 Seth Thibault, OD  
 Andrew W. Piester, OD  
 216 S. Oak  
 Pratt, Kansas 67124  
 620-672-5934  
 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. M - F  
 604 N. Walnut  
 Medicine Lodge, Kansas 67104  
 620-886-3222  
 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
 Seth Thibault, OD  
 Andrew W. Piester, OD  
 104 West C Ave.  
 Kingman, KS 67068  
 620-532-3154  
 1-800-371-3154  
 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
 Monday - Thursday  
 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Friday

**Pharmacists**  
 Kingman Drug  
 211 North Main., Kingman,  
 Pharmacists on call 24 hours  
 Days - store ph. 532-5113  
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**Child Care**  
 4C  
 Cunningham Child Care  
 Children 8 weeks to 11 years  
 120 West 3rd  
 Cunningham, KS  
 620-298-2010

# Celebrations of Life

## Jerry Nice

Jerry Lee Nice, 69, died Dec. 22, 2020 at his home in Cunningham.

He was born April 18, 1951 the son of Lawrence and Goldie Ross Nice. A longtime Cunningham resident he was a retired carpet installer.

He married Brenda Strickland. Other survivors include ; daughter Mersadies Nice; a son Shane Nice; a brother Mike; and a sister Cheryl.

Memorial services will be held at a later date. Livingston Funeral Home, Kingman.

## Betty Dirks

Funeral service for Betty L. Dirks will be Thursday, December 31, at 1:30 p.m. at Livingston Funeral Home, Kingman, Kansas. Burial will be at the Nashville Cemetery in Nashville, Kansas.



Betty Lou (Bailey) Dirks was born December 14, 1934, in Zenda, Kansas. She lived all her life in Kingman County. Her desire to play the piano when she was young eventually became a gift and a talent she shared for over 50 years teaching others and sharing her talent for the United Methodist Church and the Willowdale Catholic Church. Her talent blossomed when she became just as well gifted at playing the organ. Something she loved to do as many times as possible. A lost art these days. She also played and sang for numerous weddings and funerals. She was a member of the Medicine Lodge United Methodist Church.

When Betty was still living in Zenda, she met the love of her life, Joe Dirks, and they were married on September 28, 1952. They moved to a farm between Zenda and Nashville, Kansas, and began their life together. Betty began working for Dr. Waylon as a receptionist in Nashville. Of course, back then that also meant helping with patients and even at times administering shots. Joe supported her decision to help out more on the farm and she became a homemaker.

They were blessed with two boys. Her days were filled with running errands for parts when Joe needed them and fixing meals for all who helped on the farm. Betty could also be seen in the stands cheering on the boys as they played in many sports and Joe refereed for many years. Her love of playing cards is evident by the many decks of cards found throughout the house and she took the game seriously staying up into the wee night hours to play. She was a part of a bowling league in Pratt and made weekly trips there to meet "the girls". She loved to cook and enjoyed trying new recipes. That love continued and recently you would find her reading cookbooks and tearing out recipes from her magazines. Betty moved to Medicine Lodge, Kansas, in 2011.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents, James and Cora Bailey; her husband, Joe Dirks; siblings, Jim Bailey and Joe Bailey.

Those she leaves behind are sons-Kenny (Shirley) Dirks of Omaha, NE, and Rick (Brenda) Dirks of Medicine Lodge, KS. Six grandchildren: Joe Dirks, Adam Dirks, Dustin Dirks, Jodi (Dirks) Davis, Amber (Dirks) Younglove, Ashley (Dirks) Lazala; thirteen great-grandchildren: Cohen Dirks, Savannah Dirks, Beckett Dirks, Joe Dirks, Lexi Dirks, Cora Dirks, Claire Dirks, Daylynn West, Waylon Davis, Avalynn Lazala, Aiden Lazala, Alayna Lazala, Barrett Younglove. One great-great granddaughter: Reagan West. One brother, John Bailey, and two sisters, Barb Hawkins and Bonnie Bailey. Many nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to the Medicine Lodge United Methodist Church or the Leisure Time Center of Medicine Lodge, both in care of Livingston Funeral Home.

## Oops! Correction Needed...



Last week as I was placing mailing labels on the papers to mail to all my dedicated and wonderful subscribers, I was about 1/2 way through when I noticed on the front page for everyone to see, I had spelled Mrs. Newell's name incorrectly. Her name is spelled Bayleigh not Bailey. If anyone was paying close attention, they will have noticed I did spell it correctly on page 3 of the paper. Apologies, Bayleigh!



