

USD 332 Bond To Expand, Improve Schools

Press Release

On Tuesday, April 5, 2022, voters in Cunningham—West Kingman County Schools will go to the polls to decide if now is the right time to expand and improve District school buildings in Cunningham. The April election requests the authority to issue \$13.245 million in tax-exempt general obligation bonds to finance the proposed improvements.

The proposed projects include construction of a new wing for middle and high school students including a science lab to be constructed on the east end of the site in Cunningham. This first phase of the improvement program would allow for demolition of the original 100+ year old two-story high school building and the lobby area at the front

of the gymnasium. The gymnasium building would be retained. Then the plan includes construction to infill the demolished area with additional classrooms and support areas including a new Ag-shop area, woods shop Votech classroom, Media Center, FACS lab, office areas, a storm shelter, and other educational and support spaces. New spaces for the gymnasium lobby, restrooms, and concession area would be constructed at the front entrance to the gymnasium. Total new construction is estimated to provide 34,000 square feet of modern, functional space for USD 332.

The district Elementary Building is considered to be in good shape but the bond would provide for updates and improvements to the interior of this structure. The gymnasium would be improved with the installation of HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and AirConditioning) system upgrades. The plan also includes improvements to building entrances for enhanced safety and security. The small and outdated shop building would be repurposed for maintenance and storage.

The USD 332 Board of Education and a Steering Committee has developed the proposal with numerous meetings since 2020. They believe that now is an opportune time to consider the improvements with near historically low interest rates for financing. The District has no bonded indebtedness and no one can recall the last voted bond issue for improvements in USD 332. The District has the lowest total mill rate of school districts in the area. Information from the four counties in which the District has a tax base indicates the State Assessed Utilities pay 69% of the taxes in USD 332 and would pay the same percentage of the costs of the bond.

A volunteer KIDS (Keep Improving District School) Committee has been meeting and developing information to educate voters about the challenges, proposed solutions, and the bond issue cost. Meetings have been and are scheduled in the various communities in the District. A final planned Informational meeting is scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, March 22nd 7:00 PM High School in Cunningham

Voter registration books will close for this election on March 15th. District patrons and parents are encouraged to register, if necessary, to have an opportunity to be a part of this important decision for the future of education in the West Kingman County school district. The goal of the KIDS Committee is to try to inform all voters of the facts prior to the April Election Day.

seconded by Brent Miller, to go into

executive session with Superintendent

Reed and Principal Dunlap at 8:40 p.m.

to discuss contract negotiations under

the exception for employer-employee

negotiations under KOMA and return to

open session in the board room at 8:45

meeting in open session at 8:45 p.m.

President DeWeese declared the

Motion made by Brent Hansen, sec-

onded by Travis Thimesch, to go into

executive session with Superintendent

Reed and Principal Dunlap at 8:45p.m.

to discuss personnel matters under the

KOMA non-elected personnel excep-

tion and return to open session in the

board room at 9:00 p.m. Motion car-

meeting in open session at 9:00 p.m.

President DeWeese declared the

Motion made by Bjorn Halderson,

p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Official Minutes from February BOE Meeting

The West Kingman County Board of Education meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 9, 2022, by President Scott DeWeese.

President, Scott DeWeese; Vice-President, Brent Miller, Members, Brent Hansen, Travis Thimesch, Vicki Oldham, Bjorn Halderson, and Megan Green; Superintendent, Robert Reed; Clerk, Stacy Webster and Guests, Roberta Kobbe, Shawna Sterneker, Sarah Thimesch, and Karla Westerman.

Motion made by Brent Hansen, seconded by Vicki Oldham, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

President DeWeese welcomed the guests to the meeting.

Motion made by Brent Miller, seconded by Travis Thimesch, to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2022 regular meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Vicki Oldham, seconded by Brent Miller, to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$350,759.14 and the financial reports as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

President DeWeese turned the meet-

ing over to guest Randy Thimesch who joined the meeting Via Zoom at 7:05 p.m. He presented a signed petition provided by Sarah Thimesch to the board asking them to consider a Baseball/ Softball Coop for high school students. Discussion followed regarding what schools are close by to consider. The board directed Superintendent Reed to reach out to Pratt, Skyline and Medicine Lodge Superintendents to see if they would be open to a Coop as a first step.

Principal, Cody Dunlap and Guest, Abby Bock arrived to the meeting at 7:17 p.m. during the presentation by Randy Thimesch.

Guests Randy Thimesch and Shawna Sterneker left the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Superintendent Reed discussed with the board the recent Fire Marshall inspection, Fleet vehicle status, and Technology hotspot status. He also shared that the sponsor for the German Exchange program in Germany has reached out wanting to resume the program. He is currently gathering interest information from students and parents. Superintendent Reed reported on current legislation being considered and the ESSERIII application status.

Principal Dunlap recognized the state bound scholars bowl achievement and reported on sports events, including powerlifting. He shared about club fundraising opportunities, CTE pathway options and upcoming events including parent teacher conferences, act testing, and FFA week.

Member Travis Thimesch reported that the last meeting was held at the Haskins building. They toured the building, seeing the poor condition of the facilities and how short staffed the building is. He reported that there is discussion of schools hiring their own

Superintendent Reed shared that the state board of education approved our bond application. We can now move

forward with our information campaign. President Scott DeWeese called for a break at 8:25 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Guests Abby Bock & Sarah Thimesch left at that time.

Motion made by Brent Miller, seconded by Bjorn Halderson, to go into executive session with Superintendent Reed and Principal Dunlap at 8:30 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations under the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA and return to open session in the board room at 8:40 p.m.. Motion carried 7-0.

President DeWeese declared the meeting in open session at 8:40 p.m. Motion made by Vicki Oldham,

seconded by Vicki Oldham, to set the Board of Education Retreat for March 21, 2022 at 5 p.m. in the Board of Education Office. YMotion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Travis Thimesch, seconded by Brent Miller, to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

submitted by Stacy Webster



Spring Ahead this Weekend! Daylight Savings begins at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 13th. Move those clocks ahead one hour!



March 15th is the last day to register to vote in the Special Election on April 5, 2022.

Be sure to vote. This is an important issue in our school district and community.

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Happy National Athletic Training Month Katie Poland!



Katie Poland, DAT, ATC, LAT





Meanderings

There is much to meander around this week. If I get lost, continue along, we'll get back on

the track...maybe. Let's start with good news. Last week when I went to my volunteer job at the Kingman Humane Society, they were happy to tell me that Belle Starr, formerly of this household, has been adopted. I was so happy, as it has relieved all the guilt I was feeling for having turned her back over to the shelter. That girlfriend of mine has gone to live at McConnell Air Base. I know she will be happy to have her own people. I just hope she behaves herself and listens to her

owners. My weekly 'job' there at the Humane Society is pretty easy actually. I help clean dog cages and walk the dogs. I hope more of my readers consider volunteering at a local animal shelter. I only spend an hour or hour and a half there each Thursday afternoon/evening. Those pets are in need of attention. Lots of attention and kind words. Some of their stories can break your heart. So far, I have seen some soulful, pleading eyes, but I don't want to take them home with

me. Right now my home is quiet, and we have established routines and behaviors. Today, during afternoon nap time, I look over in the little chair and Quin is cashed out with Annoying Ned Nedlander laying in front of him purring for all he's worth. Ned LOVES Quin. Ned HATED Belle. Not sure what the personality issue was, but Ned is so much happier since Belle's been gone. He's even lost weight. But he is still really annoying.

The Kingman Humane Society has a Virtual Re-Homing Program. "If you need to "re-home" your pet but are willing to keep your pet in your home during this process, Virtual Re-Homing may be an alternative to surrendering your pet. If approved, the Kingman County Humane Society will include your pet's listing in our Facebook album, on our website www.kingmancountyhumanesociety.org and on participating rescue/adoption websites (Petfinders, Adopt-a-Pet,

RescueMe, etc)." There is more to the information, but I don't want to take up all my meandering with this. I'll post more information later. OR you can get more in-depth information on the Kingman County Humane Society webpage or their Facebook page.

If you can't volunteer, donations are needed as well.

I've been buzzing through the Michael Harvey series. I have 'Johnny Apple'. I kept

go, then I'll pack up my books and move from Chicago. My reading regimen is normally to read an adult book, then read a children's or young adult book, an adult book, children's/YA, back and forth. After reading "The Third Rail" by Michael Harvey, I picked up the book "Black Duck" by Janet Taylor Lisle (I've read several of her stories, and they are all good.)

Based on a true story and events, "Black Duck" is set on the shores of Rhode Island, 1929, during Prohibition. "Black Duck" was a rumrunning boat (there's lots of very interesting information on the world wide web about this infamous boat. Its demise seems to be the impetus to end Prohibition. Whoever thought that making alcoholic beverages illegal would be a good thing? Or even feasible?). In the opening scene of the book, the main character, Ruben, and his best buddy, Jeddy, come upon a dead body on the beach; the man had been

murdered. Now Jeddy's father is the local chief of police. Ruben's dad manages the local market. The owner of the market is a rum runner. After finding the body, things get a little weird and little scary. It was a page turning adventure. BUT there were some names that gave me a déjà vu feeling, and sometimes distracted me.

One of the characters was named 'Rick Delucca'. Another names from somewhere. Maybe even one of the characters. Rick was one of the good guys, Johnny Apple was a turncoat, a sneak, and a weasel. Sometimes the nudge in my memory bothered me, other times I was able to read the names without

I started "Black Duck" early Sunday morning and finished it early afternoon, but those names still bothered me.

As soon as I finished 'Black Duck, I picked up "We All Fall Down" by Michael Harvey. It wasn't long before I figured out the déjà vu feeling. One of the characters in the series is named 'Vinny DeLuca'. Not Rick; not spelled the same, but very similar. Then along came that weasel "Johnny Appleby" Apple/Appleby. Pretty close. Both characters were shady and most unlikeable.

Mystery solved. Finished that book, moved on to a YA book titled "When We Wake". It is a different kind of a story, but then YA books seem to explore odd concepts and possibilities. In this book a teenaged girl is killed in modern time, revived and cryogenically frozen and is awakened by scientists 100 years later. Wouldn't that be a kicker? Can you imagine someone from 1922 waking up in 2022? How could one even adapt to that much change? I've not finished the book, but I plan to soon so I can get that last Michael Harvey read.

In one of the books only one more book to thinking I knew those I read this weekend, I never in a hurry to send

came across a passage that I thought was so well-written, I was going to share it here in this column. Do you think I can find it now? Nope. I've scanned through the books and the passage is hiding or moving around. Granted it was late at night when I came across it, and I thought I remembered the number 125. I've checked all the books on page 125 and 225 and 175. I'm not finding it. I'll have to do a more thorough scan this next week and see if I can

Maybe I just dreamed it. If I did, I did a pretty darn good job of writing in my sleep.

As I'm typing this, I realize I didn't type up the takeaways from last night's school board meeting. It is too late now as the paper is all done except for this column. I will have the notes in next week's paper. Promise.

I had planned on returning to 12 pages this week, but then lots of stuff came in, and I really wanted to get spotlight pages in, and it was pretty easy to keep the set up for 14 pages. So 14 it is again. I hope there is something for everyone in here. I do love the 14page format. I do love the one section format as well.

Have you got your taxes done? Mine were completed today (Tuesday). I'll go and pick up all that paperwork later this week. Like all true-blue American citizens, I am

off my money to the IRS. I'm better off this tax year than I've been since I bought the paper. I hate to say this but, "Thank goodness for the medical expenses from back surgery." That, no doubt, helped me out quite a bit.

Not sure what next year is going to bring. As much as I appreciate the tax break, I'm really not wanting to have another surgery right now.

And to my travelingto-Sawyer friends in Derby, did you see/hear there is a push to make the sandhill plum the state fruit of Kansas?

