

# The Cunningham Courier

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

\$ 1.50

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(620) 298-2659

April 18, 2024  
Volume 34 Number 16



I saw Barb Schultz had posted these on her Facebook page. It is definitely a different look for the end of our Main Street.

A mid-July finish date is still the plan. I hope to have some more photos in the next week or two.



photos by Barb Schultz

## Minutes from Kingman County Commission

Chairman Henning called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. April 8, 2024, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse.

Present: Jerry Henning, Chairman; Pat Elpers, Commissioner; Jack Thimesch, Commissioner; Carol Noblit, County Clerk; Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor

Visitors: Larry Landwehr; Bob Morris, Kingman Leader-Courier; Dale Enyart and Catherine Rohrer, SCKCCA  
Online Visitors: Caller 01; Heather and User 01.

Staff: Jamie Smith, County Treasurer; Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse; Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director and Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director.

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

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning asked if there was any public comment.

Larry Landwehr said if people don't correct their actions in this society things aren't going to change.

Chairman Henning discussed attending the Ron Estes meet and greet on Thursday and the Senator Roger Marshall meeting at the Ninescah Valley Health Center on Friday.

Jamie Smith, County Treasurer was in to let the Commissioners know that KDOR has requested a change on the temporary tags that is asking people to keep them in their vehicle and use the old tag until they receive the new

vehicle tag.

Ms. Smith let the Commissioners know that they still have a driver's license examiner for three days a week.

Tax sale petition was Filed and will be in possibly October or November.

Ms. Smith went over the interest that the bank account has made so far this year and discussed CD's that are coming due.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to go into executive session with Jamie Smith, County Treasurer and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 9:05 a.m. to discuss an individual employee's performance pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:20 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:20 a.m. with no decision made.

Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse was in to discuss the security cameras for the Health Department and that it was approved to be paid from her grant funding.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the quote received from INA alert for the Health Department security cameras to be paid by grant monies. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director was in and let the Commissioners know that this last weekend was the High School Rodeo and it was very busy. The event was very good.

Ms. Frampton discussed the upcoming Fair Board meeting on April

10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. and requested a Commissioner be in attendance.

Commissioners let Ms. Frampton know that Commissioner Elpers is going to the meeting.

Ms. Frampton discussed the electrical for the livestock buildings.

Ms. Frampton discussed getting an insurance option for events.

Commissioners asked Ms. Frampton to get in touch with Strong's Insurance and discuss it with them.

Catherine Rohrer, South Central Kansas Community Corrections Administrator was in to discuss what their program is doing and has done throughout the years.

Commissioners discussed the Core Community program here in Kingman County and if they could work in conjunction with their program.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the Juvenile Comprehensive Plan for FY 2025. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the Adult Comprehensive Plan for FY 2025. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Chairman Henning moved to recess the meeting at 10:30 a.m. to view the concrete around the buildings.

Chairman Henning reconvened the County Commission meeting at 10:55 a.m.

10:55 a.m. Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in with the following permit:

Kingman Wind Energy 1 & 2 LLC- Intersection modifications Township 28, Range 09 W; Township 28, Range

8; Township 29, Range 8.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the Kingman Wind Energy 1 & 2 LLC permit. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Arensdorf discussed connecting links in small towns and unincorporated areas with the County Commissioners.

Carol Noblit, County Election Officer submitted the invoice to send to the Secretary of State for the Presidential Preference Primary expenses.

MOTION: Commissioner Elpers moved to approve the sending of the invoice to the Secretary of State for the Presidential Preference Primary. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk submitted an agreement letter from AdamsBrown for additional auditing services not to exceed \$5,000.00 to be approved.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the AdamsBrown agreement for additional auditing services not to exceed \$5,000.00. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

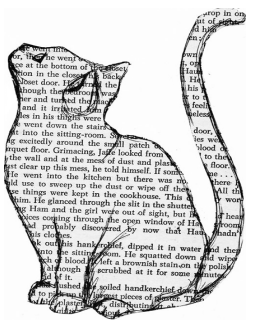
Commissioners signed abatements. Commissioners discussed the NRP program and if it is something that they want to continue.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:43 a.m. Commissioner Elpers seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

**Wishing Our Incredible Lab Team a Happy National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week!**

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!**





Meanderings

I get very frustrated with the games politicians play. Like the whole border fiasco. Senators and Reps worked hard to come up with a cooperative plan and then the House voted it down. Must not be as bad as many made it out to be. I guess people will still get a chance at a better life in the U.S. of A. The Republicans in the House have been complaining they have accomplished anything this term. And it has been noted it is one of the lamest Congressional sessions in history.

I guess they finally decided to get something done as this is what they will be discussing in meetings this week: H.R. 6192 Hands Off Our Home Appliances Act; H.R. 7673 Liberty Laundry Act; H.R. 7645 Clothes Dryer Reliability Act;

H.R. 7637 Refrigerator Freedom Act; H.R. 7626 Affordable Air Conditioning Act; H.R. 7700 Stop Unaffordable Dishwasher Standards Act. Yep. This is probably going to be the sum total of what the Reps accomplish this session. My appliances will be safer, more liberated, more reliable, and more affordable. I bet those machines are most thankful for this legislation.

Meanwhile the Senate is actually looking into a one of the real problems....

I received a newsletter from Kansas Press Association (KPA) telling us that new postal rates will go into effect in July. So now my meanderings will be rantings. Along with this new rate increase to 73 cent stamps, will come a bump of about 10% for community newspapers. That increase means that we are paying about 50% more for postage than just three years ago.

Just a couple of weeks ago I had a bit on the front page about people not receiving their newspapers... and this is just another annoyance about USPS service.

Did you see it the story on KAKE about 3 weeks ago? It reported on the backlog of mail and employee turnout at the Wichita mail facility, machines breaking down and not being fixed in a timely manner, employees wanting to work, but being told not to. Quite a mess. I then realized why folks weren't getting their newspapers.

You know, I don't expect excellent service from an entity as large as this one, but I do expect decent and fair service. On Saturday, I received a check from the City of Turon for the ads they placed in our newspaper in March. But when I checked my records, I had no record that they had paid their February ad bill. Okay, I'd just send another bill. No big deal.

Monday morning my mail included an envelope from the City of Turon. It was the check from February, mailed March 12th. Monday was April 15th. The front of the envelope indicated it has been to Daniels, New Jersey. It was marked Daniels, New Jersey, three times. So, for the last month, it's just been

buzzing around the facility there, waiting for a ride back to Kansas.

Turon is about 11 miles away. How can it take over a month for a single envelope to travel 11 miles? Seriously? Even a month to go from Turon to New Jersey to Cunningham is ridiculous. Not even decent service.

I am thinking the Delivering for America plan (begun in 2021) that Postmaster General Louis DeJoy implemented isn't working. Because, after all, the USPS lost 6.5 billion dollars in the fiscal year ending September of last year.

So, while I was grumbling and muttering like an old lady of yesteryear, I learned that Michigan Senator Gary Peters, chair of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs called a meeting with DeJoy, Roman Martinez IV, Chairman of the Board of Governors USPS, Michael Kubayanda, Chairman of the Postal Regulatory Commission and Tammy Hull, Inspector General of the USPS.

That hearing was today (Tuesday). I've watched/listened to most

of it while working on the paper. Many Senators were unhappy with the service. Senator Rand Paul doesn't want anymore money thrown at it; as it's like burning money, "except when you burn money one at least gets the benefit of heat", and there are no benefits to throwing money at the USPS. (I do agree with this to an extent.)

I guess Georgia is a hot bed of mail woes. Only 36% of the mail gets delivered on time. That's a pretty poor showing. Georgia's Senator Jon Ossoff told DeJoy, "You've got weeks, not months, to fix this, and if you don't fix it, 36% on-time delivery, I don't think you're fit for this job."

As I'm listening, I am hearing frustration. Postal facilities in many cities are being moved to cities 2 hours away. Much like here. We mail something to another person or business here in town and it goes to Wichita and comes back here.

Senator Jacky Rosen from Nevada wants to know why the facility in northern Nevada is closing and the mail is being sent to Sacramento to

be processed and then shipped back to Nevada to be distributed. This would entail a 2 hour drive (one way) along I80 which is frequently impassable during the winter months.

Almost every Senator wanted to know why DeJoy's office didn't respond to requests for data, reports, and information. One Senator (I believe it was Ossoff) who asked DeJoy if he received the letter he sent in March. No, DeJoy didn't. Oh, dear! Not a good answer.

It was an interesting meeting. I didn't get to listen to the last 30 minutes or so, but I will later this week.

Next week I'll discuss some ideas of how we can adjust to accommodate the new rate increase.

Always reading, and currently reading, 'Paper Wishes' by Lois Sepahban, Roberta

"A brick could be used as a stamp on a letter, to increase the weight and boost the cost and profitability of the postal service. It would be government efficiency at its finest."

— Jarod Kintz, Rick Bet Blank

Tallgrass and Tumbleweeds by Gaille Pike

Dear Readers, Nearly every conversation I've had this past week has begun the same way: "How 'bout that wind?!"

Before I go any further, can we please just agree it's been BLOWING all across the state? Let's not quibble about who's had it the worst or start quoting recorded wind speeds and pulling out the

Beaufort Scale. Instead let's talk about how we handle days upon days of wind.

I don't believe you can paint all Kansans with one large generalization brush. But it's hard to deny that certain shared traits emerge when gusts persist for more than one or two days. And as windy days rack up in a row, the more pronounced our...peculiarities become.

On Day One we do our best to ignore it. What I mean is that first we do all those things we know to do to keep things

from blowing over, blowing away, or catching on fire. Then we just try to go about our day as if it weren't windy. Most of us don't complain about it on that first day because we were raised that wind is just a part of life. We're taught early, and repeatedly, that hardships are to be taken in stride and whining isn't tolerated. And fussing doesn't stop the wind. So we batten the hatches, button our lips and hope there's not a Day Two.

We begin Day Two praying there won't be a Day Three. But it's

also time to start checking on loved ones and neighbors. As long as nobody's hurt and nothing's on fire, we crack jokes and tell tall tales ("I remember one time it was so windy...") And that's when the chinks in our Land Of Ahhs armor starts to show. We laugh and smile and roll our eyes. Nothing seems very funny. What we really want, a break of that ole wind, we don't say.

On Day Three, it feels like it may never end. It's hard to think straight. When we try to speak, it comes out gibberish. So

all most of us muster if we're asked, "how about that wind?" is to jut out our bottom lip and make a "whoosh" sound.