### A Note of Thanks

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

I cannot express enough THANKS to our community! I have been involved with Cunningham Parade Day for many years, and I have done my part on the craft show side. Having little knowledge of what the rest of the day took! The ladies that have led this community for many years have done a fine job and completely made it look easy for so many years!! I can't say enough kind words for the women and men who have been behind the scenes! So, when our craft show was cancelled, and the parade was in jeopardy, some fellow friends decided to help out!! Thank you, Alyssa Preisser, Sarah Mack, Barb Schultz and Trish Patton, for stepping up and doing an outstanding job! Thank you to my community for showing support in such a trying time! Thank you to my helpers along the way:

Nancy Birmingham for slaving away on chicken noodles

T&W Meat for hamburger

Fitsimmons Insurance for chili and hot chocolate

Special four helpers with cookies

Preisser Farms for an Extraordinary Tree

Tree stand made by T&R Excavating

Christmas trophy thanks to Logan Mertens and Roughneck Welding

Water bottles provided by Young Construction

Paper products from Teri Glenn and Glenn Farms, Barb Schultz, R Thimesch Construction, and Two Palominos

Trish Patton for serving all the wonderful soup from her truck

Mike McGovney as emcee of the parade

Cody Dunlap for being so kind to film so friends at home could view in!

Color Guard John Fischer, Justin Mack, Garret Beat. Thank you for your service

Eric Kerschen, CHS Band and Singers for your music

Joe and CeCe Sterneker for your candy sack gifts

Skyland Grain for your candy sack prizes

Bob Kerschen for being Santa's driver

Santa :) Shhhh!! we won't tell

Calvin Fischer for being our first Honorary Lighter of the Tree

Mary Ann Ruckle and Joe Sterneker for their keen eye in judging

My many other sponsors Rita Upholstery, Kanza Bank, Ag 1, Cunningham Liquor, Johnna Freund, Heartland Ag, and Bob Sterneker and to the many other sponsors that help with candy sacks and prize money for floats. This day cannot begin without you!!

MOST IMPORTANTLY MY PARADE ENTRY PARTICIPANTS -- THANK YOU! Thank you for embracing our new ideas and we welcome any comments or suggestions! We are striving to continue to make Cunningham Parade Day a day of togetherness and celebration for many years to come!!

Happy New Year from my family to yours!  
Jackie Ruckle



### A Note of Thanks

Thank you to our friends, family, church family, and our community for the gifts of your cards, food, memorials and especially prayers on the passing of Gene. He will be missed by so many. He was a good man.  
Alan and Kathy Albers



### A Note of Thanks

I would like to send a great big thank you to the Cunningham, Preston, Sawyer and Township 12 Fire Departments for putting out the grass fire on Christmas Day. You are truly dedicated to your work to give up family time on this special holiday to help us.  
Dave Hageman

### Health Clinics

Kingman County Health Department will be doing its monthly outreach clinics in January on the following dates.

Cunningham- Wednesday, January 6th from 10:00am – 12:00pm

Nashville- Wednesday, January 6th from 1:30pm – 4:00pm

Norwich- Thursday, January 7th from 1:30pm-4:00pm

We will have flu shots available at the outreach clinics.

### Spay and Neuter Those Pets!!



"Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man."  
— Benjamin Franklin

### Make your next stop unique! Unique Boutique

Tuesday - Friday 10-5  
Saturday 10 - 2  
621 South Main Pratt, KS  
(620) 388-0366



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

When you don't know where to turn... because someone drinks too much...  
Al-Anon Family Groups can help.  
Learn more by attending a confidential meeting in your community.  
888-4AL-ANON • al-anon.org

District 18

Wisdom to Know Alateen & Kiowa AFG  
Mondays Alateen 6pm & AFG 7pm  
705 N 5<sup>th</sup>, Kiowa, KS 67070  
620-960-5154  
kiowaafg@gmail.com

Sharing Solutions AFG  
Wednesdays 7pm  
Coldwater Library  
211 E Main, Coldwater, KS 67029  
620-450-7660

Serenity Seekers AFG  
Day 1: Tuesday 7:00 PM  
Day 2: Thursday 8:00 PM  
223 N Pearl, Pratt, KS 67124  
620-705-1545

Keep it Simple Alateen  
Monday 7 PM  
223 N Pearl, Pratt 67124  
620-862-5492

New Hope Al-Anon  
Thursday 7pm  
218 N Main, Pratt, KS 67124  
620-770-2135

**HAVE YOU EVER BEEN EMBARRASSED BY A DRINKER?**

Ask yourself:

Do you:

- Search for alcohol?
- Pour alcohol down the sink?
- Cancel plans because the drinker is unable to participate?
- Believe there is no one else that could understand how you feel?

If you answered YES, Al-Anon Family Groups, AFG, or Alateen may be able help you find hope and serenity.



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

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