> Always reading, and currently reading, "When We Wake" by Karen Healey, Roberta

"I inherited a pound from my British uncle. I'd have rather gotten a dollar, because what do I want with an animal shelter?"

— Jarod Kintz, At even one penny, this book would be overpriced. In fact, free is too expensive, because you'd still waste time by reading it.

"Once, during Prohibition, I was forced to live for days on nothing but food and water." — W.C. Fields

"Do not read as children do to enjoy themselves, or, as the ambitious do to educate themselves. No, read to live."

— *Gustave Flaubert*

Making a Spectacle of Myself at the **Eyeglass Store**

by Dorothy Rosby



I recently found myself in an eyeglass store, surrounded by hundreds of shiny new frames with vacant stares. I'm sure there weren't that many frames available when I picked out my first pair. But I couldn't see then, so I could be wrong.

I was around 10 at the time. And not only could I not read the big E at the top of the eye chart without correction, I didn't know it was there. Thus began my journey with glasses, contacts and eventually laser surgery. And that changed everything. Suddenly my eye-Q was 20-20. I could see my clock when I woke up in the morning. I could see the inside of my shower. I scoffed at the Big E, though I was a little dismayed about how the inside of my shower looked.

I went on happily without glasses for many years, but my ophthalmologist had warned me that even laser surgery couldn't stop presbyopia, the clinical term for old eyes. Either he was right, or they started making newspaper print smaller.

And that's how I came to be in the optical shop generally making a spectacle of myself. I was so overwhelmed by all the choices that when a friendly technician asked if she could help me, I said, "Yes. Would you pick out some glasses for me?"

She wouldn't but she did narrow the selection when I told her I wanted

frames that came with magnetic clip-on sunglasses. If they could also not look ridiculous on me, so much the better.

She was optimistic. I wasn't. I knew too much. When I need advice on anything from car maintenance to choosing a pineapple, I go to my good friend Google. But what I found there wasn't particularly helpful.

Several sites said eyewear should reflect your best feature, for example eye or hair color. My best feature is my instep and I don't see how that helps.

I also read that frame shape should contrast with face shape. One website recommended oval or round frames for my somewhat rectangular face. But another said something to the effect that it's a free country and we should all wear whatever we want. Openminded, but not very

helpful.

Several of the sites I'd visited said that frame size should be proportional to face size. That makes sense. Several of the frames I tried on stuck out like rearview mirrors on a motorcycle. It wasn't a good look.

Finally, frames should be compatible with your coloring. You might not believe this, but I've been told I'm cool. At least my coloring is. And cool coloring calls for cool glasses, or rather, glasses in cool colors—black, silver, blue. I wasn't excited about wearing glasses again, cool or otherwise, so I told the technician I wanted a pair no one would notice, sort of like...contacts.

But she had other ideas. She said her philosophy of glasses is, "If you have to wear glasses, wear glasses." In other words, be bold. And I

had to admit, she looked stylish in her oversized red frames.

But I know how fashion works. You buy the latest thing and 10 years later, you see a picture of yourself wearing it and wonder what you'd been thinking.

I intended to keep whatever glasses I buy until my prescription changed or I broke them playing tether ball, whichever comes first.

So I finally chose a classic black frame. And after the technician tallied up the price, I decided to follow my doctor's orders and wear them all the time. My lenses came with a lot of options—anti-scratch

protection, anti-reflective coating—but Blue Tooth location tracking wasn't one of them. And I can't afford to replace them if I lose them.

And so, after many years without glasses, I'm back to wearing them all the time. I'm getting used to it. It's nice to see and they're cool. Their color is anyway.

Dorothy Rosby is the author of three books of humorous essays including Alexa's a Spy and Other Things to Be Ticked off About, Humorous Essays on the Hassles of Our Time. Contact drosby@rushmore.com.

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Community Bulletin Board

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Thursday, March 10th **HS BB Girls State** Quarterfinals at

Great Bend

Early Dismissal ****

End of 3rd Quarter

Friday, March 11th

No School. Start of Spring Break

HS BB semifinals

at Great Bend

Thursday, March 11th - 18th Spring Break!

Monday, March 21st 5:00 p.m.

BOE retreat Wednesday,

March 23rd HS Meats/Agronomy and Floriculure

Thursday, March 24th HS Forensics at Cheney

Friday, March 25th 7:00 p.m. Junior High Play

Monday, April 4th 1:00 - 6:00 Community Center NHS Blood Drive

City Hall Will be Closed

NEXT WEEK: City Hall will be closed March 16, 17, & 18! If you need assistance please call 620-298-3077 and leave a message. Messages received during regular business hours will be returned same day! If you have an emergency please send a message to the "City of Cunningham" Facebook page.

Bond Project Informational Meetings Will Be Held

These are going to be informational meetings including a PowerPoint presentation, informational flyers, questions/answers, and opportunities to show people how they can register to vote online and where to access bond information on the district website.

March 11 (Friday) - Willowdale K of C fish fry -Informational material will be available and people will be available to answer questions.

March 22 (Tuesday) 7:00 pm - informational meeting at the school, followed by tours available.

March 24 (Thursday) 7:00 pm - informational meeting at St. Leo Catholic school hall - same plan as previous meetings.

Community Wide Garage Sales

Cunningham will be holding their citywide garage sale on Saturday, April 30th. (See classifieds page for more information.) ALSO Kingman will be having their City Wide Garage Sale on Friday, April 29th and Saturday, April 30th

Annual Pancake and Sausage Supper

March 12, 2022 4:30 PM-7:00 PM The American Legion Lorraine Post 98 201 N Main

Isabel, Kansas 67065 Proceeds Support Veteran Services, Kansas Honor Flights, and building maintenance.

photo by Grace Patton

Lions' Club Hears School Bond Information



We Serve

Sebastian Huelskamp. Steve Miller and Superintendent Robert Reed (not pictured) gave a presentation to the Lions' Club last Tuesday evening. The presentation was about the proposed bond issue to build a new high school. There are several meetings planned between now and the special election on April 5th. Try to attend one of them.

KINGMAN'S ANNUAL



Sunday, March 13th ~ 3:00-6:30 p.m. (Daylight Savings Time) St. Patrick School Gymnasium

Serving Fried Chicken,

Country Sausage, Potatoes/Gravy, Cole Slaw, Green Beans, Homemade Bread & Pies

Adults \$10; 5-12 \$5 Children 4 & under FREE

*****Drawing for valuable prizes.

Pratt Pilot Club's 38th Annual Chicken & Noodle Dinner

Monday, March 21 - 5-7 pm @Pratt Municipal Building Carry Out Only - \$7 per meal Buy a ticket from any Pilot Member beginning February 23 or purchase at the door.

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

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Kingman Historic Theatre

.

237 N. Main in Kingman (620) 532-1253 http://www.kingmantheatre.org/ All Seats \$6.00 (cash or local check only) Showtimes: Friday & Saturday at 7:30 Sunday at 5:30

March 11th - 13th Death on the Nile

Rated: PG-13

YEARS AGO IN The Cunningham Clipper



W. A. BRADLEY, EDITOR

1927

Charles Lakin of the Lakin Implement Co., reports the sale this week of a model 27 John Deere tractor to E. L. Maxedon.

The A. C. Houston Lumber Co. reports the sale of a bill of lumber to O. H. Yarberry, who is building a fine new country home at his farm.

Quite a little sand has been hauled on First Street recently. If they keep putting sand and dirt on that street, they will soon have it high enough to run the water off. This is the only town we know of where they try to force water to run up-hill.

Wetherall Brothers are coming along nicely now with their ice plant. They are beginning to get where they can see that they are accomplishing something. When the plant is completed it will be one of the best private ice plants in this section and will easily take care of the ice business in this community.

Important Announcement. We have been appointed local dealer for the Allis-Chalmers 20-35 h.p. Gasoline Tractor. New features, used for the first time on tractors, make this new Allis-Chalmers the greatest tractor ever built. W. A. Lash, Cunningham, Kans.

We have just unloaded a carload of Massey-Harris Reaper-Thresher. 10-12-15 ft. Cut. Albert McCartney & Sons, Penalosa, Kansas

Tractor Demonstration. Wallis 15-27 Tractor. Tuesday p.m., March 22. Demonstration will start promptly at one o'clock with Wallis Tractor pulling a 3-row Lister, and later pulling a 3-row Ridge Buster. B. F. Doty farm, 1 east and 2 south of Cunningham. B. F. Doty, Wallis and J. I. Case Plow Agt.

1932

The Boy Scouts met at Crow's on Tuesday evening and enjoyed a big hour of games and tags. The business discussed included the kite contest. The local committee have placed an official first aid kit as the prize for the boy flying his kite the highest.

A contract for the earthwork and building the approaches to the bridge across Painter Creek on the county road four miles south of Cunningham was let to Borroughs Brothers Construction Co. by the Board of County Commissioners at the regular March meeting this week. The amount of the contract is \$2,175.42.

The approaches are to be built to a bridge that was built last August.

John Steffen, R.F.D. carrier on Route three, is going to build a two-room addition in his home here. He has been hauling sand for the foundation for the past few days and will get busy on the building as soon as weather permits.

Wetherall Bros.

Swift's Hams, per pound, 20c
Cudahy's Gem Bacon Squares, pound, 10c
Greenwich Powder Lye, 3 cans for 25c
Extra Fancy Early June Peas, No. 2 can, 15c
Minuet Wafer Crackers, 2-pound box, 19c
Baby Chick Mash, 20-pound bag, 50c
Ground Rock Salt, 100-pounds for 50c
Sugar, 10 pounds for 49c
Fancy Tomatoes, No. 2 cans, 3 for 25c
Kansas Best Flour, 48-pound bag for \$1.10
Eating Potatoes, per peck, 19c
Men's Outing Bal Work Shoes, pair, \$1.63
Men's Calf Skin Oxfords, per pair, \$3.48
Men's Two-Tone Oxfords, per pair, \$2.48

Notice!

"Repression Lunch"

Hamburgers, 5c; Pie, 5c; Coffee, 5c; will be served on Saturday, March 19, by the Rainbow Sunday School Class of the M.E. Church at the Carter Cream Station. Lunch will be served at noon and during the afternoon and evening.

. 1937

Cunningham enthusiastically greeted the opening of the new movie theatre, "The Midway," on Wednesday evening, entirely filling the house for the first show, and many were waiting for admittance to the second show.

A year's ticket to the Theatre was awarded Raymond Lash, who submitted the name, "Mid-Way," which judges considered the most appropriate name

Museum Winter Hours

Contact:

Angie Mertens at 620-532-4354 or Alan Albers at 620-298-2725 or Mike McGovney at 620-770-9503 of all the entries. Cunningham is midway between Kingman and Pratt.

John Collopy of Turon, owner and manager of the Theatre, has purchased all new equipment, and the screen and sound effects are the latest and of the best, comparing favorably with shows in surrounding towns.

Wallace Beery in "Old Hutch," was the opening show. Watch the paper for a complete change of shows three times a week.

Dennis Sheldon, a pioneer resident of this community and county, passed away at his home near Kingman last Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon were among the early pioneer settlers of this community, homesteading on the farm now owned by Charley Renner, on the Sun City road.

1942

Kingman county automobile dealers are allowed to sell eleven new automobiles between March 2 and May 30, according to the quota received last week from E. A. Bula, the county rationing administrator.

The quota for tires for Kingman county for the month of March is thirteen tires and eleven tubes for passenger cars. For trucks, the quota is fifty-four tires, sixty-one tubes and twenty-three retread tire certificates.

The Wildcatters unleashed a fourth quarter scoring spurt to defeat the powerful Sun City Hornets, 45 to 37, in the finals of the Pratt Regionals Saturday night. The game was nip and tuck for three quarters with the lead changing hands eleven times. Austin Luce led the scoring for Cunningham with 15. Junior Neagle scored 14, Charles Cooley 7, Bobby Crow 6, Russell Stanley 2, and Jack Kincheloe 1.