On Day Four, Kansans get cranky. So we're extra polite to strangers and take a RED FLAG WARNING approach with loved ones and friends. We're all touchy, dry timbers. Day Four is not the day for "prescribed burning" and we should all try really hard not set unintentional emotional "fires."

On Day Five, we lose count of how many windy days we've had

and somehow that leads us to be less grouchy.

On Day Six, we're relieved. After six straight days of it, nobody's going to think less of us when we complain. We feel free to whine. We even can say that we don't like THIS wind.

Wait a minute--I think the howling's stopped. That's not so bad. How 'bout that wind?!

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



My Breast Cancer Experience: Part 32

By Beth Blasi 2024

WOW! Here it is 2024! It's been a few months since my last update. My hubby and I had CT scans and oncologist checkups in early January. My hubby's stuff all looked great but my CT scan showed something a little suspicious in my right upper lung. My bloodwork cancer markers all looked

fine but it was decided to do a follow-up PET scan in a month or two. And guess what date that PET scan got scheduled? Of course, my ominous date of April 1 – historically April Fool on me! So, I delayed writing an update until I got the results of the PET scan.

In the meantime, I tried to ignore it and not think about it. Amazing how your sub-conscious can still affect you. My neck and shoulder muscles got really tight (I seem to carry a lot of stress there). The "pain in the neck" has subsided, but I am going to start getting some neck/shoulder massages. I was routinely getting them before we left Wichita, but I was hoping the "peace" of

the country along with retiring would negate the need for the massage. Well, I got along really well for several years, but it's time to get them again. After all these years, my hubby hasn't mastered that neck/shoulder massage nor does he keep it up long enough – sigh...

Guess what was March 31 – the day before the PET scan and the day you need to eat a high protein diet and no carbs and no caffeine and no sugary drinks/food? Of course, Easter! So not only was I stressing about the PET scan, I also couldn't eat any Easter candy or drink pop or beer or eat potatoes! I could eat hard-boiled easter eggs, though! The weather did cooperate and we were able to get some fishing in. Our grand-daughter caught the first fish – not that she wanted anything to do with it or the worms it took to catch it. I believe I got the largest fish but my sister-in-law's was also pretty large. My hubby says he didn't catch anything (which is VERY unusual) but to be fair, he was spending a lot of time with lures and bobbers on several poles. My hubby completed

his year of immunotherapy (Opdivo) in October. Hurray! His kidney function has been stable so the kidney doctor is happy. His urine analysis always seems to indicate an infection but both the urologist and nephrologist indicated that would always be the case as his urine passes thru a part of his small intestine now that he no longer has a bladder. We had a little concern about something showing up on one of his CTs and PET scan, but an MRI and ultrasound later, it was determined to be some type of cyst and didn't appear to be a tumor. So we are on a 3-month schedule with the oncologist, 6 months with the nephrologist, and 6 months with the urologist.

Last fall, we had another driving trip adventure with my brother and his wife. We left a little later in the fall so, of course, we ran into all types of weather. We headed to the Northwest US since we hadn't been to Washington and Oregon. We had one day of driving in snow and really cold weather, but the rest of the trip cooperated. We saw a large variety of landscapes and vegetation and were able

to take in a couple national parks. You know how we just fill up our cars at the gas pump? We actually helped a guy learn how to "self-serve" at a gas pump. He was from Washington or Oregon where he had never filled his own gas tank. Remember, we used to have full-service stations but self-service was less expensive. Oh wait! My hubby's store in Zenda still fills your tank for you!

Christmas was hit and miss it seemed like. Of course, my daughters couldn't seem to get away at the same time so we had grand plans to get together at my daughter's in St Charles in mid-December. Well, some nasty bug seemed to be going around Zenda and the store patrons. We were a little snuffly so my daughter wanted us to take Covid tests. We stopped in Hutchinson on the way, and sure enough, we both had Covid. So, we took our gifts to one daughter, and she and her husband went on to St Charles. Good thing we didn't go – I got home that evening and proceeded to throw up my guts for several hours. I then spent the next couple days on the couch

not wanting to move. By actual Christmas, we were both better and we did have a local family get-together.

Did you notice the Eclipse? It was amazing to watch on TV and see how dark it got during the total Eclipse. We noticed it got hazy here but later there were some thin clouds so it still looked hazy! I still had my glasses from 2017 so I watched it a little. My daughter in Missouri was able to find a location in the totality path and she said it was awesome!

Not sure a garden is even happening for us this year. It's been pretty discouraging the last couple years. Amazing how the weeds seem to be able to thrive when the stuff you really want to survive does not.

Oh yeah! I suppose you want to know the results of our scans. Hurray! The hubby's scan still showed nothing – guess he will have these scans every couple months for two years. My PET scan was also clear – no indications of any nastiness at this time. Whew!

Until next time!

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Community Bulletin Board

<p><b>Thursday, April 18</b> HS State Large Group Music *** JH Track at Burrton *** Honor students to Wind Surge game</p>	<p><b>Thursday, April 25</b> 5th Grade Ag Safety Day *** JH Track at Fairfield</p>
<p><b>Friday, April 19</b> HS Tract at Norwich *** Preschool screening</p>	<p><b>Friday, April 26</b> 9:00 a.m. 4th grade Wax Museum display *** HS Track at Stafford</p>
<p><b>Saturday, April 20</b> Regional Forensics *** Prom</p>	<p><b>Saturday, April 27</b> HS State Music</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, April 23</b> 6:30 p.m. State Basketball Meet and Greet</p>	<p><b>Monday, April 29</b> 5:00 p.m. City Council Meeting ***</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, April 24</b> 6:30 Women's Banquet</p>	<p>7:00 p.m. Spring Music Program</p>

The Community Calendar is sponsored by



nvalleybank.com Member FDIC

101 E. First Street  
Cunningham, KS  
620-298-2511



The 4th Grade Wax Museum 2024

The 4th Grade Wax Museum on Friday, April 26th, 2024. Come one come all, anyone and everyone is invited to come and join in on the fun! The experience will take you back in time to learn a lot about history at the Wax Museum. You will learn about famous people such as Abraham Lincoln, Wilt Chamberlain, Beatrix Potter, Helen Keller, Jackie Robinson, Eugen Sandow, the Strongest Man in the World, Kobe Bryant, Betsy Ross, Martina McBride, Amelia Earhart, Charles Schulz, Queen Elizabeth, Franklin Roosevelt, Anne Frank, John Deere, Dolly Parton, and Sacagawea. The Wax Museum will take place in the High School Gym on Friday, April 26th from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM. This is a come-and-go event so you may drop by anytime.



The CHS KAY club would like to invite all women and girls of the community to the Women's Banquet.

Please bring a covered dish to share and your table service. Drinks will be provided.

This year's banquet will be held at the Sacred Heart Hall in Cunningham.

Wednesday  
April 24  
6:30 P.M.  
Sacred Heart Hall,  
Cunningham

Grant Writing Workshop Planned

Do you know how that playground equipment at the park down the street was purchased? Or the new sign leading visitors to a local landmark? How about initial money for a festival? In any community, chances are that someone, or a group of individuals, wrote a grant proposal and received funding to help with the project.

Individuals and community groups can learn more about writing successful grant proposals at an online work-

shop planned by K-State Research and Extension—Kingman County on May 14 and 16 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. The workshop is presented by Nancy Daniels, a community vitality specialist with K-State Research and Extension and the author of many grant proposals. Participants can register online at <https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/program-areas/supporting-communities/grant-support/>. The cost to attend is \$60.

"This workshop is for everyone, whether they've never written a proposal before and have no idea where to start, to those who have experi-

ence but are looking for ways to improve their approach," Daniels said. "The magic that happens in a local community when people find out they don't have to wait to get something done, that they can do it themselves, is incredible."

Participants also learn from each other, she said, adding that even experienced grant writers pick up tips and are reenergized after coming together with peers in their communities. Participants are encouraged to bring their grants or grant ideas to share.

Workshop topics include:

- Conquer your grant

writing fears and start writing;

- Sources of data for community needs (where do you find the numbers to back up your request?);

- Where to find grants;

- Practicing the grant writing elements: Problem, Outcomes, Activities, Evaluation and Budget.


More information and registration is available by contacting the Melissa Thimesch at the K-State Research and Extension — Kingman County at 620-532-5131.

Registration for this event will close at midnight on May 3.


**- WANTED -**  
Old Photos for *Our Community Album*  
Call (620) 298-2659 or email to [couriernews@yahoo.com](mailto:couriernews@yahoo.com)

**Libraries**


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



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



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



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



**2024 1A-II STATE CHAMPS MEET & GREET**  
Tuesday, April 23 @ Gym Lobby  
6:30 - 7:30 pm

**PLEASE JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE WILDCAT BASKETBALL TEAM ON THEIR GREAT SEASON!**

**CORNHOLE BOARDS RAFFLE**

**AUTOGRAPHS FOR THE KIDS**

**DESSERT BAR**



As the Mother/Daughter/Women's Banquet on April 24, Book Club has been moved to May 1st at the Cunningham Public Library. Roberta is hostess.




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

**April 19 -20**  
**Arthur the King**  
Rated PG-13

All Seats are \$3.00 (cash or local check only)  
Showtimes:  
Friday and Saturday at 7:30pm  
Sunday at 5:30pm.

Thank YOU for supporting YOUR Kingman Historic Theatre.

Cunningham High School Student Body 1946-1947



Top Row: Dean Dyche, Norman Zrubek, Al Joe Sterneker, Kenneth Watkins, Nomran Schmidt, Jim Stanley, Verlin Urban, Jerome Schnittker, Junior Harris, Charlie Adamson, Eugene Spade, Bob Neagle, Paul Goetz  
 Next row down: Fairy Bell Foster, Rose Marie Epp, Donna DeWeese, Ramona Zrubek, Gordon Heeke, Calvin Glenn, Melvin Oak, Harold Schreck, Jack Watkins, Louise Willinger, Patricia Glenn, Doris Wardell, Wava Oswalt, Dixie Schwartz  
 Middle row: Neva Rose, Edna MacAlley, Mary Ann Panning, Kathleen Howell, June Sennett (?), Marcellus Schwartz, Eileen Whitmore, Wayne Oak, Bonnie Stillwell, Robert Stillwell, Bonnie Albers, Martha Gillen, Mary F. Tope, Lucille Mason, Joanna Dyche, Bonnie Amick, Joan Brady  
 Second row: Anita Howell, Esther Sheldon, Rita Cooley, Jerry Schafer, Jimmy Shrum, Howard Elrod, Dick Benson, Bobbie Shrum, Bobbie Urban, Daniel Bayer, Ivan Cain, Don Theis, Billy Huffman, Merle Duff, Jimmy (Gagnebin?), Patsy Hayes, Lucille Schreck, Mary J Thimmesch  
 Seated row: Mona Wilcox, Mary Ann Hayes, Dorothy Steffen, Mrs. Dyck, Mrs. Bradley, Mr. Elrod, Mr. Cross, Miss Wear, Miss Remple, Virginia Bradley, Mary Smith, Ellen Park  
 photo courtesy of Joan Stillwell

YEARS AGO IN  
*The Cunningham Clipper*  
 W. A. Bradley / William Bradley

**1969**

April 24 – Seventy-five pints of blood were donated at the annual visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile to St. Leo, Monday.  
 There was one new five-gallon donor, Elmer Greiving. Eva Eck was a new four-gallon donor. A new three-gallon donor was Benny Bock. Mark Osner was a new two-gallon donor, and there were five new one-gallon donors, Catherine Blasi, Sylvester Adelhardt, Gail Walker, Alva Hellar, and LeRoy Bohrer.  
 The ladies of the five churches of St. Leo and Cunningham, St. Leo's Church, United Methodist Church, Christian Church, First Baptist Church, and Sacred Heart Church, served lunch.