Wildcatter reserves showed up well in the game. Cooley went out on fouls with two minutes to play in the third quarter and Stanley fouled out with seven minutes left in the game, but Kincheloe and Carlos Schwartz, their replacements did an exceptional job against the Hornets.

1947

Cunningham lost a thrilling ball game to Sylvia, 38-34, in the semi-finals of the Kingman Regional Tourney Thursday night. This marked the close of a very successful season for the Wildcatters with a record of 17 wins and 6 defeats.

Verlin Urban led the scoring for Cunningham with 11 points. James Stanley scored 8, Dean Dyche 7, Jerome Schnittker 4, and Kenneth Watkins, 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Gillen of Pueblo, Colorado, announce the birth of a daughter, Friday, March 7. The baby weighed seven pounds and has been named Linda Sue. Mrs. Gillen was formerly Miss Edith McClellan of Cunningham.

Hauser's Market

American Cheese, 49c pound American Beauty Macaroni, 1 lb. pkg., 17c American Beauty Spaghetti, 1 lb. pkg., 17c American Cheese, 2 lb. pkg., 89c Lettuce, head 9c each Snow White Cauliflower, head 21c Texas Grapefruit, 10 lbs., 29c Florida New Potatoes, 3 lbs., 23c

1952

1952 – A violent wind storm, which reached the velocity between seventy and eighty miles an hour, and almost attained the proportions of a cyclone, struck this section Wednesday, causing extensive damage. Buildings were damaged, shingles ripped from roofs, and electric service disrupted in many localities.

Storm damage to Cunningham was limited more or less to shingles torn from houses. A Coca-Cola sign blew over the Hauser Market, knocking a hole in the roof. Rose's Garage was damaged slightly when part of the fire-wall was blown off.

The Santa Fe Depot at Cairo was practically deroofed and a church in Isabel was similarly damaged.

One death resulted in Kingman County as a direct result of the storm. George Patrick, 44, of Zenda, employed at the Lloyd Whitmer store in Zenda, was accidentally electrocuted as a result of the wind. Two electric poles, belonging to the Western Light and Telephone Company blew over a mile north of Zenda, leaving wires in the road. Apparently Patrick had stepped from his truck to clear the wires from the road. He was taken to the Nashville Hospital where he died.

Hauser's Market

Values from your "AG" store Curtis Grapefruit Juice, 5 46-ounce cans, \$1 Dole's Pineapple Juice, 3 46-ounce cans, \$1 Lakeside Fancy Cut Green Beans, 5 No. 303 cans, \$1 Missouri Hand-Packed Tomatoes, 5 No. 2 cans, \$1



Locally owned and operated for over 30 years

Crop*Auto*Home*Farm*Commerical*Life 116 N. Main PO Box 398 Cunningham, KS

(620) 298-5291 or (800) 536-5291

www.fitzsimmonsins.com leann@fitzins.kscoxmail.com

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

Shurfine Pearl White Hominy, 10 No. 2 cans, \$1 Kuner's Colorado-Packed Kraut, 10 tall cans, \$1 Solar Pineapple Half-Slices, 4 No. 2 cans, \$1 Welches Pure Grape Jelly, 5 10-ounce jars, \$

1957

Advertisements included: Pontiac; Vern's Mobil Station; Hauser's Market; Protection Hatcheries; Ayers-Calbeck Mortuary, Inc.; Dick's Drug Store; Meade Theatre; Kincheloe Implement; Western Light & Telephone; Williams-Talbott Mortuary; Hoadland Market; Kansas Power & Light Company; Hergert's K-T Service; and Cozy Café.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Durall of Coats, announce the birth of a son, Monday, March 11, at the Pratt County Hospital. He weighed eight pounds, four ounces, and has been named Thomas Gregg.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Seth Whitmore of Cunningham, and paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Durall of Coats.

1962

The City Council, meeting in special session last Wednesday evening, found that only one of the four street improvement districts legally carried the approval of resident property owners, District No. 1, comprising of four blocks of North and South Main Street.

Two districts, Nos. 2 and 4, running east and west of the grade and high school, were protested out, and the governing body tabled District No. 3, five blocks through the south part of town, for further consideration and study.

Private Don Becker, son of Mrs. Rosa Becker, is home on furlough following the completion of basic training at Camp Carson, Colo.

The Cunningham Wildcats almost made it to the state tournament this year, reaching the finals of the Class B Regional Tournament at Clearwater before bowing to Attica for the second time this season. The Wildcats compiled a 22-2 record during the season, running up a 17-game winning streak before losing to Attica by a 70 to 53 score last Friday evening. Three members of the staring line-up, Bob Meyers, Marshall Swander, and Roger Krug, will be lost to graduation this year.

One hundred and ten attended the Mother and Daughter Banquet at the Sacred Heart School Auditorium, Monday evening.

Mary Cusenbary, Norma Greenlee, and Debbie Sheldon, as a vocal trio, were named "Top Blue" winners at the annual Kingman County 4-H Club Day in Kingman.

1967

Spec. 4 Marshall Swander of Cunningham, who suffered a wound in his left arm while in action in Viet Nam, February 22, has been transferred to the U.S. Army Hospital at Camp Zama, Japan.

One hundred and forty-eight mothers and daughters attended the annual Mother and Daughter Banquet, sponsored by the Community YWCA, in the Sacred Heart School Auditorium, Monday evening.

The three entries of the Cunningham 4-H Club in the Regional 4-H Club Day at Pratt last Saturday received fine ratings. Kris Sheldon and Wesley Woodson were awarded blue ribbons for their project talks, and the Club Chorus received a red ribbon.

A Pratt feed store advertises that it is the only place in town where you can get a chicken dinner for ten cents.

1972

March 9 – Haviland edged past Cunningham by a 47 to 45 score in overtime in a first-round game of the Regional Tournament at the Pratt Community College Gym in Pratt last Wednesday night. The defeat eliminated the Wildcats from further competition.

Mike Schrant led the Cunningham scoring with 21 points; Dean Simon made 8; Leon Fischer and Bob McGovney 6 each, and Steve Albers 4.

The defeat ended the season for the Wildcats with a record of 15 wins and six losses.

Approximately 360 vocal music students of the seven Golden Plains League schools, presented a concert in the Nashville-Zenda High School Gym, Monday evening, following an afternoon of rehearsing and a clinic conducted by John Parr, Vocal Music Supervisor at Medicine Lodge High School.

Cunningham will also participate in the Golden Plains League Instrumental Clinic and Concert, to be held at Sharon High School, Tuesday afternoon and evening, March 14.

- WANTED -

Old Photos for *Our Community Album*

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

Consider this...

by Mike Johnson

I'm No Mechanic

Everyone knows it. I've been telling them for years.

A few bad experiences as a kid (never take the inner workings of your bicycle's rear wheel apart), a few well-chosen words of criticism from close family members, and sure enough, it became true -I'm no mechanic.

Twenty years later, I was still convinced.

That's why I buy \$99 lawnmowers. Then when they break, like they always do on nonmechanics, I don't feel so bad about throwing them away.

Throw then away?! Hey why not? I can't fix them. I'm no mechanic, don't you know? So when they do break after a few years of mowings, I wheel them out to the trash, count myself lucky for the time we shared together and whistle off to Wal-Mart for a fresh one.

At least that's what I used to do.

Until the day I pulled the starter rope and it broke off in my hand. Well darn!, I yelled, just in time to watch the remaining rope suck back into the inner recesses of the motor, disappearing

Another 99 bucks down the drain... MARGIE - it's time to get a new lawn-mower...

And then I rolled it over to the trash can. Wait a minute here, I stopped. If I'm chucking it anyway, why not take the darn thing apart and see how it works? What's the worst that can happen? Won't 50 pieces throw away as easily as one?

So I began fiddling. And fiddling. And discovered a big spring under the motor's cover that automatically rewinds the rope after you pull it. And got a new piece of rope. And slowly rewound it. Like a caveman grasping the concept of a rolling wheel for the first time, a dim vision of the rope's rewind mechanism started to form in my non-mechanical brain. I fought off the thought that this mess that used to be a motor looked remarkably like the inner workings of a rear bicycle wheel.

But this must reassemble some way. A man built it, so a man must be able to put it back togeth...and surprise of surprises, there it was reassembled!

Backwards.

The rope, which should've pulled with tension, couldn't wait to leap out into my hand. Fully extended, it lay there spent, refusing to rewind.

Yep. Shoulda known, I'm no mechanic.

Since there was no pressure on me to succeed - the mower was already a goner in my mind anyway - I continued looking at it. Hmmmmmm...I thought, squishing my forehead with the palms of my hands. I wonder if I turn it around...

RRRMMMMM!

"WHAT'S THAT?!" Margie screamed, running outside. What she saw amazed her. Not her man - who was standing victorious, one foot on the purring red machine, grinning proudly, chest pushed out like some Neanderthal who'd just felled a woolly mammoth - but by the running lawnmower. This was impossible. After all, she knew

I was no mechanic, too.

Grass never cut better. Had the neighbors been watching, they'd have seen the world's greatest lawnmower repairman skipping behind his Briggs & Stratton.

Granted, I didn't make the six o'clock news that night. But the lawnmower success was certainly the lead story of my day. I'd done something I couldn't do!

And that is the thrill of self-improvement. Pushing against a barrier we've lived within our entire lives and discovering it falls right over! Learning that it had never existed in the first place! It was only my belief of being nonmechanical that caused me to surrender to all those broken lawnmowers without ever trying to repair them.

All at once an entire world of lawnmower repairs opened before me! And any other mechanical devices. Let me at 'em! My world expanded just by challenging a belief.

What other beliefs do we hold that shrink our worlds? Bad speller? Not athletic? Poor memory? Never get rich? Can't lose weight?

Behind every activity we shy away from stands the ogre of a limiting

The magic of self improvement is that we don't need to gain additional skills, we merely need to remove beliefs that limit us! Just believing that we might be able to do something starts us down the path to its achievement. Suspend our disbelief and there's NOTHING we can't do!

When it comes to selfimprovement, we're all qualified to repair our lives.

Take it from a mechanic.



Goods at the Cunningham **Methodist Church**

Free Bread & Baked

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesdays

Cunningham Hands Hope,

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 from 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Where: 117 N Main (Old School Board Office)

Why: To provide food assistance to those in need.

How: Attend weekly distribution. Adult of household must be present.

> Do you need assistance outside distribution hours?

Please call 620-491-0292 and leave a message. Your call will be returned as soon as possible. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Pass It On®... Get Up Early and Give Back

On a Sunday morning so cold the only people on the streets are the unhoused, the Rev stands, wearing an apron, near the entrance to a warehouse. A line of people gathers outside the Reverend's ministry. There's free coffee while they wait. Volunteers inside arrived early to get cooking: Egg casseroles, pasta, hamburgers and hotdogs, French toast, fresh fruit and fresh salad. While the warming stands are being stocked, the Rev offers a brief sermon and prayer. This

is his congregation, and he knows what they need: inspiring words about pushing through hard times, asking God to help find a job, a blessing on the nation, a humble ask that all present will find

At some time or another, all of us will experience the anxiety that comes with uncertainty and the heartbreak that comes with tragedy. In these times, a good friend is good medicine. One of the regular volunteers expressed why he has kept showing up every Sunday morning for the past 20 years: "The Rev was there when I needed a friend. I'm just repaying the favor."

Being there when somebody needs a friend can provide the reassurance they need to keep going. And you don't have to be an expert at it. There are just a couple of things you need to be good at. Being nonjudgmental is the beginning. You don't need to solve the person's problems; simply listening

is enough. Sometimes, saying "It's OK, I'm here with you" is all a person needs.