The City Planning Commission of Cunningham, held a meeting last Thursday.  
 The Recreation Committee presented a partial plan covering women's physical education activities, summer ball programs, and arts and crafts. This plan was approved by the commission and will be submitted to the City Council.

Also discussed was the possibility of establishing a community youth center in the building recently donated to the city by Mrs. Bess Hauser.

YEARS AGO IN  
*The Cunningham Clipper*  
 Publisher: Charles G. Barnes  
 Editor: Rex Zimmerman  
 Reporter: Marie Ann Mantooth

**1974**

April 25- Junior Girl Scout Troop No. 55 went camping at Turkey Creek this past weekend. After supper, we took a hike to explore the campgrounds. It was on our hike that we felt the first sprinkles of rain and hustled back to camp. The night prove sleepless and a little anxious for all those involved.  
 First off, we thought we were high and dry. We were, to a certain extent the roof leaked!  
 After rearranging ourselves a second time, we settled down by the fireplace for a few winks of sleep between the battering sound of wind, rain, hail, thunder and lightning.  
 Morning finally came, only to find ourselves flooded but save and sound. After breakfast we hiked

out to the road to find it half washed out, but passable. We knew we could get out then, so we returned to camp and finished our weekend hike we had planned.  
 It will be a campout that will not be soon forgotten. A good time was enjoyed by all, as the girls were wanting to stay another day. Those attending were Mrs. Dallas Thornhill, Mrs. Larry Ruckle, Mrs. Jim Byers, Bonita Thornhill, Rhonda Ruckle, Jenny Kincheloe, Kelly Sue Ratcliff, Kerry Ratcliff, Paula FitzSimmons and Bobbi Ross.

John and David Steffen spent Easter weekend with their brother, Mark Steffen, in Iowa, Iowa, where Mark is a graduate student at University of Iowa.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Gene Freund entertained with a Sunday morning breakfast. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Vierthaler, Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Schaller, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Panek, and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Theis.

Ron Albers spent several days at Hays and attended the Delta Tua Alpha Alumni Banquet while there.

YEARS AGO IN  
*The Cunningham Clipper*  
 Publisher: Charles G. Barnes  
 Editor: Scott Newton  
 Reporter: Florine Kampling

**1979**

April 26 – After 36 years on the farm south of Cunningham, Mr. and Mrs. E.E. Witt became "town people" last weekend. The Witts purchased the Anna Freund property n the west edge of Cunningham sometime ago.  
 The transition has not been as difficult as it might have been – in fact, they both felt right at home.  
 The house was originally the Rochester Schoolhouse south of Zenda. The name was later changed to "Sunnyview."  
 Mr. Witt attended this school as a boy. Mrs. Witt, the former Elsie Crow, taught for 16 years in similar buildings in Kingman County.

**Museum Hours  
 Tuesdays, Thursdays,  
 and Saturdays  
 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**  
 or contact  
**Angie Mertens at 620-532-4354 or  
 Alan Albers at 620-298-2725 or  
 Mike McGovney at 620-770-9503**  
**(Volunteers Needed  
 at the museum)**

The Witt's son, Bob, and his family have moved to the farm and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kohtz and son who have been living in the E.E. Witt house have moved to Bob Witt's house in northwest Cunningham.

Mr. and Mrs. J.T. Deviney of Bromide, Oklahoma, are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Patty Lynn Deviney, to Tony Lawrence Fischer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Fischer of Cunningham. A July wedding is planned.

Melodie Graves is a member of the cast of Southwestern College's final dramatic production, J.B. J.B. is a modern adaptation of the book of Job.  
 The production will run May 3, 4, and 5<sup>th</sup> at the Richardson Auditorium on the Southwester campus.

**1984**

April 26 – Rhonda Freund and Renee Wegerer from St. Leo School both have winning entries in conservation that will go to the state conservation contest. Rhonda placed first in the seventh grade limerick contest and Renee was first in the fourth grade poster contest.

The time has arrived once again at Fort Hays State University for caps, gowns, and pomp and circumstance.  
 On Friday, May 11, President Gerald Tomanek will confer degrees on all students who have completed academic requirement since May 1983. Gary Rohlman will received a B.S. in Agri Business.

More than 60 Fort Hays State University students have been selected to serve as student counselors during orientation and early enrollment sessions for the fall term.  
 On those days, entering students will have an opportunity to meet with faculty advisers and with student counselors in their area of interest. New students may also tour the campus. Parent's sessions are scheduled concurrently with student sessions. Counselors are: Cunningham – Wade Ruckle.

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After the Unspeakable Minute

By Jan Ackerson
In one unspeakable minute...
...The doctor and nurse exchange silent glances, and a new mother's heart squeezes out an anguished no...

--I never asked to inspire anybody. And I don't feel brave, or lucky.
"You'll be able to counsel grieving people better, because of your loss. It will help you to do your job better."
--If I could have my child back, I'd flip burgers for the rest of my life.
After my own unspeakable minute, my whys flew heavenward for months. I never got the answer I sought, but here are some truths that I have come to know:
God is holy, and His ways are holy. His motives, therefore, are often unknowable.
"God has given you this child because you are so special in His eyes."
--All I ever wanted to be was ordinary.
"You're such an inspiration. You're so brave. You're so lucky the injury wasn't worse."

daughter, I love you. Trust Me.
Though he brings grief, he will show compassion, so great is his unfailing love. For he does not willingly bring affliction or grief to the children of men.
Lamentations 3:32-33 NIV
God wept when I wept.
\*\*\*
My circumstances do not change God's love for me, so they need not dictate the condition of my spirit.
Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior.
Habakkuk 3:17-18 NIV
When I was finally willing to loosen my grasp on why—that prickly cactus—only then was I able to take hold of what God's hand extended to me: Joy, a shining gem.

Blood

By Amy Michelle Wiley
The warning sign is splashed on the wall, sharp yellow against the concrete. My steps falter. I have a choice. Yet there is nothing left behind me.
The second symbol looms, red like blood. Red, like the future before me.
I pass on and the graffiti becomes stronger. It surrounds me, telling stories of the territory I walk upon. I cannot plead ignorance. I know what I have chosen.
I try to feel confident, swinging my hips and raising my chin like a movie star. I feel only weak. Vulnerable.
Jordan materializes before me. I am expecting him, and still I jump. He laughs, resting his arm on my shoulders. Strong. Protective.
"You ready for this, Mia?" He guides me toward the hood. "Ready to be part of something?"
I feel safe. "I'm ready."
A few hours later finds me again on the street, prepared for my initiation. My lips are so bright I catch their gleam from the corner of my eye. High heels clip against the asphalt. I tug at my shirt, if such a bit of material can be called that.
I step out of our territory, out of safety. One step and I am in Skull territory. A wolf whistle precedes a teen from his hiding place. His watching place. I push down the fear.
"You know where you are, babe?"
I feign confidence. Indifference. "I can see all I need to know."
He chuckles low and

cocks his bald head. "Well then."
Another man steps into the street, eyeing me. He is the shot caller, I can tell. The boss smirks. "Hey homies! Come check out what just wondered in."
We are surrounded by mocking guys. Jordan will be pleased.
I distract the men with my charm. They don't notice the Tigers until they are almost on top of us. The world is filled with knives and shouting. The two gangs clash, blades flashing and words that boil the innards pouring from their mouths as freely as the blood.
It will never end. Men fall. Boys slash. I cower, twisted grimaces ever before me.
I do not know what finally stops them. They scatter, dragging the wounded with them. Jordan does not look for me.
I am alone. Alone in my new life.
I cannot stay in Skull territory or I will join those whose blood flows. As I step from hiding, my knees nearly buckle. I hear a groan. A man lays in a shadow, missed by those who fled. His hair proves he is not a Skull. He is one of mine.
Kneeling beside him, the quiver of my hands grows, shaking violently. I press on his side. His blood is warm and sticky.
He is alert. "I thought everyone had gone. Left me."
I hear my voice, strangely articulate. "We'll stop the flow and then get you somewhere safe."
"Thank you." Brilliant blue eyes watch me.
The blood does not stop. "This isn't working." I try to keep panic from my voice.
"Use my shirt." Already his voice is weakening. He fumbles to pull at his T.
Together we get it off while he bites through his pain. As I tug at the yellow cloth, I feel something hard beneath him. I pull it out, my hand already giving me clues. I stare, my suspicions confirmed.
It is a police radio. "You're a buster." I can hardly speak. "Why didn't you use this, you idiot? You could have been out of here long ago."
"You would have run. You would have gone back to them." His breath comes ragged.
The hatred I feel is all the stronger because of my fear. "You lay out here, bleeding to death, just so you could throw me in the carcel. For revenge. Is that it?" I spit a word at him. He flinches but does not look away.
It is that steady gaze which throws me. No one has looked at me like that—with a caring, a compassion that goes deep.
"You could have died." I look at the red that seeps ever wider. "You could die."
"I stayed because someone bled for me once." His voice is faint. "I want to give you the same chance I was given. That's all. A chance to get away from this." He points a pale hand toward the symbols on the walls. "A chance for new life."
Perhaps I am naïve to believe him. And yet somehow, I do.

Catholic Churches: Sacred Heart, St. John, St. Leo, St. Peter Willowdale. Lutheran Churches: St. John, Trinity. Church of Christ: Penalosa. First Christian Church: Cunningham. United Methodist Church: Penalosa, Cunningham, Zenda.



- Giving Opportunities in our Community
4C Day Care
West Kingman County Education Foundation
Hands of Hope
Cunningham Alumni Scholarship Fund
Cunningham Community Center
Lions' Club
Cunningham Museum
Cunningham Public Library
Cunningham EMS

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

St Leo Knight of Columbus Free Throw Contest Winners



On the left are the nine- and ten-year olds:  
Linux Thimesch  
Daniel Hellman  
Leah Rogers  
Bentley Strohl

On the right are ages 11 through 14:

Cooper Neufeld  
Nathan Ndambuki  
Adam Sterneker  
Morgan Oldham  
Vaughn Preisser  
Lux Thimesch  
Casyn Miller



photos submitted by Eric Kerschen

Second Graders Invite More Community Workers to Visit



Wade Riggs introduces his friend, Kevin Schwertfeger, to the second grade class.



Kevin Schwertfeger shows students how to hold baby chicks.



Wade Riggs shows his chick-holding skills.

Thank you Kevin Schwertfeger for teaching us about all the service jobs you do. Small town people wear many hats and you are a great example of someone who does a lot for so many people. Kevin taught us about his jobs as an independent crop consultant who helps farmers, a volunteer fireman for Reno county, a township trustee who cleans and takes care of the roads, and a cattleman. Kevin also talked to us about the importance of donating blood for the American Red Cross. We appreciate the time Kevin devoted to our class teaching us about so many service jobs and for letting us see the baby chicks!



Second grader Miles Becker introduces his friend, Angela Murphy, to his class.

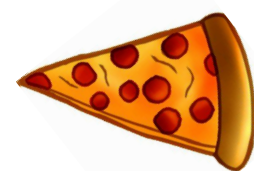


Angela Murphy demonstrates how to make a pizza.

Thank you Angela Murphy and Lauren for teaching us all about your business Cozy's Pizza ! We loved getting to see the process of making a pizza and how everything works from ordering supplies to all the safety precautions you do daily to ensure your food is not only delicious but safe to consume. We appreciate the time you took out of your day and we appreciate you. Thank you also for the delicious pizza and breadsticks!



Ang Murphy and daughter, Lauren Beat, pose with the pizza-loving sec- ond grade class.



both stories and their photos submitted by Ingrid Ricke



Social Security Improves Customer Experience Ranking

We're committed to improving customer service by providing more access to our programs

and services, and our efforts have paid off. We're proud to announce that Social Security's ranking on Forrester's 2023 Customer Experience Index increased by 3.3 points – the only agency on the list to make a significant gain.

We achieved this higher ranking by focusing on key initiatives in 2023, like:

- Implementing online scheduling for in-office enumeration ap-

pointments. Customers can now schedule appointments online for both original and replacement Social Security cards. This service is currently available in all 50 states, as well as Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

- Conducting a targeted mail campaign to reach people who may be eligible for Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug costs and Medicare Savings

Programs with enrollment information. Please see our publication, Understanding the Extra Help with Your Medicare Prescription Drug Plan, at [www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10508.pdf](http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10508.pdf).

- Employing strategies to help people facing barriers in accessing our programs and services, including people with:
  - o Limited income and resources.
  - o Limited English

proficien- cy (LEP).

o A risk of homelessness.

o Mental and behavioral disabilities.

• Partnering with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Services to test new ways to make it easier for SSI applicants to access nutrition assistance programs. For more information, please see our press release at [leases/2022/#12-2022-2.](http://www.ssa.gov/news/press/re-</a></p>
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Forrester's recognition of our customer service improvements reflects our commitment to making it easier for you to do business with us. We invite you to learn more at [www.forrester.com/press-newsroom/forrester-2023-us-federal-customer-experience-index/](http://www.forrester.com/press-newsroom/forrester-2023-us-federal-customer-experience-index/). Please share this news with those who may need it.

**Cunningham High School at South Barber**

Boys finished 4th place out of 12 teams and the girls finished 8th place out of 12 teams.



**Emily Ogg**  
*Long jump: 13' 10"*



**Grayci McCurry hands off to Grace Hageman**  
*4x400 m relay 5:32.44 6th place along with Madilyn Jump and Ellie McGuire*



**Trent Schnitker**  
*Shot put 41' 6.5" 2 place*



**Ada Adams**  
*4 x 800 Relay 13:44.41 5th place along with Maranda Lohrke, Gracie Smyth and Grayci McCurry*



**Skyler Thimesch**  
*200 M Dash 23.28 2nd place*



**Cunningham Forensics 2024**

The Cunningham forensics team has been busy this season. There are seven dedicated forensics students on our team this year. Sean Kostner has participated in Oration, Informative, Extemp, and Impromptu. Taylor Schultz also participated in Impromptu, along with Poetry and Prose. Joanna Hansen has performed in IDAs with Elizabeth Paris and Brianna Dittmer. She also performs in Prose and Poetry along with Nora Huff, Elizabeth Paris, Brianna Dittmer, and Julia Hageman. Nora Huff also performs in Serious Solo. Cunningham has attended eight tournaments this season and every single student has qualified one or all of their pieces for either State Festival or State Champs.

Some of the highlights from the season include attending the Pratt tournament where we competed against 17 teams. Five of our Cunningham students attended this tournament and all five students went to the finals round. Joanna and Elizabeth placed 6th in IDA, Improvised Duet Acting. Brianna also placed 6th in Poetry, Sean placed 3rd in Extemporaneous Speaking and Oration. Nora placed 4th in Serious Solo and Elizabeth placed 2nd in Prose. Cunningham placed 3rd as a team out of 17 teams. Cunningham placed 2nd at the Coldwater tournament out of 8



**Sean Kostner, Nora Huff, Joanna Hansen, Taylor Schultz, Brianna Dittmer, Julia Hageman. Not pictured, Elizabeth Paris**

teams. Six students attended this tournament and Cunningham placed 2nd. At the St. John tournament, all seven forensics students attended and broke seven entries into the finals round. We placed 3rd out of ten teams.

The HOPL Tournament was Tuesday, April 2nd and six of the students attended the tournament at South Barber. Cunningham did an amazing job all six students broke into the finals. We broke 11 events into the finals round. Joanna Hansen and Brianna Dittmer placed 6th in Poetry and

Nora Huff placed 5th in Poetry, Julia Hageman placed 5th in Prose, Nora placed 4th in Prose, and Taylor Schultz took home the gold with 1st place in Prose. Taylor also placed 1st in Impromptu speaking. Sean Kostner placed 3rd in Informative speaking, 2nd in Impromptu, and a gold 1st place medal in Extemporaneous speaking. Nora Huff brought home the gold in Serious Solo and received a 1st place medal. The Cunningham Forensics team placed 2nd as a team, right behind South Barber.

State Champs will be held in McPherson and the State Festival will be held in Wichita,

on Saturday, May 4th, 2024. Cunningham students who are attending the State Festival will perform one time and receive a I, II, III, or IV rating. These Cunningham students have qualified for the State Festival. Taylor Schultz in Poetry, Joanna Hansen in Poetry, Nora Huff in Prose and Poetry, Brianna Dittmer in Poetry, Elizabeth Paris in Poetry, and IDA with Joanna Hansen, and Julia Prose. The students who attend the State Championship will have a very long day. These students will perform in McPherson against all of the 1A schools in the State of Kansas. They will perform in three

rounds. The top 12 in the state of Kansas will then proceed to a semi-final round. The final round will be the top 6 in the state. To be in the top six the students must perform five rounds. Four Cunningham students qualified for the State Championship and seven events qualified. Elizabeth Paris qualified in Prose with her piece "Junie B. Jones and Some Sneaky Peeky Spying", Nora Huff in Serious Solo with her piece, "Things You Can't Tell Just By Looking at Her". Taylor Schultz qualified in Prose with her piece, "Notes from the Night Shift" and also in Impromptu Speaking. Sean Kostner

qualified all three of his events Extemporaneous Speaking, Informative Speaking, and Impromptu Speaking.

The Cunningham Forensics team has had an outstanding season so far. Also, we would like to thank Andy Kostner, Barb Schultz, Michelle LeSage, and Janie Henderson for Judging throughout the season. Michelle LeSage, from Pretty Prairie, will be judging for us at the State Championship this year.

photo and story by Coach Carrie Vahsholtz



## Boys State of Kansas Offering College Credit, Scholarships for Attendees

April 15, 2024 — The American Legion Boys State of Kansas has announced a partnership with Kansas State University to offer attendees of the leadership program three hours of college credit at a significant discount. This year's ALBSK will be held Sunday, June 2, through Saturday, June 8, on KSU's campus in Manhattan. This will be the program's 32nd consecutive session at KSU

and 86th overall. Kansas State is offering two sections of Introduction to Political Science (POLSC 110) specifically for Kansas Boys State attendees. Attending KBS will fulfill a portion of the course requirements with additional course work assigned by the instructor, Nate Birkhead, Ph.D., associate professor of political science. KBS attendees wishing to take advantage of this course will be enrolled as a KSU student, but they do not have to attend K-State as the credit hours will be transferable. The tuition for the course will be \$366 (payable to K-State), a nearly 70

percent savings over the regular three-hour online tuition rate of \$1,181.25. KBS attendees should contact their school guidance counselor to enroll in the course. In addition, Kansas Boys State attendees also have the opportunity to earn two scholarships — the Samsung American Legion Scholarship, worth up to \$10,000, and the Boys State of Kansas Director's Scholarship, worth up to \$1,500. For more information on the Samsung Scholarship, visit [legion.org/scholarships/samsung](http://legion.org/scholarships/samsung); for more information on the KBS Director's Scholarship, e-mail [info@ksbstate.org](mailto:info@ksbstate.org) or call (785) 550-6492.

The American Legion Boys State of Kansas program provides a relevant, interactive, problem-solving experience in leadership and teamwork that develops self-identity, promotes mutual respect and instills civic responsibility to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to community, state and nation. Boys State is a "learning by doing" political exercise that simulates elections, political parties and government at the state, county and local levels, providing opportunities to lead under pressure, showcasing character and working effectively within a team. It's also an opportunity

to gain pride and respect for government, and the price paid by members of the military to preserve democracy. The ALBSK program is for individuals who will complete their junior or sophomore year of high school in the spring just prior to the start of each session. The cost to attend Kansas Boys State is \$375; however, in many instances, sponsors pay the majority of the fees, with the delegate or the family paying \$50. Those wishing to attend the 2024 session should visit [ksbstate.org](http://ksbstate.org) to apply. The deadline to apply for the 2024 program is Tuesday, April 30; applications are accepted

after that date, but on a space-available basis. Potential sponsors, such as American Legion posts, civic organizations, businesses, clubs and interested individuals should visit [ksbstate.org/sponsor-a-delegate](http://ksbstate.org/sponsor-a-delegate). Questions? Contact the ALBSK at [info@ksbstate.org](mailto:info@ksbstate.org) or (785) 550-6492. For information about the 2024 American Legion Auxiliary Sunflower Girls State, which will be held Sunday, June 2, through Friday, June 8, at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, visit [ks-girlsstate.org](http://ks-girlsstate.org).