As the patrons of the Rev's breakfast ministry file in, they are greeted with smiles, warm food and compliments from folks who will be with them for the next couple of hours. Every volunteer has a story about redemption, about rising above all odds, about a desire now to pay it back. "We don't turn anybody away," the Rev says. "Some people need us more than they need the food. And we need them."

Some of the people serving have lost loved ones to drug addiction or were addicts themselves. There are those

who lost jobs and came back when they were on solid ground. What they all have in common is being in a place where they know their morning is going to be a little bit

"We got hot food and warm hearts in here!" the Rev shouts out. "Amen, comes the response. Amen.

Give Back...PassItOn. com

By The Foundation for a

Better Life® The Foundation for a Better Life® promotes positive values to live by and pass along to others.

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Catholic Churches Sacred Heart, Cunningham Sundays 10:00 a.m.

St. Leo

Saturday 4:00 p.m. St. Leo

Sundays 8:30 a.m. Father Roger Lumbre

620-243-5451 620-246-5370

††††††



Lutheran Churches

St. John, Nashville 620-246-5220 Sunday School & Bible Class

9:15 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Trinity, Medicine Lodge 620-886-3397

Sunday School & Bible Class 9:45 a.m. Worship Service 8:30 a.m.

St. John, Zenda

Saturdays 5:30 p.m.

St. Peter Willowdale

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

> Pastor Dennis Fangmeyer Cell: 620-886-0911 + + + + + +



Church of Christ Penalosa

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

+++++

First Christian Church

Cunningham

Sunday School 9:30 am Morning Worship 10:45 Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 Jr High Youth Group 4:00 pm Sunday Sr High Youth Group 7:30 pm Sunday

Wednesday Prayer Service 7:00 Pastor Mike McGovney 620-298-3201



United Methodist Church

Penalosa

Worship 9:15 a.m.

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

Zenda

Worship 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School: Children 8:30 a.m. Adults 10:00 a.m. Pastor Ken Keeling

620-491-0680

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings in Kingman

Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays at 8:00 PM Livingston

> Family Center 1830 N Main St Kingman, KS 866-641-9190



A poster read: "God is dead" - Nietzche.

The graffiti underneath read: "Nietzche is dead" - God.

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

Fundraisers & Charitable Opportunities in our Community

4C Day Care Shop smile.amazon.com or contact Kathy Albers 620-298-2725 or 620-388-0774 or leave a donation with the Methodist Church.

West Kingman County Education Foundation

Use your Dillon's Card! Shop smile.amazon.com

(to donte contaceJanet DeWeese 620-298-2717)

Hands of Hope (contact any church) **Cunningham Alumni Scholarship Fund**

(send checks to the West Kingman County Education Foundation)

Cunningham Community Center (leave donation at the bank) **Lions' Club** (Money is being raised to dig a well in the village of Kakindu, Kenya)

Cunningham Museum (to donate contact Alan Albers) Cunningham Public Library (to donate, contact Kerri Steffen)

Wildcats End Season

Cunningham's season came to an end with a 40 to 58 loss to the Stafford Trojans in the second round of the sub-state tournament held at Stafford on March 3, 2022.

Trey DeWeese got the Cats off to a good start with seven points in the first quarter. Isaiah Reed added two points and the defense held the Trojans to six points. The first quarter ended with a score of Cunningham 9, Stafford 6.

The table turned in the second quarter when Luke McGuire made a move to the basket and appeared to have been fouled and he made the basket, but the official called jump ball which turned the ball over to Stafford. They scored on this possession and the momentum changed dramatically as Stafford scored 15 points to Cunningham's three. Lane Halderson scored the only basket and Erik Paris added a free throw. The half end with Cunningham trailing 12 to 21.

Cunningham was able to put more points on the board in the third quarter, scoring 17. But Stafford countered with an 18-point quarter. Halderson scored six points, Dagim Reed added five points, DeWeese made four free throws and I. Reed made a basket to round out the Wildcat scoring. Stafford led by 10 going in to the fourth quarter.

Shooting woes that haunted the Cats the entire game didn't get any better in the fourth quarter. DeWeese scored all 11 of the Cunningham points and Stafford added 19 points to their total. The final was 58 to 40, Stafford.

Cunningham finished the season with a 13-9 record and a tie for fourth place in the HOPL standings. I want to thank all the parents, grandparents, fans, and administration for their support of the players and coaches this season. A special thanks to Scott DeWeese for keeping stats, Bart Ricke and Steve Coleman for their coaching assistance. And a very special thanks to my wife, Mary for keeping the book at away games and being there when I needed a kind ear.

This was a special year and I believe is the beginning of good things to come for Cunningham High School boys' basketball.

3pt.

made

2

1

9

6

FTM/FTA

0/5

6/6

0/4

0/2

3

15

TP

8

22

5

4

Reb.

2

9

1

7

5

6

17

18

Stl.

1

3

2

3

Chg.

1

Final

40

58

Asst.

1

1

2

1

11

19

by Coach Bob Stackhouse

2pt.

made

4

1

2

Name

McGuire

Halderson

Wegerer DeWeese

D Reed

I Reed

Cunningham

Stafford



Dagim Reed



Luke McGuire





Isaiah Reed

Molly Morgan Photos



Trey DeWeese

Powerlifting Team Places in Cimarran Invitational



Submitted by N



Coach Eric Kerschen, Andrew Schultz, Scott Wyatt and Andrew Kerschen

We had a great day today Saturday, March 5th at the Cimarron Power Jay Invitational! Andrew Schultz, Stephen Kerschen and Scott Wyatt participated as first time lifters and did very well. We learned a lot and experienced an environment that was supportive, exciting and encouraging. Be on the lookout for results of the Conway Springs powerlifting invitational coming up on Saturday, March 12th. Below are results from today.

Andrew Schultz in the junior 7,8,9 165lb division 3rd in bench 85lbs 6points 3rd in squat 135lbs 6 points 2nd in clean 110lbs 8 points 3rd overall 330 lbs 20 total points power ratio 2.04

Stephen Kerschen in the junior 7,8,9 148lb division 1st in bench 160lbs 10 points (new max) 2nd in squat 225lbs 8 points 2nd in clean 165lbs 8 points (new max)

2nd overall 550 lbs 26 total points 2nd power ratio 3.739

Scott Wyatt in the mens 10,11,12 165lb division 7th in bench 125lbs

7th in squat 195lbs

6th in clean 160lbs 1 point

7th overall 480lbs 1 total points

7th power ratio 2.909

Out of the 9 teams participating, the 3 boys managed to rake up enough points to place 6th overall.

Submitted by Eric Kerschen



2022 SCCF Scholarships Due March 15

South Central Community Foundation (SCCF) is excited to offer 40 scholarships for the seven Counties they serve. Applications or more information about each scholarship opportunity are available on the Foundation's website at www.sccfks.org. Scholarship are due by midnight on March 15th.

SCCF is a nonprofit organization that serves Barber, Comanche, Kingman, Kiowa, Pratt, Rice, and Stafford Counties. In 2021, SCCF awarded nearly \$75,000 in scholarships. For any questions, please contact SCCF at (620) 672-7929 or sccf@sccfks.org.

It's Almost Play Time! Enjoy Butterfingers!

The Cunningham Junior High will be presenting the play Butterfinger by Adam Pasen. In this brief parody of a famous British spy, we follow our leading man, James Bon Bon, as he tries to protect the Butterfinger weapon from being stolen from a candy factory. Along the way, he meets a cast of candies and snack foods come to life, such as Marsha Mellow, her sister Cara Mellow, Her She Kisses, Pop Tart, and a selection of other sweet treats. Will they be able to keep the Butterfinger out of the hands of the criminal mastermind, K. Andy Bars? Join us on Friday, March 25 at 7:00 to find out! Tickets are \$2 at the door. Activity passes will be accepted. Want dinner and a show? The FFA club will be hosting a pancake feed in the school lunchroom from 5:00 - 6:45.

- Rebecca Huelskamp, Director

"In the dust of defeat as well as the laurels of victory....



Back row: Maranda Lohrke, Hannah Ellis, Ellie McGuire,
Elizabeth Paris, Ada Adams, Asst. Coach Ariel Haskin
Front row: Julia Hageman, Kaitlyn Hennessee, Alice Huelskamp, Joanna Hansen, Ava Bock.
Missing from the team photo: Matilyn Jump and Coach Lance McGuire











Back row: Coach Bob Stackhouse, Kory Morgan, Luke McGuire, Isaiah Reed, Erik Paris,
Kelden Mills, Lane Halderson, Trent Schnittker, Assistant Coach Bart Ricke
Front Row: team manager, Leo Hageman, Will Wegerer, Keiden Mills, Trey DeWeese, Dagim Reed, Scott Wyatt
team member missing: Nate Sterneker









photos courtesy of USD 332

Thank You To Our Spotlight Sponsors!

Bill & Jody Thome
Judy & Scott DeWeese
Amy & Lance McGuire
Diana & Gary Wegerer
Kathy & Doug Griffis
Mary Oller
Gloria & Phil Theis
Molly Morgan Family
Mary & Bob Stackhouse
Jeanette & Bob Kerschen
Helen & Chuck Holcomb
Eilene & Jack Crick

Beverly Zrubek
Diana Rakestraw
Janet DeWeese
Aimee & Tony Ogg
Pam & Doug Liebl
Beverly DeWeese
Liz & Steve Miller
Kathy & Alan Albers
Leroy Panek
Johnna & Elmer Freund
Janet Sterneker
Matt & Jordan Thome

Gwen & Mark Betzen
Donna & Sean Crowley
Shawna & Tom Sterneker
Mary Ann Ruckle
Robin & Bobby Reed
Deanna & Bill Parker
Lois & Don Becker
Diana & Gary Wegerer
Helen & Chuck Holcomb
Patty & John Huffman
Sheena & Nick Albers
Marilyn & Roger Krug

...there is a glory to be found if one has done his best." -Eric Liddell



Back row: Assistant coach Kelsey Beat, Nora Huff, Macy Neufeld, Whitney Mead, Grace Hageman, Kyra Morgan, Emily Ogg, Kourtni Fischer, Coach Bart Ricke Front row: Mackenzie Hartley, Janessa Schnittker, Andi Young, Brynn Wyatt, Kaylee Mertens, Morgan Oldham











Back row: Coach Lance McGuire, Skyler Thimesch, Andrew Schultz, Dylan Halderson,
Blake Swope, Nathan Ndambuki, Kendall Rogers, Stephen Kerschen, Jack Harden, Assistant Coach Eric Kerschen
Middle row: Kollin Fischer, Hank Adams, Brody Bock, Sevi Romine,
Logan Kinsler, Cole Hageman, Layne Green, Tyler Osner
Front row: Andrew Kerschen, Gabriel Chapman, Gunner Glenn,
Caleb Lohrke, Adam Sterneker, Weston Rogers, Cole Ruckle, Will Halderson

Many Thanks to Our

Sponsors! Remember to

Support Local Businesses!

photos courtesy of USD 332



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620-298-2511 - nvalleybank.com
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Custom Seed Cleaning 7681 SW 80 Ave Kingman, KS

(620) 532-5508

"Good luck to the athletes, students and staff at Cunningham Schools"







Cunningham, Kansas Bus: 620-298-5291 Toll Free: 800-536-5291



Minutes from Kingman County Commission February 14th

The Board of Kingman County Commissioners met in the Commission Room of the County Courthouse, Kingman, Kansas February 28th, 2022. Those present: Fred Foley, Chairman; Jerry Henning, Commissioner; Jack Thimesch, Commissioner; Carol Noblit, County Clerk; Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor

Visitors: Bob Morris, Kingman Leader-Courier; Leslie Schrag, Economic Development Director

Online Visitors: Heather Kinsler; Angel Cushing; Caller 01; Joyce & Caller 02.