## Farm Finances

Jackie Mundt, Pratt County farmer and rancher

There was a line in one of those corny comedy/action-adventure movies that made me roll my eyes recently. A character asked, "What's in Kansas?" in reference to them being unable to understand why a mutual friend moved to Kansas. That's not the line that made me roll my eyes. I am a transplant myself and know from experience that Kansas doesn't seem to be very exciting until you get to know what makes it such a wonderful place to live.

The line I am still thinking about was the response, "she married a rich rancher." The insinuation that the only thing making Kansas attractive to a highly affluent, college educated woman is lots of money, makes me little concerned about how many people think all ranchers and farmers are rich.

Since Tax Day is this week, I thought it would be appropriate to dive into how much money farmers make and why people have so many misconceptions about the topic.

In my opinion, there are several culprits creating mystery around

farm income levels. The first is non-farm people. I find it humorous to watch an outsider ask a farmer how many acres or cows they have. Some farmers see that as asking point-blank, "What's your salary?" The poor outsider is probably just trying to show interest and wouldn't have a clue if 500 or 5,000 acres was normal, let alone have any insight on the value of a cow.

Farmers also contribute to the problem. Growing up, my parents had off-farm jobs, so I never really thought about if our dairy made money. In college, I meet farm kids who somewhat proudly talked about getting Pell grants because their parents had a low income or at least had a low taxable income. I never liked that attitude and was glad to meet other farmers who were content to pay taxes because that meant their business was successful and they were being productive members of society.

Legislators and estate taxes are also part of the misunderstanding. Farming is incredibly capital intensive; high land and equipment prices make it really difficult to get started if you don't inherit family assets. Politicians regularly point to a lower threshold for estate taxes as a way to tax the rich. The reality for farmers and many family businesses is that property and equipment

quickly add up to large figures.

Those dollar signs aren't the same as cash. They represent the tractor and field used to plant a crop. Most family farms would have to sell land and equipment to pay estate taxes if the threshold were lowered. Unless a farmer sells out, they will never see the kind of money in cash that makes people think they are rich.

Farmers deal with bigger numbers than other people. They may bring in \$1 million in a great year and \$100,000 the next — before expenses. After paying for seed, fertilizer, machinery, fuel, rent and other business costs, a farmer may make six figures or lose money for the year.

Farmers have tremendous amounts of money invested in equipment, inputs and land. Their risk level is high; they make many decisions without knowing if the weather or market at harvest will cover the costs they've already incurred. All farmers experience bad years. Sometimes they event put a farmer out of business. The stress and uncertainty of trying to keep the farm alive for the next generation is often cause of

mental health issues.

Judging a farmers' income is complicated and difficult because there are too many factors; rich or poor, materialistic or humble, heavily lever-

aged or paid in cash. My experience is that farmers' finances may look different than the average American, but we really aren't that different at all. Copyright © 2024

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**B-29 MUSEUM & MEMORIAL 5K RUN & WALK**

Registration Fee: **\$25** (Early Bird (May 1st) \$30 AFTER MAY 1ST)

SCENIC 5K ROUTE AROUND THE B-29 MUSEUM GROUNDS AND ALL-VETERANS MEMORIAL

**SATURDAY**  
JUNE 8TH, 2024  
82 CURRAN RD. PRATT, KS 67124  
RACE STARTS @ 7:30AM

PACKET PICKUP @ RACE LOCATION  
FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 6:00-8:00 PM  
SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 6:00-7:00 AM

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER!

ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE EVENT WILL DIRECTLY SUPPORT THE B-29 MUSEUM

FIRST 200 PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE A FREE T-SHIRT & FINISHER MEDAL, LIVE MUSIC, AWARDS TO TOP FINISHER IN EACH AGE BRACKET, EXCLUSIVE ACCESS TO THE B-29 MUSEUM EXHIBITS

## Comfortably Dumb by Bruce Quast



"Last words? Not off the top of my head."

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Kingman County Sheriff's Report

**Sunday, April 7**  
 Traffic Stop 1  
 Civil Paper Service 1  
 Fire / Truck Tire 400 E Leiter Ave, Cunningham  
 Unlock Vehicle 4000 Blk NE 10 St, Kingman  
 Suspicious Person NE 100 Ave & E Hwy 54, Kingman  
 911 Accidental Dial 4000 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman  
 Damage to Property 15000 Blk NE Paint Pony Trail, Cheney  
 Non-Injury Accident 11000 E Hwy 54, Cheney

**Monday, April 8**  
 Civil Paper Service 1  
 Medical 200 Blk S Wilmot St, Cunningham  
 Damage to Property SE 100 St & SE 30 Ave, Kingman  
 Alarm 100 Blk W 1st St, Cunningham  
 Fire /Grass 7000 Blk SW 60 St, Kingman  
 Traffic Complaint 200 Blk E 1st Ave, Cunningham  
 Traffic Complaint SE 140 St & SE 160 Ave, Norwich  
 Disturbance 1000 Blk N Chariton St, Kingman

**Tuesday, April 9**  
 Traffic Stop 1  
 Traffic Complaint 3000 E Hwy 42, Rago  
 Disturbance 400 Blk S Main St, Norwich  
 Traffic Complaint 1700 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman  
 Disturbance 400 Blk E B Ave, Kingman  
 Traffic Complaint 11000 E Hwy 54, Cheney  
 Agency Assist 1200 Blk N Broadway St, Kingman

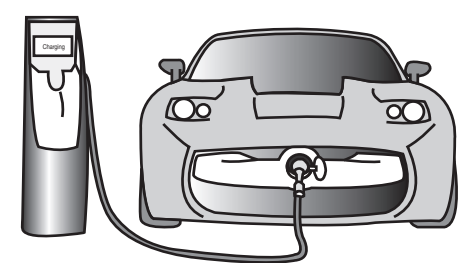
**Wednesday, April 10**  
 Traffic Stop 2  
 Civil Paper Service 2  
 VIN Inspection 200 Blk S Main St, Norwich  
 Miscellaneous 120 N Spruce, Kingman  
 Agency Assist 1200 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman

Follow Up 100 Blk E 3rd Ave, Kingman  
 Return of Property 120 N Spruce, Kingman  
 Miscellaneous 120 N Spruce, Kingman  
 Theft / Arrest 400 Blk E Leiter Ave, Cunningham  
 Traffic Complaint 13000 W Hwy 54, Cunningham  
 Trespassing 300 Blk E D Ave, Kingman

**Thursday, April 11**  
 Traffic Stop 4  
 Civil Paper Service 2  
 Court 130 N Spruce, Kingman  
 Transport Prisoner 700 Blk W D Ave, Kingman  
 Disabled Vehicle 8000 Blk E Hwy 54, Murdock  
 Unlock Vehicle 13000 Blk NE 10 St, Cheney  
 Alarm 200 Blk W D Ave, Kingman

**Friday, April 12**  
 Non-Injury Accident E 1st St & NE 160 Ave, Cunningham  
 Smoke Investigation 2100 Blk N Koch Industrial Rd, Kingman  
 Traffic Complaint NW 110 Ave & W Hwy 54, Kingman  
 Transport Prisoner 120 N Spruce, Kingman  
 Disturbance 300 Blk W C Ave, Kingman  
 Abandoned Vehicle 4000 Blk NE 50 St, Kingman  
 Traffic Complaint 9000 Blk W Hwy 42, Zenda  
 Transport Prisoner 120 N Spruce, Kingman  
 Damage to Property NE 50 St & NE 50 Ave, Pretty Prairie  
 Warrant Service 120 N Spruce, Kingman

**Saturday, April 6**  
 Traffic Stop 2  
 Traffic Complaint 15000 Blk W Hwy 54, Cheney  
 Traffic Complaint N Hwy 14 & NE 60 St, Kingman  
 Traffic Complaint 400 Blk E Leiter Ave, Cunningham  
 Traffic Complaint 5000 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman  
 Abandoned Vehicle 3200 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman  
 Suspicious Vehicle 4700 Blk NE 10 Ave, Kingman  
 Traffic Complaint E Hwy 42 & SE 70 Ave, Rago



Earth Day Energy Today and Tomorrow!

People are always working on ways to get the energy we need while keeping the ground, air and water clean, as well. Some people are exploring "clean coal." Others are using "renewable" forms of energy - like solar panels or wind turbines.



Wind turbines are one way to generate power using a renewable resource. They help to cut pollution.

Read the clues to fill in the puzzle:

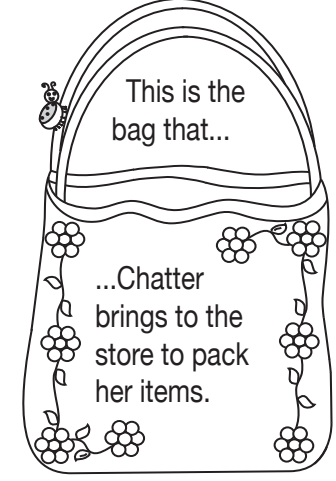
- The major fuels we use for energy today are called \_\_\_\_\_ fuels because they are made from parts of animals and plants that have been under heat and pressure in the Earth's crust for millions of years.
- Pieces of black \_\_\_\_\_ we dig out of the ground are used in power plants to generate electricity.
- A thick liquid we pump out of the earth and use to heat our homes or turn into gasoline to run cars.
- Natural \_\_\_\_\_ is pumped out of oil fields or other underground fields. It is used to heat homes and water and to cook food on stoves. Russia has the world's largest amounts.
- Once we use up the **fossil fuels** they will be gone. Today, scientists are working hard on fuel sources that can be regrown or reused. They are called \_\_\_\_\_ fuels.
- Giant, fan-like structures with blades that you might see in fields are called turbines. They use the \_\_\_\_\_ as a source of power. They make electricity to power homes.
- Another **renewable** source of power is \_\_\_\_\_. We use dams to hold water back and then slowly let it flow through to spin generators to make electricity. This is called hydropower.
- In very sunny areas, you can see panels that collect \_\_\_\_\_ energy. This is energy from the sun's rays. The special cells in the panels can change sunlight into electricity.
- Have you heard of bioenergy? This form of energy is created from \_\_\_\_\_ like corn or grains, or may be made from wood scraps or animal waste. It is a renewable fuel because we can regrow its sources.
- This source of energy uses heat from deep in the earth. Boiling liquid or steam is pumped up to the surface and passed through machines to generate electricity.
- Have you heard of \_\_\_\_\_ power plants? They generate energy by splitting atoms. When the atoms are split apart they release energy. France generates almost all of its own electricity by using nuclear power plants - and sells energy to other countries, too.
- Colorless, odorless, highly flammable gas - the lightest known element in the universe. It is used in "fuel cells" that can run cars and heat homes.