Staff: Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director; Sheriff Randy Hill; Stan Goetz, HR/ Planning/Zoning/

Wastewater Director; Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director; Becky Luntsford, County Treasurer

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

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

Commissioner
Henning and
Commissioner Thimesch

Public Notice

First published in The Cunningham Courier on Thursday, March 10, 2022 (2t)

GENERAL NOTICE TO CONTROL NOXIOUS WEEDS

The Kansas Noxious Weed Law K.S.A. 2-1314 et seq requires all persons

who own or supervise land in Kansas to control and eradicate all weeds declared noxious by legislative action. The weeds declared noxious are:

field bindweed, musk thistle, sericea lespedeza, Johnson grass, bur rag-

weed, Canada thistle, leafy spurge, hoary cress, quack grass, Russian

knapweed, kudzu and pignut. Multi-flora rose is a County Option Noxious

Weed declared noxious by the Board of Commissioners of Kingman

County. Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Kansas Noxious Weed Law to every person who owns or supervises land in Kingman County

that noxious weeds growing or found on such land shall be controlled

and eradicated. Control is defined as preventing the production of viable

1. Serving a legal notice requiring control of the noxious weeds within a

minimum of five days. Failure to control the noxious weeds within the

time period allowed may result in the county treating the noxious weeds

at the landowner's expense and placing a lien on the property if the bil

Filing criminal charges for non-compliance. Conviction for noncompliance may result in a fine of \$100 per day of non-compliance with

The public is also hereby notified that it is a violation of the Kansas

Noxious Weed Law to barter, sell, or give away infested nursery stock

or livestock feed unless the feed is fed on the farm where grown or sold

to a commercial processor that will destroy the viability of the noxious

weed seed. Custom harvesting machines must be labeled with a labe

provided by the Kansas Dept. of Agriculture and must be free of all weed

seed and litter when entering the State and when leaving a field infested

with noxious weeds. Additional information may be obtained from the

Kingman County Noxious Weed Department or by contacting the Kansas

Dept. of Agriculture, 109 S.W. 9th, Topeka, KS 66612.

seed and the vegetative spread of the plant.

s not paid within 30 days or,

a maximum fine of \$1500.

Failure to observe this notice may result in the County:

would like to discuss items during Commissioner comments.

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

No public comment.

Leslie Schrag,

Economic Development

Director was in with a

monthly update for the

County Commissioners.

Ms. Schrag said that she has had two façades completed in January with one being the Norwich Fresh Market and the other Kingman Hardware.

Ms. Schrag let the Commission know that she has written letters of support for five base grant applications.

Commissioners signed abatements.

Commissioners signed vouchers in the amount of \$142,294.44.

Angel Cushing was an online visitor and requested that the Commissioners to pass a resolution against the 30X30 executive order that Biden had passed to preserve land out of production and it would further effect the products on our shelves in the grocery stores.

Ms. Cushing reviewed the documents she mailed to the board

for the meeting.

Commissioners discussed their concerns with the 30 X 30 legislation. MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to pass Resolution 2022-R6, RESOLUTION OPPOSING

THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT'S
"30 X 30" LAND
PRESERVATION

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

Commissioners discussed a letter received from Thomas Bauer about his road on East D Avenue.

Commissioners decided to send a letter to Mr. Bauer letting him know what township he is in and that he will need to contact the township board about his road.

Mendy Frampton, Expo Center Director was in with items that she would like to put out for bid.

Commissioners would like to have Ms. Frampton put the chute and gates out for sealed bid and place other items on Farmers Buy Sell & Trade on Facebook.

Ms. Frampton went over the fees that she made last year.

Ms. Frampton let the Commissioners know that the City liked option #2 on the map for placing another barn.

Ms. Frampton discussed the rental fees with the commissioners and new rates.

Commissioners discussed the stalls with Ms. Frampton and asked her to look into the funds available and prices for a barn building.

Sheriff Randy Hill was in to discuss the HVAC system maintenance and Trane has been doing the current maintenance on the HVAC system.

Sheriff Hill said that Trane suggested a twice a year maintenance should be done and discussed OMNIA partners which he is a current member. Being a member of OMNIA helps to get the best contract maintenance pricing.

Commissioners asked Sheriff Hill if it costs to be a member of OMNIA and he let them know that there is no cost.

Sheriff Hill asked if he should put out to bid for HVAC maintenance.

Commissioners said they would like to put out for bids.

Sheriff Hill discussed a letter from the Department of Corrections requesting a document with the daily pricing for housing parole violators.

Commissioner Henning discussed the dispatch quarterly charges and why the head dispatcher is not currently 50% charged to the City but just the hours worked.

Commissioners want to be fair in the charges to the City of Kingman.

Sheriff Hill discussed how 911 began in Kingman County and that he has always been in charge of 911.

MOTION: Commissioner

Henningmovedtoapprove **RESOLUTION 2022-R7, A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING** C O S T S \mathbf{O} \mathbf{F} **MAINTAINING PAROLE VIOLATORS** THE HELD IN KINGMAN COUNTY JAIL UNDER AUTHORITY OF K.S.A. 75-5217. Commissioner Thimesch

mous vote of the County Commissioners. Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director and Steve Bachenberg, County Engineer were in to discuss funding for FAS 296-Zenda Road

Hot Mix(5.8 miles) and

a possible letting date of

April 11, 2022 funding

seconded the motion.

The motion was ap-

proved upon the unani-

available.
Mr. Arensdorf said that funding from Special Highway could be used for engineering costs for FAS 296 Hot Mix

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to

project.

move forward with 5.8 miles FAS 296 Hot Mix to bid let April 11, 2022. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Arensdorf submitted an update of the 2022 Surface Overlay Program from Schwab Eaton and the bid received from Cornejo & Sons LLC in the amount of \$983,818.50 was the low bidder and should be awarded the contract for FAS 693.

Mr. Arensdorf gave a report on KDOT funding for Bridge X.6-22.0 was denied through the state application process but he will apply for funding again.

Mr. Arensdorf gave the Commissioners information on the District 5 SKACE meeting in St. John on April 7, 2022 and the RSVP deadline is Friday, April 1st, 2022.

Steve Bachenberg gave the Commissioners an update on a few things.

Mr. Bachenberg will have the Capital needs analysis for the Commissioners next time he is out.

Becky Luntsford, County Treasurer was in to discuss the signing of the contract for Klenda Austerman.

MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to hire Klenda Austerman LLC to hold the next tax sale foreclosures. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Ms. Luntsford let the Commissioners know that there will be a Drivers License Examiner for four days a week once the state hires and trains the Examiner.

Stan Goetz, HR/

Planning/Zoning/ Wastewater Director was in to remind the County Commissioners of the Department Head meeting on Monday the 8th of March.

Mr. Goetz submitted

an extension of vacation for approval which was approved.

Mr. Goetz let the Commissioners know that they interviewed a person for the Noxious Weed Position.

Commissioners agreed to the applicant for the Noxious Weed Position.

Mr. Goetz went over the payroll and benefits spreadsheet put together by Tiffany Aumiller, Payroll/Benefits Clerk with the Commissioners.

The County Clerk

submitted the minutes of the February 14th, 2022 Commission meeting. MOTION: Commissioner Henning moved to approve the February 14th, 2022 Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioner Henning talked about the editorial that was in the paper and explained the County's side.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Henning moved to go into executive session with Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor at 12:51p.m. to discuss attorney-client privilege pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act for discussion of matters which would be privileged under the attorney-client relationship, and will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 12:57 p.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 12:57 p.m. no decision made.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Henning seconded the motion. The motion was approved upon the unanimous vote of the County Commissioners.

March Facts:

March was the year's first month in the old Roman calendar. January and February were added much later in the modern calendar.

The Romans named March as Martius after

the God of War, Mars, since the month has been the beginning of the campaigning season for the military. The month has been named as such in Gregorian and Julian calendars also.

The name March has three consecutive conso-

nants in its name when spelled in English. It is the only month of the calendar to have so.

As per an old Devon superstition, it is considered unlucky to plant seeds in March's first three days since these days are regarded as blind days. In the Southern Hemisphere, March is equal to September. Every single year, March and June end on the week's same day. During March, animals wake up from hibernation.

(kidadl.com)

Kingman County Sheriff's Report

Sunday, February 27th Traffic stops

Traffic debris in roadway
Fire outside
Suspicious person

Monday, February 28th Traffic stops

Fire - vehicle
Fire - wild
Theft
Vehicle unlock

Tuesday, March 1st

Traffic stops
Traffic check tag
Animal
Fire - outside
Suspicious person
Trespassing
Vehicle disabled
Vehicle disabled

Welfare check Wednesday, March 2nd

Traffic complaint
Fire - wild
Welfare check

E Hwy 54 & NE 10 St. area Kingman 4000 block E Hwy 54 Kingman 300 block W. D Ave. Kingman

5 6000 block W Hwy 54 Kingman 1500 block SE 90 Ave. Murdock 400 block N. Lincoln St. Cunningham 5000 block SE 20 Ave. Kingman

7
E Hwy 42 & SE 70 Ave. area Rago
S Hwy 14 & SW 20 St. area Kingman
8400 block SE 20 St. Murdock
11000 block SW 70 St. Kingman
10000 block NW 50 St. Cunningham
4000 block NE 10 St. Kingman
NE 50 St & N Berry Ave. area Kingman
100 block W Santa Fe Ave, Cunningham

SE 70 Ave & SE 30 Ave area Kingman NE 10 St & NE 150 Ave area Cheney 100 block W Second Ave. Norwich

Thursday, March 3rd

Traffic complaint Traffic complaint Animal

Friday, March 4th Traffic stops

Traffic complaint
Traffic complaint
Fire
Fire structure
Fraud
Suspicious person
Vehicle unlock
Vehicle abandoned
Welfare check
Welfare check

Welfare check Saturday, March 5h

Traffic stops
Animal
Fire Investigation
Welfare Check

4000 block N Berry Ave Kingman 100 block E Sherman Ave. Kingman 500 block W. F Ave. Kingman

1
7000 block E Hwy 54 Kingman
5000 block E Hwy 54, Kingman
Cunningham
300 block Cunningham
200 block E. Ave B Zenda
200 block E. B Ave Kingman
700 block N Four Wheel Dr Kingman
14000 block E Hwy 54 Cheney
200 block S Parkway St. Norwich
Kingman
200 block E. B Ave Kingman

2 100 block S. Westview S. Norwich 900 block NE 150 Ave Cheney 400 block S. Main St. Norwich

page 10

Pratt Community College Hosts 17 Area Schools for Academic Olympics

PRATT, KS. More than 500 high school students filled Dennis Lesh Sports Arena at Pratt Community College to participate in the annual Academic Olympics

event. Area high schools are invited to PCC to "compete" against one another academically.

Students take written tests and submit entries in a variety of categories, judged by PCC faculty and staff. Testing categories include English, Math, Sciences, Foreign Language, Animal Science, Creative Writing, Journalism and many others.

The PCC Automotive

program offered a parts identification exercise, hosted by instructors and current students. Performers took the auditorium stage to deliver rehearsed pieces for judging in the Performing Arts department. Ceramic, painting and mixed media entries were on display in the Delmar Riney Art Gallery, and the Athletic Hall of Fame housed entries in Photography.

PCC hosted 17

schools on campus for the Academic Olympics, as follows:

Argonia USD 359, Attica USD 511, Buhler USD 313, Conway Springs USD 356, Cunningham USD 332, Fairfield USD 310, Kingman USD 331, Kinsley USD 347, Medicine Lodge USD 254, Newton USD 373, Norwich USD 331, Pratt USD 382, Pretty Prairie USD 311, Skyline USD

438, South Barber USD 255, Stafford USD 349, Trinity Catholic High School

Scoring and judging from PCC faculty and staff revealed the following results:

Division I

Pratt High – 1st place Trinity Catholic – 2nd

Conway Springs – 3rd place

> Division II Cunningham and

Pretty Prairie – 1st place

Argonia – 2nd place Kinsley – 3rd place

PCC Communications and Journalism instructor Heather Wilson is pleased with the turnout for the Academic Olympics on campus.