Clues for crossword puzzle:  
 1. fossil  
 2. coal  
 3. oil  
 4. natural gas  
 5. geothermal  
 6. wind  
 7. hydropower  
 8. solar  
 9. bioenergy  
 10. nuclear  
 11. nuclear  
 12. hydrogen

I'm hard at work reducing my energy use and thinking of ways to reuse as many items as I can. Today I'm cleaning out the closets and giving clothes to my younger cousins or to others. What can **you** do to reduce or reuse?

Reduce or Reuse

Draw an arrow to the item that will help reduce use of energy:



- clothes dryer
- ride in the car
- regular light bulbs
- paper cups and plates
- air conditioner
- paper lunch bags
- spray paint
- leafblower
- paper napkins
- throw clothes away
- hot water to wash clothes

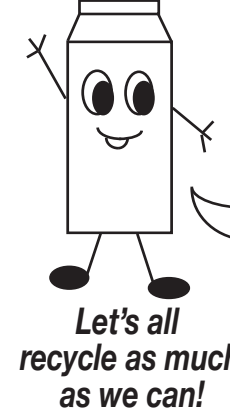
- walk or bike
- glasses and plastic plates
- rake
- LED lights
- clothesline
- cloth napkins
- donate them
- cold water to wash
- fans
- lunch box
- brush and paint

Fill in the blanks with the word that makes sense:

- Bring your own \_\_\_\_\_ to pack groceries you buy.
- Accept hand-me-down \_\_\_\_\_ and give your good items to others to use.
- Set up a "swap shack" or a "swap event" where families can leave or \_\_\_\_\_ items with others: games, books, clothing, sports equipment, toys.
- Refrigerate \_\_\_\_\_ to eat the next day.
- Just \_\_\_\_\_ less stuff!
- Grow a small \_\_\_\_\_ patch: tomatoes, beans.
- Donate unused \_\_\_\_\_ items - yarn, ribbons, paint - to a school or organization.
- When you are ready to get a cat or dog, check out your local \_\_\_\_\_ shelter.
- Use the comics or decorate bags to wrap \_\_\_\_\_.
- Refill a \_\_\_\_\_ with drinks or soup.
- Use both sides of your \_\_\_\_\_.
- Cut junk mail into squares for notes and \_\_\_\_\_.

trade garden gifts messages bag leftovers clothes use craft animal thermos paper

Recycle!



After we bring items to be recycled they are made into **new** materials and items or used in new ways. Paper is made into new rolls of paper towels. Plastic is woven into new rugs. Even old buildings can be recycled! I read an article about a warehouse being reconstructed into lower cost apartments for teachers...yay!

Find and circle all these items we recycle:

- |           |       |                 |
|-----------|-------|-----------------|
| batteries | wood  | plastic bottles |
| magazines | tires | aluminum cans   |
| cardboard | paint | newspapers      |
| glass     | oil   | appliances      |

PLASTIC BOTTLES  
 RUBBER BATTERIES SGCV  
 NGDDAOBGMAGAZINES SG  
 NEWSPAPERSATSERIES  
 LALUMINUMCANSFET  
 AVAPPLIANCESUD

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TIRES BO  
RWOODA TERI  
CARDBOARDGA

(Answers on page 10)

KCHS Donation Wish List

The pets at Kingman County Humane Society are in need of the following items:

- 13-gal. kitchen trash bags
- dry cat and kitten food
- clumping cat litter
- canned dog food
- Purina Puppy Chow
- long-lasting chews
- stainless steel flat-sided water buckets
- paper towels
- bleach
- liquid laundry detergent
- poop bag rolls

disposable gloves (large)

The items can be brought to KCHS at 811 East C Avenue in Kingman

Monetary donations can be sent to KCHS P.O. Box 103 Kingman KS 67068



KCHS Pets Ready for Adoption

Jasper

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Little Jasper is classified as a domestic shorthaired kitty. He is about 2 months old and weighs about 2 pounds. He's been at the shelter since March 14, 2024 His adoption fee is \$75.

Blue

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Blue is a Border Collie / Pit Bull Terrier mix. He is about 2 and 1/2 years old and weighs 45 – 50 pounds. His adoption fee is \$180.00 He has been at the shelter since November 13, 2023 Blue is a very handsome brindle. He is house-trained and walks nicely on leash. He's not a jumper, just has an easy going personality. You like to run, he likes to run. you like to nap, he likes to nap. In a nutshell, if you like it, Blue likes it. Seems to be good with cats, but only if you are too :-)

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

Please consider volunteering or adopting or fostering or donating to your local Animal Shelter.

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



Close Encounters with Rattlesnakes

"Every great story seems to begin with a snake."

Nicolas Cage Danger, danger, it is snake season again! If you, or your kids, or your dogs, spend anytime outdoors (and we do), be advised that spring is the most active and stressful time for snakes. As the weather warms up, they emerge from hibernation. They are hungry, ready to shed their skin, and anxious to reproduce. Spring and fall are the most likely times to see snakes afield. And of all the snakes you are likely

to encounter, the dreaded rattlesnake is the most dangerous...and exciting. Rattlesnakes fascinate me. Throughout my life, I've run into them on many occasions. Sighting a rattler, especially a large one, can be a thrilling experience, and always makes for a good story. If you enjoy snake stories, consider picking up a copy of the book Rattlesnakes by the famed folklorist, writer, and newspaper columnist J. Frank Dobie. Dobie's book is filled with gripping snake tales and lore. Once you start reading, you won't be able to put it down. An especially fascinating story in this book is recounted by an unnamed passenger riding the stagecoach out of San Antonio, circa 1870. Dobie quotes the passenger as follows...

"We were rolling along at a pretty good pace when suddenly the two lead horses whirled and came back along-

side the coach door and the stage came to a stop. The driver yelled out, 'Great guns, what a rattler!' There in the middle of the road was the largest rattlesnake I believe ever seen in Texas. It had struck at the leaders and apparently missed them but had frightened them terribly. We all got out of the coach while the driver quieted the horses. Joe (Rowdy Joe-no last name) said, 'Just watch me cut that fellow's throat.' He had a Colt .45 and stepped within about fifteen feet of the squirming monster. True to his word, he almost severed the head from the body with one shot. The snake was over eight feet long and as large around the body as the leg of a good-sized man."

Stories about even bigger snakes are noted in Dobie's book. One excerpt from the Dallas Weekly Herald dated July 28, 1877, reported a rattlesnake killed in the Cherokee Nation, near

Eufaula, that was 18 feet long, with 37 rattles on its tail!

For the record, I am not an advocate for blatantly killing rattlesnakes in all circumstances. They are beautiful and amazing creatures. My policy is this, if encountered where they are likely to meet my fellow humans and dogs (around the yard, house, and barns), rattlesnakes are dispatched on the spot. When out on the ranch, I typically carry a 9mm pistol under my shirt loaded with snake shot for just this purpose. If snakes are seen far from our environs, then they are typically left unmolested.

Last summer, our beloved dog Kep, who recently passed away, had an interesting snake encounter of his own. Kep was an old dog, and as such had lost much of his hearing and sight. He was napping in the yard one morning. As I approached him, I heard an unusual buzz-

ing sound. Amazingly, under his bum was coiled a good-sized rattlesnake. Apparently, Kep had sidled up to the edge of the yard fence and settled down for a nap right on top of a rattlesnake. I couldn't believe it. At the time, I didn't have my pistol with me, so ran to get a gun. By the time I returned, the snake had slithered away. Kep had enjoyed his nap unharmed.

Mac, our spunky little Jack Russell, was not so lucky. Last year he was bitten by a rattlesnake in the sheep barn. Mac was treated with antivenom by the great folks at our vet clinic and lived. Mac had also received his rattlesnake vaccine shot. Rattlesnake shots are highly recommended for all dogs in snake country. If bitten, your dog will still need antivenom treatment, but the shot may improve their chances of survival.

If you find yourself struggling with some

rattlesnake anxiety today, let me give you a tip on how to essentially snake proof your yard. This does really work. If your yard is fenced, simply line the outside of your fence with mesh bird netting (the same netting you might use to protect your fruit trees). Netting should go from the ground up to approx. one to two feet. Snakes attempting to slither into your yard quickly get trapped in the netting. If you use this method, check your fence a couple of times each day and humanly dispatch any snakes caught. Do not let them suffer for any length of time if you can help it. And use this method only if you have an urgent need to keep snakes out of your yard (children and pets to protect). Good luck and watch for snakes!

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# Earth Day

Energy Today and Tomorrow!

## Reduce or Reuse

Did you draw an arrow to the item that will help reduce use of energy?

1. clothes dryer	→	A. walk or bike
2. ride in the car	→	B. glasses and plastic plates
3. regular light bulbs	→	C. rake
4. paper cups and plates	→	D. LED lights
5. air conditioner	→	E. clothesline
6. paper lunch bags	→	F. cloth napkins
7. spray paint	→	G. donate them
8. leafblower	→	H. cold water to wash
9. paper napkins	→	I. fans
10. throw clothes away	→	J. lunch box
11. hot water to wash clothes	→	K. brush and paint

## Recycle!

Let's recycle as much as we can!

PLASTIC BOTTLES  
 RUBBER BATTERIES  
 NGDDAOBGMAGAZINES  
 NEWSPAPERS  
 ALUMINUM CANS  
 AVAPPLIANCE

TIRES  
 BOTTLES  
 WOOD  
 CARDBOARD

Wind turbines are one way to generate power using a renewable resource. They help to cut pollution.

Chitter! Get out of my photo!

What bright idea do you have to help save energy?

Annimills LLC © 2024



### The Politics of Projection

“Politicians are a lot like diapers. They should be changed frequently, and for the same reasons.” Mark Twain

For those of us paying attention to the shenanigans that play out in our ever-changing political arena, something is obvious. Politicians are masters of deception. And one of the most devious and effective methods of mass deception used by many of the scoundrels in “public service” is projection.

Projection is the act of accusing an opponent of employing the same underhanded tactics or committing the same misdeeds the accuser is guilty of using. With

continued political turmoil playing out in this country every day, and another election season upon us, it might be helpful to explore this topic.

In his classic book titled Propaganda: The Formation of Men’s Attitudes, social scientist Jacques Ellul explains the nature of projection. He writes:

“The propagandist will not accuse the enemy of just any misdeed; he will accuse him of the very intention that he himself has and of trying to commit the very crime that he himself is about to commit. He who wants to provoke a war not only proclaims his own peaceful intentions but also accuses the other party of provocation. He who uses concentration camps accuses his neighbor of doing so. He who intends to establish a dictatorship always insists that his adversaries are bent on dictatorship.”

In the book Psychology of Advertising and Propaganda, another social scientist, Roger

Mucchielli, explains why projection is so effective. He refers to projection as “mirror charging” and describes its advantages. He notes that this tactic deprives the opponent of their arguments and places the honest person in a position of self-defense. If a thief accuses you of stealing, you are forced to defend yourself and your counter arguments are suspect because you were the first implicated.

From a psychological perspective, projection can be defined as a person defending themselves mentally by attributing to others the same negative faults they deny in themselves. For example, a person who is a liar will often accuse others of lying. A person who is corrupt will rage about the corruption they see in others. Projection has been seen throughout history.

In the first century BC, Publius Rutilius Rufus was a Roman statesman, soldier, orator, and historian. He became the highest political official

in the Roman Republic when he was elected consul in 105 BC. He was known for having a high degree of integrity but was prosecuted and convicted of extortion by his political enemies. This was an unjust act of revenge, retaliation for Rufus stopping the over taxation of citizens and the pocketing of excess money by corrupt officials.

History abounds with more examples. Fast forward to the 20th century. September 1, 1939, marked the beginning of WW II, the deadliest and most widespread conflict the world has ever known. The Nazis used projection effectively to justify the German assault and invasion of Poland. Hitler staged numerous “false flag” operations to blame the Poles for provoking hostilities. The most famous of these took place near the German-Polish border. The Nazis staged an attack on a radio station by first murdering a local German and then

pretending the Poles had killed the man using the dead body as evidence. This incident, and more, was used to justify military action against Poland. The end result was a world war.

This classic tactic, birthed in the hearts of evil men, is seen again and again today. “Accuse your enemy of what you are doing, as you are doing it to create confusion.” This quote has been attributed to both Saul Alinsky and Karl

Marx. Unfortunately, both are heroes to many in Washington.

Projection is still being used today to create confusion and maintain power, bubbling in the cesspool of world politics. It is wise to pay attention, stay informed, and think for yourself. God Bless America.

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### Comfortably Dumb by Bruce Quast



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© StatePoint Media

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.



### Letters TO THE Editor

#### Go Chiefs: Finally

To Start. I intend this to be my last blurb about gun violence. I'd like to thank Roberta for printing my ramblings about this subject. After analyzing my part in these harmful events in our country I take the blame for encouraging a gun ideology. I taught my children and family members how to use guns. I also let guns that could have done harm be placed around our house. I now have my guns stored in a gun safe. Though I also taught gun

safety along with the gun instruction that I gave family members.

Stable people should be allowed to own guns for hunting and self-protection from dangerous animals. Do you remember when Cunningham had a SWAT Team on Main Street? I do remember that day. A crazy person from Brazil with Google Maps called the school and said he had an AK 47 rifle, and he was walking the streets near the school and was going to shoot the school up. Nearly every tree on North Main had a Swat member stationed with

his weapon of war aimed. My point is that these SWAT Team members were well trained. The local Police officers are also well trained. No one who buys a weapon of war from Walmart is required to have any training. The same goes for anyone who can carry a concealed weapon in Kansas today.

Twenty years ago, this wasn't the case. What has changed? For one thing, the present Kansas Attorney General owns a gun producing company. Our state and national elected officials are being paid by the gun lobby. So, I and any voter who isn't asking these officials what they will require of gun owners are at blame.

At this time, I would

like to add I would never suggest the weapons of war ever be forcibly removed from law abiding gun owners. We do need to stop the sales of attack weapons that are being sold to non-law enforcement. Mentally ill and dangerous people also need to be refused and guns removed from these people. I've seen police and even military individuals say these same things. I'm speaking as a grandfather and a person who doesn't want my family and other families harmed. So, I beg you as a responsible citizen to vow to only vote for people who want to stop the killing. Thank You!

--Alan Albers

### Statepoint Crossword Theme: Graduation

**CROSSWORD**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
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				53		54		55		56		
57	58	59	60					61		62	63	64
65					66	67		68				
69					70			71				
72					73			74				

#### ACROSS

- Accumulate
- Popular pickup
- Johnny Depp's 2001 biopic
- Jousting pole
- Mozart's "L' \_\_\_ del Cairo"
- Figure of speech
- Oak nut
- Be off base
- Less typical
- \*Graduating class
- \*S in BS
- \*Graduating NCAA player's goal?
- FedEx, verb
- "I Want My \_\_\_," television channel
- Daytime drama
- Online business
- Fleur-de-lis
- Dart
- Planktonic tunicate
- Not naughty
- Break of day
- Last row
- Verdi's opus
- Lion's do
- D.E.A. agent
- Sell again
- Penny
- To the \_\_\_ degree
- Prep for certain potatoes
- Metered ride
- \*Final reward
- \*Academic \_\_\_, a.k.a. Cap and Gown
- Gibson garnish
- Rocks, to a bartender

#### DOWN

- "Oh, woe!"
- Riot spray
- At another time, archaic
- Substitute for tender
- Misters in Spain
- Fish eggs, pl.
- Acronym, abbr.
- Wet land
- Highlands hillside
- Forsaken
- Oil org.
- "The Way We \_\_\_"
- \*Finals at Cambridge University
- Building toppers
- El \_\_\_, Spain's national hero
- Popeye's fuel
- \*Major's partner
- Beef \_\_\_, dim sum choice
- Moral weaknesses
- \*Grad
- Mountain lake
- As a whistle?
- 1960s abstractionism
- \*"Pomp and Circumstance," e.g.
- Dried up
- Adjust the pitch, with "up"
- Previous VP

#### ACROSS

- Marcona nut
- Skedaddle
- Moroccan spiced stew
- Eurasian antelope
- Sacha Cohen's middle name
- Olden days "do", second person singular
- Sean Penn's movie "\_\_\_ the Wild"
- Embarkation location
- \*Student aid
- Catch one's breath
- Not on time
- One on a list
- Bald eagle's nest
- \*Graduation garb topper

8	7	3	9	1	4	5	2	6				
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**Minutes from Pratt County Commission**

The Pratt County commissioners met in regular session Monday, April 8, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. in the commissioner room, 1st floor of the courthouse. The following members were present: Thomas W. Jones III, Rick Shriver, Dwight Adams, Tyson Eisenhauer, county counselor, Lori Voss, county clerk and Mark Graber, IT director.

Heather Morgan,

economic development/covid consultant, gave an update of legislation that will impact residents and businesses in Pratt County as well as items that will impact county operations. She mentioned a drone bill was passed and is on its way to the governor that would prohibit public agencies from buying drones or drone parts from foreign countries of concern in the future. This would include any drones or replacement parts purchased by a county entity.

She also discussed the tax plan which passed overwhelmingly and is on its way to the governor for signature or veto. The bill maintains two different lower tax rates, increases the standard deduction rates, decreases the statewide property tax millage for k-12 schools from 20 to 19.5 mills, fully exempts social security income from taxes, and exempts the first \$100,000 of a property's taxable value from the statewide mill. Finally, it was reported that there

is another tax bill that would change some of the procedures related to how the county handles the revenue neutral rate procedures including using a standard form, voting on the day of the hearing, and the state will continue to pay for the mailings of the revenue neutral rate notices for one more year.

Jodi Drake extension office and Jenna FitzSimmons, agricultural agent, gave a short update on services they provide. Jenna gave a brief summary about herself. Chairman Shriver stated that there is Kansas unclaimed property for the extension office. Jodi asked if it was the Fair Association. It was a refund from Sysco. Chairman Shriver asked how the fair preparations are going. Jodi stated it is going well. They have events lined up. She stated they might never have a carnival again, due to cost and availabil-

ity. Jodi stated they had gotten a smaller vehicle and would like to put up a carport next to the building on West First Street. She was instructed to contact the City of Pratt for any permits they would need. They have no problem with the carport if the city approves.

Clerk Voss presented checks for signatures for RSVP. Commissioners signed the checks.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the minutes from April 1, 2024. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Clerk Voss presented a letter of support for Arrowhead West tax credit application. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the letter of support for Arrowhead West tax credit application. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the reimbursements from the state for the presidential preference primary in the amount of \$10,277.46. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Clerk Voss presented a change in the roofing bid on the building at 409 S Main Street from AR roofing. They would like to look at the other bid(s) that were received and will compare next week.

Tyson stated the publication for the public notice and advertisement

for bids on the property in Grandview addition was published. Opening of the bids will be April 22, 2024, at 2:00 pm.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to recess into executive session at 2:48 p.m. for ten minutes for an attorney/client matter concerning a possible lawsuit. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones made a motion to return from executive session at 2:58 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve a road crossing for SCTelcom at 100245 NE 40th Avenue. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to change the meeting time on April 15, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the payment vouchers for April 8, 2024. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn at 3:11 p.m. Chairman Shriver seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.



**Public Notice**

First Published in The Cunningham Courier, Thursday, April 18, 2024 (3)

PRIMARY ELECTION NOTICE  
STATE OF KANSAS  
COUNTY OF KINGMAN

A Primary Election will be held August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Candidates for the following offices will be nominated by each political party which has qualified to participate in the Primary Election:

- One candidate for United States Representative, 4<sup>th</sup> District
- One candidate for State Senate, 34<sup>th</sup> District
- One candidate for State Representative, 114<sup>th</sup> District
- One candidate for County Commissioner, 2<sup>nd</sup> District
- One candidate for County Commissioner, 3<sup>rd</sup> District
- One candidate for County Clerk
- One candidate for County Treasurer
- One candidate for County Attorney
- One candidate for Register of Deeds
- One candidate for Sheriff
- One candidate for Township Trustee and Township Treasurer in the following Townships:

Allen, Belmont, Bennett, Canton, Chikaskia, Dale, Dresden, Eagle, Eureka, Evan, Galesburg, Hoosier, Kingman, Liberty, Ninnescah, Peters, Richland, Rochester, Rural, Union, Valley, Vinita and White.