"It felt nice to be able to host the event in person this year after having to host the contest virtually last year. We waited until the last minute to make the final decision so I was worried this could affect attendance but we still had over 500 high school students present on our campus. Nice numbers despite the pandemic. And it's always great to see the excitement from the participating students."

View this story on our website: https://prattcc. edu/about-pcc/pcc-hosts-17-area-schools-academic-olympics

photo and story submitted by PCC



The Cunningham Team

Individual Places Overall

Back Row: Algebra I Will Wegerer 3rd Wildlife Management Caleb Panek 2nd Algegra I Nate Sterneker 2nd Agronomy Zach Strohl 1st Front Row Sociology Alice Huelskamp 3rd and English III 1st English I Ava Bock 1st English II Taylor Shultz 1st





Kingman County Humane Society Pets for Adoption Ruger



Male American Blue Heeler / Kelpie, Australian Weight 43.2 lbs Age 4Y/8M/2W

Adoption Fee: \$180.00 Intake date: 12/14/2021 People friendly

Ruger is another unfortunate victim of downsizing. Loves the outdoors, has had some housetraining and is crate trained. He's good with kids and already knows sit, kennel, wait and down. Very spunky little dude, Seems to be a good judge of character....he'll size you up before he decides if you're an acceptable human or not. Smart dog!

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier



Mickey

Male Domestic Shorthair Weight: 7.8 lbs Age 1Y/11M/1W Adoption Fee: \$25 Intake date: 12/30/2021

Some things just look good in black and white!

This tuxedo kitty needs a home!

Sponsored by The Cunningham Courier

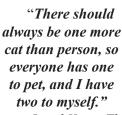


Male Retriever, Yellow Labrador Weight: 42 lbs Age: 1Y/6M/3W Adoption Fee: \$150 Intake Date: 1/23/2021

Diesel is blind but don't tell him that. His favorite game is tracking his ball and he can find it almost anywhere, even underwater. Loves squeeky toys too. He's a pretty easy keeper and adapts well to new situations. Has lots of energy and would love to have a fenced in area where he could run around at little.

Sponsored by Quarters for Canines

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.



— Jarod Kintz, This Book Title is Invisible

"Dogs have important jobs, like barking when the doorbell rings, but cats have no function in a house whatsoever."

> — W. Bruce Cameron, A Dog's *Purpose*

"Cats are the lapdancers of the animal world. Soon as you stop shelling out, they move on, find another lap. They're furry little sociopaths. Pretty and slick -- in love with themselves. When's the last time you saw a seeing-eye cat?" Andrew Vachss,

Safe House

"My cat brought me a toy. I thanked her and threw it. She sat there gave me a look that made me realize people and dogs are the crazy ones."

— Dan Harmon

Upcoming Auctions

Saturday, March 12, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

Consignment Auction at Auction Center

22

22



Saturday March 26. Annual Farm Equipment Consignment Auction - Saturday March 26. Registration by March 12 - Carter Barker Corner east of Pratt.

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

www.hammauction.com

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





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



Minutes from Pratt County Commission for February 28, 2022

The Pratt County Commissioners met in regular session, Monday, February 28, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. in the commissioner room, 1st floor of the courthouse. The following members were

Present: Rick N. Shriver, Thomas W. Jones III, Dwight Adams, Tyson Eisenhauer, county counselor, Lori Voss, county clerk and Mark Graber, IT director.

Tara Pagenkopf, RSVP director, presented a pay slip for a new hire. Commissioner Jones made a motion to hire Brian VanCampen for a RSVP driver at \$10.00 per hour.

Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. She presented checks for signatures. She discussed accounts still in Tiffany's name. Commissioner Adams made a motion to authorize Tara Pagenkopf to sign on the Thanksgiving din-

ner and Christmas accounts. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Chairman Shriver made a motion to approve Tara getting a credit card through either Legacy Bank or the Peoples Bank. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.

Commissioner Adams made a motion to recess into executive session at 2:04 p.m. for fifteen minutes to discuss non-elected personnel to return at 2:19 p.m. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones made a motion to return at 2:19 with no action taken. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Tim Branscom, EP manager/zoning director, presented minutes from the zoning meeting held February 22, 2022, to discuss a special use case. It will be voted on by the Commissioners at the March 14, 2022, Commissioner meeting. He reported there will be a storm spotters meeting tonight at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center. He contacted the radio station to be the media

representative for the LAPC board, they did not commit.

Surrounding Communities

The Hope Center asked if they would like to join their Safety Fair. It was decided they would combine with the Health Fair. Weather tower lights should be installed mid to end of March 2022.

Heather Morgan, economic development/ COVID consultant, reported the small citiesbased grants went in today. The water line is the only project that would qualify for the base grant. She discussed the bipartisan federal infrastructure act. Last Friday Attorney General Schmidt announced the national opioid settlement will bring \$190 million into Kansas. She is not sure how it will be appropriated. Gary Condict has contacted her about spending their ARPA funds. She questioned if there are any additional expenditures on the tower at PSB. Chairman Shriver did not think so.

Darcie Vander Vyver, health director, presented new covid numbers. Presented new hire pay slip for Kinzie Milburn for receptionist position at the health department at \$15.50 per hour. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the hiring of Kinzie Milburn for the position of receptionist at \$15.50 per hour. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chairman Shriver made a motion to recess into executive session at 2:39 p.m. for ten minutes to discuss attorney client privilege to return at 2:49 p.m. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones made a motion at 2:49 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion.

Motion carried 3-0. Doug Freund, road supervisor, reported he has contacted Seidel Tree Service to remove a cottonwood tree at the lake. He presented a quote for \$25,000 from Arensdorf Construction to repair a low water crossing in the SE part of county. Commissioner Adams made a motion to recess into executive session for ten minutes at 2:55 p.m. for attorney client privilege to return at 3:05 p.m.. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones made a motion to return from executive session at 3:00 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

They discussed the county sand pit. In the past individuals have gotten sand from there, but he would like to discontinue due to the shortage of sand, make it only for county use. Commissioner Jones made a motion to recess into executive session at 3:12 p.m. for ten minutes for an attorney client privilege. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Jones made a motion to return from executive session at 3:22 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Adams made a motion to accept the proposal from Arensdorf Construction for a low water crossing not to exceed \$25,000. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the minutes from February 22, 2022. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Shriver discussed an email from a person applying for a position with the county, the position was still listed on the web site, it will be removed.

Commissioner Jones discussed an email from the KDOL that they would be coming around for their annual inspection. He will escort them to the county buildings.

Chairman Shriver discussed progress on the PSB. He discussed the tanker agreement that was discussed last week. The county will assist when called. The lawn care contract was discussed.

Commissioner
Jones made a motion
to adjourn at 3:32 p.m..
Commissioner Adams
seconded the motion.
Motion carried 3-0.
Meeting adjourned.

Kansas Archeology Training Program Registration Opens

Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site

June 3-18, 2022

TOPEKA— The Kansas Historical Society and the Kansas Anthropological

Association announced that registration is now open for the Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP), which will be held at Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site, in Topeka, June 3-18, 2022.

The public can register online through kshs.org through May 31, 2022. Participation is limited per day and will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

The annual field school will partner with the park and the National Park Service's Midwest Archeological Center (MWAC). The park includes the Monroe Elementary School and commemorates the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court's decision to end the nation's legal segregation. This landmark victory for civil rights in America helped inspire the American Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s and 1960s. Monroe Elementary School was built in 1927; the previous Monroe School was built in 1874. Both were intended as segregated schools for Black children, which provide a broader historical context to the location prior to the 1954 court decision.

The goal of this year's field school is to expand knowledge of the school property from the early years when it was purchased by John Ritchie in 1855 and later when the current Monroe Elementary School was built. This will be an opportunity to explore structures buried on the property that once stood near the earlier Monroe School. Little is known regarding the preservation of these structures. Through archeology better understanding can be gained about those who lived in the school neighborhood. This project will help tell of the crucial time between the Civil War and the Civil Rights era, which profoundly impacted people's lives throughout the nation. Research goals will be shaped by input from the National Park Service to assist in telling this story and gaining more understanding about the surrounding community.

The annual field school is an opportunity for the public to work alongside professional and avocational archeologists in finding and excavating archeological sites and processing the resulting artifacts. This year's artifacts found at the site will be processed

in the Kansas Historical Society's archeology laboratory. No experience is necessary—just a desire to learn. Volunteers can attend a few days or the entire field school. Participants must be at least 12 years old, and children aged 12-17 must be accompanied by a parent or sponsor.

The registration fee for members of the Kansas Historical Society and the Kansas Anthropological Association is \$35 for standard participants, \$25 for participants 65 or older, and \$15 for all students currently enrolled at a middle school, high school, or college. For individuals that are not members of either organization, the fee is \$90.

A full schedule of eve-

ning programs will be held in Topeka; a tentative schedule will be posted online. Admission to the programs is free and open to the public. Please note, the field school is closed on Mondays (June 6 and June 13), which is a great opportunity for participants to explore the area. There is potential for other scheduled programming on these days.

For more information contact Nikki Klarmann, Nikki.Klarmann@ ks.gov; 785-272-8681, ext. 266; kshs.org/katp.

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Twitter: twitter.com/kansashistory

com/kansashistorical

Instagram: instagram.

KCC Approves Settlement Agreement

allowing Kansas
Gas Service
to recover last
winter's gas
costs from thirdparty marketers
and certain large
transportation
customers

TOPEKA - The Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) has approved a settlement agreement outlining how Kansas Gas Service (KGS) will recover costs incurred to meet the demand of the company's transportation customers during last February's winter storm. Unlike sales customers, who contract directly with KGS for gas, transportation customers purchase gas from gas producers or through a gas marketer. The purchased gas is then provided to KGS and delivered through KGS pipelines to transportation customers. Examples of transportation customers include some municipal utilities, businesses, schools and churches.

What is normally a straightforward transaction was complicated by the high demand and limited supplies during the winter storm. Some gas marketers did not provide adequate gas to KGS in order to ensure uninterrupted service to transportation customers threatening the integrity of KGS's entire

system. Under an emergency order from the KCC designed to protect the health and safety of Kansans, KGS was obligated to make up the difference to ensure gas was available to all customers, including trans-

portation customers.

Under the settlement agreement, KGS will recover approximately \$52 million of the \$58 million of calculated supply shortfalls in the negotiated gas cost penalty payments from marketers and transportation cus-

tomers. Due to the extraordinary costs from the winter storm, KGS also requested a waiver from a provision in its tariff that would have allowed a multiplier penalty to be applied to the amount owed. The Commission granted the waiver. In the absence of the waiver, penalties could have been as much as \$888 million, potentially sending many entities into bankruptcy and resulting in great harm to the State's economy.

Had KGS been unable to recover costs from marketers and transportation customers, those costs would have fallen to residential and small commercial customers. The settlement also avoids costly litigation and further delays.

Today's order

com/kansas history makes clear that the Commission's decision to waive penalties is not to be viewed as precedential and not to assume penalties will be waived again if a similar situation occurs in the future. In addition, the order states that any proceeds received by KGS from ongoing federal or state investigations into market manipulation, price gouging or civil suits will be passed on to customers.

able at: http://estar.kcc.ks.gov/estar/ViewFile.aspx?Id=6378bf46-4736-4fc7-bbfb-47a48b-ba916d

Today's order is avail-

A recording of today's Business Meeting featuring comments by Commissioners on this order, is available on the KCC YouTube channel.





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Wheat Scoop: K-State Breeding Program Announces New **HRW Variety**

Brief moments of providence in our everyday lives can take our breath away — the sun breaking through the clouds after a storm or a newborn calf standing for the first time. For K-State wheat breeder Dr. Allan Fritz, those moments happen in wheat fields, picking out the breeding lines that show enough promise or durability to become the next great wheat variety. And from a disastrous inadvertent chemical application to soaring through the breeding program, the next variety of hard red winter (HRW) wheat from Kansas State University has officially arrived – KS13DH0041-35.

"We're extremely excited to announce the advancement of the KS13DH0041-35 line for release as an official variety," Fritz said. "It's thanks to divine providence and constant vigilance that this stillto-be-named HRW variety is now ready to go to work for Kansas wheat producers."

In 2014, the soybeans planted ahead of the wheat trials in Ashland were sprayed with what was supposed to be a routine herbicide. But, the chemical was contaminated, which was extremely detrimental to wheat production the following year. Fritz lamented the program lost essentially half of the breeding program at that location in 2015.

"I always have this prayer about, 'Please, God, just show me the plants that are here, and that I should see. Draw my attention to the unique things, that are valuable, that have worth," Fritz said. "That year, it was more, 'Just let there be something here that has value and worth and that can be useful for our producers."

And there was. With just 47 head rows in the field from its population, a doubled haploid line survived the chemical application. Fritz kept just three of those 47 head rows from that population in addition to other material from the Ashland location to advance through the K-State breeding program.

"After a couple of years, it was beating everything and doing it consistently," Fritz said. "As we got to elite testing, it won the K-State breeding program's elite trial by three to five bushels per acre for three straight years."

As with all new varieties, Fritz and the K-State wheat breeding team put this new line to the test. The upcoming variety has higher average yield compared to commercial checks tested over the last three years. Yield potential is at the very top end, beating Zenda by 10 bushels per acre over the last two years and Bob Dole by seven bushels per acre.

The line is taller, but not Bob Dole tall, with excellent straw strength. The line also has excellent leaf rust resistance, good resistance to tan spot and intermediate resistance to fusarium head blight and stripe rust. The farinograph stability is less than the target but it has maintained good loaf volumes and holds its protein content well.

Surrounding Communities

The upcoming variety has also performed well in a multitude of crop rotations and management styles, including planting after soybeans as well as after corn and in both conventional and no-till programs. The line is only intermediate on acid soils, so it is not a good fit for low pH soil.

"It's just an overall workhorse variety that is what you would want as the foundation of your production," Fritz said.

As this line moved through the breeding program to become an officially released variety, its durability also provided Fritz with a constant reminder of the power of faith as his wife's earlyonset dementia advanced.

"Having grown up on a farm, there is this whole realization that you can do everything right. You can make all the best plans, you can fertilize properly, but you are still at the mercy of the weather conditions and all of those things," Fritz said. "We are relying on something beyond just what we can do ourselves."

While no one can control the weather, the K-State wheat breeding program - supported by a collaboration between K-State, the Kansas Wheat Commission and the Kansas Wheat Alliance - works to set producers up for agronomic success. The funding from wheat farmers is used for the operation of the program, including staff time to plant and harvest more than 20,000 yield plots per year, equipment purchases and upkeep, and travel to plots like the ones in Ashland. The partnership also supports the adoption of new technologies to decrease development time, like the doubled haploid process that pro-

duced this new variety. Combined, this work results in tested varieties that serve producers for years. Fritz compared this latest release to others from the K-State program that have led the state in production, quality and acreage, including Overly, Fuller, Everest and Bob Dole.

"There's just been this flow of material through the breeding program, and it's always fascinating to me to look back at the pedigrees and see the parents that pull through and how they become the foundation for the next round of varieties," Fritz said, crediting the continuation of work from himself and previous K-State wheat breeders like Rollie Sears and Elmer Heyne. "You see that stream of effort and work to continually push the crop forward to make better varieties."

"For me, in my program, in my career, I have found the providence in this variety as a culmination of that effort. With all of that history, I believe this variety has tremendous worth for our producers."

Written by Julia Debes, Kansas Wheat



Russia's Invasion of Ukraine – How It's Impacting Wheat in Kansas

As he spends time in his wheat fields this week applying fertilizer to this year's winter wheat crop, Kansas farmer Justin Knopf says there's plenty on his mind, and heart.

"Drought, high fertilizer prices and extreme market volatility are all cause for extra concern this year," he said, "but thinking about the people of Ukraine has evoked a whole new layer of emotion. I'm thinking of the families separated and the courage and tenacity of the Ukrainian people amid such hardship and challenge. I'm thinking about farmers in Ukraine and the reality of trying to operate a farm during this turmoil."

Knopf added, "I always take the responsibility of raising a wheat crop seriously, but realizing so many acres of wheat in Ukraine and Russia may be disrupted, or not available to the rest of the world, makes the job of raising this year's wheat crop feel more important than ever."

Farmers in Ukraine grow winter wheat on a similar timeframe as in Kansas. They, too, should be applying fertilizer to their crop during this time of year, but will that wheat even be harvested or make it through the supply chain? Will spring crops like corn even get planted this year?

With the Russian invasion of Ukraine, basic supply and demand, in addition to numerous other factors, is putting the commodity markets into unprecedented instability.

Russia and Ukraine are the world's top and fifth exporters, respectively, according to the most recent available stats from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Together, Russia and Ukraine make up around one-third of the world's wheat production.

The invasion threatens to upset global agricultural trade, as transportation decreases or halts in the Black Sea region.

"Ports and shipping lanes are being disrupted," said Kansas Wheat CEO Justin Gilpin. "Customers are going to have to go to other sources to find that wheat, at a minimum, in the near term."

With the uncertainties surrounding the duration of the conflict, it is expected that volatility will continue in the market and have an impact on world supplies.

The world consumes about 787.4 million metric tons (28.9 billion bushels) of wheat each year. With major disruption out of Ukraine and Russia, there could be a shortage in world wheat

supplies. "There will be some disruption with the infrastructure and their wheat harvest in that region," said Gilpin. "This movement in the wheat market is unprecedented."

This supply shortage from availability in the Black Sea region comes at a time when wheat in Kansas is just getting ready to break dormancy. Additionally, drier weather is forecasted into the spring. As of February 27, the Kansas wheat crop is rated 38% poor to very poor condition, 37% fair and only 25% good to excellent by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. There has been a downgrade in crop conditions across the United States due to drought conditions. As of March 1, the entire state of Kansas is experiencing abnormally dry conditions, with 73% considered moderate to extreme drought conditions.

"It's a very important time with topdressing and spring planting in Kansas," said Gilpin. "The U.S. has emerging concerns with the potential of a smaller winter wheat crop due to dryness. It's a secondary reason that normally would keep commodity markets on edge. The southern plains winter wheat crop is breaking dormancy and in need of timely rains."

"This extreme market volatility has led to wheat futures decoupling from cash markets, adding to the uncertainty growers and grain handlers are faced with," he said. "Producers are trying to offset the inflationary costs they're dealing with on chemical and input sides. We already were facing some of the highest fertilizer prices and chemical inputs costs we've seen before this event transpired, but now with everything that's unfolding, it's just going to put that much pressure on production, not just in the U.S., but around the

world." The costs and availability of fertilizer and other inputs have been at record highs since before this incursion. However, Russia and its ally, Belarus, are key producers of potash, which is used in the production of fertilizer. Together, they account for 42% of global exports of potash.

Natural gas, a top commodity for Russia, is a main ingredient for ammonia, which is also used in the production of fertilizer. While the United States produces most of its own natural

gas, global price swings have a big effect on the U.S. fertilizer industry. This exacerbates the ongoing challenges farmers have had securing inputs.

Because of higher input costs and supply chain issues, the U.S. wheat crop may not get the fertility it needs to maximize yields, leading to decreased production, hindering its ability to meet worldwide demand.

As Knopf, who is president of the Kansas Association of Wheat Growers, fertilizes his wheat in central Kansas this week, he said, "This is an eye-opening reminder of how grateful I am and the importance of our ability here in the Heartland to consistently produce wheat and grains for the U.S. and world access year after year."

"I'm even more mindful of the necessity of stewarding of our natural resources, and maintaining our infrastructure and access to science and technology — all things that enable us to be the most consistent producer of grain in the world," he said.

By Marsha Boswell, Vice President of Communications

Public Notice

First published in The Cunningham Courier on March 3, 2022 (2t)

SPECIAL ELECTION NOTICE OF PLACES AND DATES OF REGISTRATION

Pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 25-2311(c), notice is hereby given that the books for the registration of voters in Kingman County, Kansas will be closed from 5:00p.m. on Tuesday, March 15, 2022 and will remain closed until the day after the Special Election which will be held in the County of Kingman, State of Kansas on the 5th day of April, 2022. Books will reopen on April 6th, 2022.

OFFICE HOURS:

The books will be open each day from 8:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. in the County Clerk's Office. At 5:00 p.m. on March 15th, 2022, the books will close and remain closed until April 6th, 2022, which is the day after the Special Election.

To register you must be 18 years of age or older or will have attained the age of 18 years before the nex

When a voter has been registered according to law, his or her registration shall continue to be valid until one of the following occurs:

The voter changes name by mar riage, divorce or legal proceedings

The voter changes residence in which he resided at the time he registered.

When a voter dies or is disqualified for voting, his registration will be pulled from the files after verified. When a voter fails to vote in two consecutive Genera Elections, such voter's name may be removed from the registration books and party affiliation lists Such voter must re-register in order to be able to vote.

In Witness Whereof I have here unto set my hand and seal this 281 day of March 2022

(SEAL) Carol D. Noblit

Kingman County Election Officer

Public Notice

Published in The Cunningham Courier on Thursday, March 10, 2022

To All Customers of Zenda Telephone Company, Inc.

The Public Service Commission of Kansas designated Zenda Telephone Company, Inc. The 'Eligible Telecommunications Carrier" for its service area for universal service purposes. The goal of universal service is to provide all citizens access to essential telecommunications services

Zenda Telephone Company, Inc. provides single party residence (with unlimited local Usage) and business service for rates which range from \$18.50 for residential customers and \$21.50 per month for business customers. This includes access to:

ong distance carriers Emergency services

Operator services

Directory assistance Telecommunications Relay

Other services designed to perons with disabilities oll blocking

Use of these services may result in added charges.

In addition, Zenda Telephone Company, Inc. provides one copy of its annual local Directory with out charge.

Zenda Telephone Company, Inc. would be pleased to provide you with specific rates for your area upon request.

Zenda Telephone Company, Inc. offers qualified customers Lifeline Service. If you are a Low Income customer you may qualify for Zenda Telephone Company's Lifeline Program. This means you may receive a monthly discount for your basic phone charges This service also includes a dis count for line connection charges and free toll blocking for qualifying customers.

Zenda Telephone Company provides broadband internet services for rates which begin at \$49.95 per month for 10 mbps download and 2 mbps upload. Additional speeds and prices available.

Please call Zenda Telephone Company at 620-243-5531 if you have any questions.

Wheat Facts:

Wheat is a member of the grass family that produces a dry, one-seeded fruit commonly called a kernel.

More than 17,000 years ago, humans gathered the seeds of plants and ate them. After rubbing off the husks, early people simply chewed the kernels raw, parched or simmered.

Wheat originated in the "cradle of civilization" in the Tigris and Euphrates river valley, near what is now Iraq.

The Roman goddess, Ceres, who was deemed protector of the grain, gave grains their common name today - "cereal."

Wheat, used for white bread, pastries, pasta, and pizza, has been the principal cereal crop since the 18th century.

(wheatworld.org)

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

\$5.00 minimum charge for one-week run. DEADLINES: 2:00 p.m. Tuesdays

Recycle - Reduce - Reuse - Repurpose



Advertisements Needed!!!