The following officers will be elected in each political party which has qualified to participate in the Primary Election:

One candidate for Precinct Committeeman and One candidate for Precinct Committeewoman in the following precincts:

Allen, Belmont, Bennett, Canton, Chikaskia, Dale, Dresden, Eagle, Eureka, Evan, Galesburg, Hoosier, Kingman, Liberty, Ninnescah, Peters, Richland, Rochester, Rural, Union, Valley, Vinita, White, Kingman 1<sup>st</sup> Ward, Kingman 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward, Kingman 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward and Kingman 4<sup>th</sup> Ward.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereto set my hand and cause to be affixed my official seal. Done at the City of Kingman, Kingman County, State of Kansas, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.



*Carol D. Noblit*

Carol D. Noblit  
Kingman County Election Officer

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420 S. Jackson Suite 200  
Pratt, KS 67124  
620-672-3400

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Grain Trailers  
& Custom-Built Trailers  
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5581 SW 50 St. Kingman, KS  
620-532-3487  
1-800-301-3487

**Banks**

KANZA bank  
151 N. Main, Kingman, KS  
620-532-5821  
Lobby Hours  
9-5 M-F  
Drive Thru Hours  
8 - 6 M-F, 8-12 Sat.  
Equal Housing Lender  
Member FDIC

**Child Care**

**4C**  
Cunningham Child Care  
Children 8 weeks to 11 years  
120 West 3rd  
Cunningham, KS  
620-298-2010

**Home Improvement**

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Effective June 1, 2022: Ads are \$6.00 per column inch. Front page ads are \$10.00 per column inch. All ads are subject to approval of this paper, which reserves the right to edit, reject, or properly classify any ad. Note: The views and opinions expressed in advertisements in The Cunningham Courier do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of the Courier or staff. Errors will be corrected when brought to my attention.  
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is open on Sundays from 2:00 to 4:00 pm  
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Visit them on Facebook at [www.prairie-bombers.org](http://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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**Help Wanted**  
**City of Cunningham**  
is hiring a seasonal maintenance worker with the potential to become a permanent full time employee. Applications available Applications available at Cunningham City Hall, 119 N Main Street, or print at [www.cunninghamks.net](http://www.cunninghamks.net).

**City of Cunningham**  
is hiring lifeguards for the summer pool season. Certification in CPR/First Aid and Lifeguarding is provided to selected applicants. Applications are available at Cunningham City Hall, 119 N Main Street, or print at [www.cunninghamks.net](http://www.cunninghamks.net).

**Public Notice**  
First Published in The Cunningham Courier,  
Thursday, April 18, 2024 (2)  
KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS  
Request for Proposals  
To Provide  
A Replacement of Concrete around the Courthouse and Sheriff's Department  
(Request No. 2024-042924)  
Issued: April 15, 2024  
Closing Date: Monday, April 29, 2024  
Closing Time: 10:00 a.m., Local Time  
Vendors should submit one original and five (5) copies of Vendor's Proposal in sealed envelopes or packages. The outside of the envelopes or packages must be labeled with the Vendor's name and address and clearly marked "Concrete Bid Proposal, Attention: Kingman County Commissioners." Proposals must be received on or before the Closing Time on the Closing Date in the offices of the County at the following address: Kingman County Clerk 130 North Spruce Street Kingman, KS 67068  
For information contact: Chairman Jerry Henning Telephone: (620) 532-2521 Email: [noblitc@kingmancoks.org](mailto:noblitc@kingmancoks.org)

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[murphylauren2001@gmail.com](mailto:murphylauren2001@gmail.com)

  
**Thanks for recycling**  
**The Courier on April 29th**  
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**Help Wanted**  
Part-Time office professional needed for Kingman Co. Extension. Excellent customer service and strong attention to detail. Must know basic accounting and bookkeeping skills, computer literate in Word, Excel, and social media. This position will be for 30 hours per week. For application, contact Melissa Thimesch at 620-532-5131. Applications will be taken until the position is filled. "K-State Research and Extension - Kingman County is an equal opportunity provider and employer. A criminal background check is required."

**Help Wanted**  
Kingman Healthcare Center is hiring for the following positions:  
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EVS Tech (Housekeeper)  
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We offer excellent benefits! For more information and to apply, visit our website at [kingmanhc.com](http://kingmanhc.com)

**Help Wanted**  
**The City of Turon**  
is looking to fill a part time/ as needed Sub-Clerk Position. If interested please contact the city office at 620-497-6443

**The City of Turon** is looking to hire life guards for the City of Turon Pool If interested please contact the city office at 620-497-6443

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### Cathy Enfield

Catherine Enfield, 65, of Pratt, KS, died Thursday, April 11, 2024 at Pratt Regional Medical Center.

She was born on September 21, 1958 in California, the daughter of C. Lynn Kimball and Anna Marlene (Tobin) Kimball.

Surviving are one son, Chris Rickard of Medicine Lodge, KS; ten grandchildren, Cierra Rickard, Autumn Rickard Kolb, Brayden Rickard, Fawntana Huff, Max Rickard, Jr., Abbi Rickard, Ali Rickard, Ariel Rickard, Alessa Rickard, and Lane Rickard; four great-grandchildren, Isabella Rickard, Tylon Rickard, Brilynn Rickard and Hauston Huff; one brother, Ron (Melody) Kimball of Medicine Lodge, KS; two sisters, Connie Mott of Great Bend, KS and Cindy Mong of Kansas, OK; several nieces and nephews.

Cathy was preceded in death by her parents, one son, Max Rickard, Sr. and one sister, Christa Newberg. Cremation has taken place.

Condolences may be left at [www.larrisonmortuary.com](http://www.larrisonmortuary.com).

### Mark Walker

Mark Wayne Walker, 63, passed away Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at Ascension Via Christi St. Francis in Wichita. He was born on June 8, 1960 in Pratt to Floyd R. and Alma Mae (Horst) Walker.

Mark attended Pratt High School. He worked as a floor installer. He enjoyed hunting and fishing.

He is survived by his children, Tiffany (Mark) Ratcliff of Hulbert, Oklahoma and Justin Walker of Preston; mother, Alma Walker of Preston; brother, Terry Walker of Blackwell, Oklahoma; grandchildren, James Jacobs, Dakota Jacobs and Jayden Mayhew; and many other family members.

Mark is preceded in death by his father, Floyd Walker and brother, Rodney Walker.

Cremation has taken place. Family will have a Memorial Service at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, May 4, 2024 at the Preston Senior Center, Preston. Lunch will follow.

Memorials may be made to Donor Choice in care of Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt. Online condolences may be made at [www.larrison-mortuary.com](http://www.larrison-mortuary.com).

### Vernon Kettering

Thornton, Colorado - Vernon Earl Kettering, 81, passed away Thursday, April 11, 2024 at North Suburban Medical Center. He was born on May 20, 1942 in Pratt to Cecil Earl and Dora (Riley) Kettering.

Vernon graduated from Pratt High School. He worked as a Parts Manager for Anema's Auto Body for 25 plus years. He enjoyed golfing in his spare time.

He is survived by his children, Tammy Kettering, Richard (Nancy) Kettering of Oracle, Arizona and Terri (Fred) Spina of Alton, Missouri; sister, Marilyn Kettering of Thornton, Colorado; brother, Leroy (Dyette) Kettering of Hershey, Nebraska; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren with another on the way.

Vernon is preceded in death by his parents.

A Graveside Service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Friday, April 19, 2024 at Greenlawn Cemetery, Pratt with Pastor Mike McGovney presiding.

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

### Joyce Funke

Joyce Anne (Youngers, Rohlman) Funke, 94, formerly of Kingman and Valley Center, KS, passed away on Sunday, April 14th, 2024. She was born November 30th, 1929, in Willowdale, KS, the daughter of William and Alice (Smith) Youngers.



Preceded in death by her parents, William and Alice (Smith) Youngers, son, Jay Rohlman, husband, Dick Funke, stepdaughter Dawn Hoffman, daughter-in-law Pat Rohlman (Gary), son-in-law Jeff DeGarmo (Lynanne) and brothers: George, Fritz, Les, Del, and Leo Youngers.

Survived by: Marilyn Janas of Indian Wells, CA., Gary Rohlman of Derby, Russ Rohlman (Kelly) of Kingman, Mark Rohlman (Susan) of Valley Center, Lynanne DeGarmo of Wichita. Stepson, Dan (Becky) of Goddard, Dave (Jodi) of Lawrence, and step-daughter Deb (Bobby) Massey of Kingman, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Joyce was a devoted Catholic, a loving wife, mother, sister, and friend. She graduated from Sacred Heart Catholic School, Wichita, KS. Joyce lived in Kingman County most of her life on the farm and her priority was caring for her family. After her children went to school, she worked at the First National Bank in Cunningham where she retired at 72.

Service was held at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Kingman, KS on Wednesday, April 17th, 2024. Burial will take place at a later date. Memorial established: Cunningham Public Library, c/o Ninnescah Valley Bank, Cunningham KS and the Catholic Care Center, Bel Aire, KS.

### Bea Hayes

Beatrice "Bea" Marie Hayes, 92, went to be with her precious Lord on Monday, April 8, 2024. She was born on November 27, 1931 in Newton, Iowa to Frank Bart and Anna Marie (Schminkey) Flora. Beatrice married Donald Hansen on June 26, 1949 in Colfax, Iowa. They were married for 23 years. She later marries James Hayes on June 9, 1979 in Canyon Lake, California. He preceded her in death on September 21, 1994.



Bea was a member of First Southern Baptist Church in Pratt and previously Riverside Baptist Church in Riverside, California. She was a testimony and witness for the Lord. She was a prayer warrior that would pray with and for anyone that needed prayers. She enjoyed collecting stamps and coins, crocheting, camping, playing board games, flower gardening and sharing her love for the Lord by teaching young children. She especially loved spending time with her children and grandchildren.

She is survived by her children, Rose Marie (Bruce) Koppers of Pratt, Madonna Sue (Robert) Ray of Winchester, California, David Matthew Hansen of San Diego, California, Faith Christine (Tim) Harper of Chico, California and Melissa Elaine (Joe) Matz of Savannah, Georgia; brothers, Curtis Flora and Bernard Flora both of Iowa; 14 grandchildren; and numerous great and great-great grandchildren.

Bea is preceded in death by her husband, James Hayes; parents; son, Ronald Dale Hansen; daughter, Nancy LaVonne Schmitt; 3 sisters and a brother, Chester Flora.

Cremation has taken place. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date. Inurnment will be at Resthaven Gardens of Memory, Wichita.

Memorials may be made to First Southern Baptist Church in care of Larrison Mortuary, 300 Country Club Road, Pratt.

### Happy 3rd Birthday, Corbin!



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### Upcoming Auctions

For more information and a complete list of auctions, see our website at [www.hammauction.com](http://www.hammauction.com)  
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