Dozer Service, Inc.

416 W Stanley Ave Spivey, KS 67142 (620) 532-3555

• Dozer • Excavator • Road Grader • High Loader • Dump Trucks

Cunningham Auto Service

Complete Auto Care Call Tom or Matt 620-298-2029



Conrardy Seeds

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

For Sale

Place your 25-word classified in this paper and 135 more for only \$300/ week. Find employees, sell your home or your car. Call the Kansas Press Association @ 785-271-5304 today!

Miscellaneous

BATHROOM RENOVATIONS. EASY, ONE DAY updates! We specialize in safe bathing. Grab bars, so slip flooring & seated showers. Call for a free in-home consulation: 855-382-1221

Medical Billing & Coding Training. New Students Only. Call & Press 1. 100% online courses. Financial Aid Available for those who qualify. Call 888-918-9985

NEW AUTHORS WANTED! Page Publishing will help you self-publish your own book. Free author submission kit! Limited offer! Why wait? Call now: 855-939-2090

DirecTV Satellite TV Service Starting at \$59.99/month! Free Installation! 160+ channels available. Call Now to Get the Most Sports & Entertainment on TV! 888-721-1550

Community Garage Sale Day

Saturday, April 30, 2022 Contact City Hall at (620) 298-3077 to place your sale on the map (no charge). Sponsored by City of Cunningham Maps will be available at City Hall and Cunningham Public Library,

NHS Blood Drive

The Cunningham NHS group will be hosting a Red Cross Blood drive on April 4th from 1:00-6:00 p.m. at the Community Center. You must register online. Please call the school if you are having trouble registering.

Puppies for Sale



Kansas Farm Doodles LeRoy and Lynann Hageman 620-491-1020 F1B Goldendoodles 3 black males, 1 black female Available March 11, 2022

Friends, family & Cunningham peeps discount.

Subscribe to your hometown paper!

Cunningham Liquor

OPEN — 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. — Monday thru Thursday 10:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. — Friday & Saturday 12 noon to 8 p.m. - Sunday "Cold Brew... Warm Spirits" 298-2033

C-1 Construction 620-532-4195 Soil Conservation Practices, Site Grading, Pond Dam Restoration

- SOIL EROSION MEASURES -**Building Pads** GREG CONRARDY

NISLY BROTHERS, INC.

(620) 662-6561 Serving Cunningham Since 1993

Wanted

FREON WANTED: We pay \$\$\$ for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient. Certified Professionals. Call 312-291-9169 or visit RefrigerantFinders.com

Miscellaneous

not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details.

Never Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Complete Care Home Warranty COVERS ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES, 30 DAY RISK FREE, \$200,00 OFF + 2 FREE Months! 844-237-1432

Never clean your gutters again! Affordable, professionally installed gutter guards proect your gutters and home from debris and leaves forever! For a FREE quote call:

LONG DISTANCE MOVING: Call today for a FREE QUOTE from America's Most Trusted Interstate Movers. Let us take the stress out of moving! Speak to a Relocation Specialist, call 888-788-0471

Help Wanted

City of Cunningham is taking applications for summer lifeguards. Application can be picked up at City Hall or accessed at cunninghamks.net.

Help Wanted



Pool Manager & Lifeguards Needed!

The City of Turon is now taking applications for Pool Manager and Lifeguards. The Manager does not need to be a certified lifeguard. Applications can be picked up at the office Mon-Fri 7-11 am, 12-3 pm, or, if you'd prefer an emailed copy, please email the office at cityofturonss@sctelcom.net

City of Scott City

is accepting applications for a full-time maintence worker primarily in the parks department with some duties in the street, water, and sewer departments. Starting pay from \$14.78 - \$17.66, based on experience. Applications may be obtained at City Hall, 221 W. 5th Street or by contacting City Hall by email at

scottcty@scottcityks.org. Benefits include full-family Blue Cross Blue Shield, vacation, and sick leave. **EOE** Employer

Shared on Facebook? Share with The Courier

Thank You Note RATES Use the Courier to say "Thank You". \$.10 per word (\$5.00 minimum)

Miscellaneous

UPDATE YOUR HOME with Beautiful New Blinds DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY. Receive & Shades. FREE in-home estimates make it convenient aximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or to shop from home. Professional installation. Top quality - Made in the USA. Call for free consultation: 844-740-0117. Ask about our specials!

> TOP CA\$H PAID FOR OLD GUITARS! 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. 855-454-6658

> PAYING TOP CA\$H FOR MEN'S SPORT WATCHES! Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. Call 844-575-0691

> .DISCOUNT AIR TRAVEL. Call Flight Services for best pricing on domestic & international flights inside and from the US. Serving United, Delta, American & Southwest and many more airlines. Call for free quote now! Have travel dates ready! 833-381-1348

Accountants

.aubhan,Harbert&Haas,L.C Certified Public Accountants

Complete Accounting Services Tax - Bookkeeping - Payroll Consulting -

Joseph A. Harbert, CPA 217 N Main St. Kingman, KS 67068 620-532-3667

> Lorin Haas, CPA 420 S. Jackson Suite 200 Pratt, KS 67124 620-672-3400

Agriculture

Neville Built **Grain Trailers** & Custom-Built Trailers Dick or Marvin Neville 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

Cunningham Child Care Children 8 weeks to 11 years

> 120 West 3rd Cunningham, KS 620-298-2010

Home **Improvement**

Dixon's True Value Hardware Heating & A/C 325 N. Main, Kingman, KS 532-2631

Real Estate

Kingman Real Estate SALES AND APPRAISALS Scott Sparks 532-4242 Nancy Milford 491-0774 Diane Wilson 491-1139 Office 620-532-3581

146 N. Main, Kingman, KS

www.kingmanksre.com

Ability - Honesty - Service

Insurance

Fitzsimmons Insurance Cunningham, KS 67037

Bus: 620-298-5291 Toll Free: 800-536-5291

For more information see display ad on page 2

State Farm Insurance

Jon Wollen, Agent 152 N Main Street Kingman, KS 67068 Bus: 620-532-3179 Toll Free: 800-824-6681 www.jonwollen.com

Repair Service



415 West Santa Fe, Cunningham We now have a Tire Machine OUR LIVING IS FIXING YOURS!

Optometrists

Troy Maydew, OD Seth Thibault, OD Andrew W. Piester, OD

216 S. Oak Pratt, Kansas 67124 620-672-5934 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. M - F

604 N. Walnut Medicine Lodge, Kansas 67104 620-886-3222 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Seth Thibault, OD Andrew W. Piester, OD 104 West C Ave. Kingman, KS 67068 620-532-3154 1-800-371-3154

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Friday

Advertise Your Business in the Courier

Pharmacists

Kingman Drug 211 North Main,, Kingman, Pharmacists on call 24 hours

Days - store ph. 532-5113 Emergency after hours call Merlin McFarland 532-3855

Hospitals and

Clinics



Exceptional Healthcare to **Every Patient, Every Time'**

Hospital & Family Clinic 750 West D Avenue Kingman, KS 67068 620-532-3147

> **Rehab Services** 760 West D Avenue Kingman, KS 67068 **620-532-0110**

Cunningham Clinic 112 North Main Cunningham, KS 67035

620-298-2397

Visit our website: www.kingmanhc.com Find us on Facebook: Kingman Healthcare Center

Donna Hebb

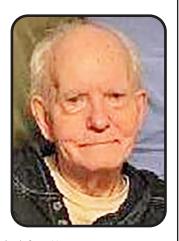
Donna F. Hebb, 70, passed away Friday, March 4, 2022. Donna was preceded in death by her parents, Joy, Jr. and Ora Rains, and is survived by her husband, Carl Hebb; sons, Brock Rogers (Ashlie) and Nicholas Rogers (Jennette); brother, Ronald Rains; and grand-children, Tyler, Tanner,



Trista, Tucker, Teagan, Kendall, Weston, and Leah. A Celebration of Life Service will be held at 1:30 pm, Friday, March 18, at Broadway Mortuary Chapel, 1147 S. Broadway. Share condolences at www.cozine. com. Services by Cozine Memorial Group-Broadway Mortuary.

Don Bradford

Donovan "Don" Earl Bradford, 85, passed away Monday, February 28, 2022 at Hilltop Manor in Cunningham. He was born on January 21, 1937 in Jetmore to Israel White and Edith (Blecka) Bradford. Donovan married Evelyn Marie (Law) Bradford on February 8, 1953 in



Jetmore. They were married for 69 years.

Don attended Jetmore High School. He attended one year of college at Dodge City Community College. He was a business owner including Motel, Restaurant and Movie Theater in Kinsley. He was also a custom harvester and maintenance provider at Skyline School. He was a member of Free Methodist Church. He enjoyed playing the steel guitar and bass guitar in his band, playing harmonica at the nursing homes, collecting antiques and spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife, Evelyn Bradford; children, Donis Harper of Mulberry, Kent (Susan) Bradford of Ormond Beach, Florida, Doran Bradford (Chantel) of Independence and Jolyn Bradford of Sawyer; 10 grandchildren; and 12 great grandchildren.

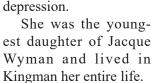
Don is preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Melodie Dawn Self; brother, Arlyn Bradford; and sisters, Betty Faulkner and Vickie Jackman.

Funeral service was held on Friday, March 4, 2022 at Larrison Mortuary, Pratt with Pastor Terry Stafford presiding. A graveside service followed at Fairmount Cemetery, Jetmore.

Memorials may be made to Free Methodist Church in care of Larrison Mortuary.

Stephanie Wyman

Stephanie Renea Wyman, 30, was born Jan. 31, 1992 in Kingman and passed away Feb. 25, 2022 after a brief illness and a battle with depression.





She loved a good rom-com movie, fishing in a great pond, watching the Game Show Network and was an avid KC Chiefs fan, even during the years they strugged to win games.

Her greatest joy in her short life were her children, Harlie and Dylan.

She is survived by her children; her mother Jacque Wyman; her sister Sarah Walter and her grandmother June Keller.

A celebration in honor of Stephanie's life will be 2:00 p.m., Saturday, April 2, 2020 in the Livingston Family Center.

Memorials may be made with the Stephanie Wyman Memorial in care of Livingston Funeral Home.

Check the Blessing Box east of the Methodist Church.

Anyone can give or take from the Blessing Box at any time.

Advertise Locally

Support your hometown paper!!!

Governor Announces \$160 Million to Support Child Care Providers in Kansas

TOPEKA—Governor Laura Kelly today announced \$160 million in grants available for child care providers in Kansas. The third round of Child Care Sustainability Grants will aid child care providers in meeting the costs of operating their businesses through the remaining impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"As we grow the economy, these grants will provide the continued support our child care facilities need to stay open and ensure that Kansas families have access to safe, quality child care." Governor Laura Kelly said. "This support will help our child care facilities, it will help Kansas parents, and it will help our economy."

Qualifying child care providers are guaranteed nine months of payments ranging from \$1,800 per month for family child care programs to \$18,000 per month for large centers. In addition, the providers will be eligible for

an additional five months of funding either in the same amount or more, depending on the utilization of the grants during the first nine months.

"When Covid-19 hit, we were so thankful that we were still able to be open and be there for our parents and the children who needed a safe and familiar place to go," said Kristele Blessings, Precious Blessings Development Center. "During that time, we as a small business took a hit when some of our parents weren't able to work due to the pandemic and we lost some of our expected income.

"These grants have afforded us the ability to provide child care in the safest and most precautious way for our staff, children, and parents," she continued.

Precious Blessings Development Center received \$20,000 in grants from the first two cycles. It is located in Topeka.

"As their businesses continue to recover from drop in classroom sizes, delayed capital improvements, and unexpected expenses for sanitization and personal protection equipment, child care providers can use the grant dollars how they

need it most," Department of Children and Families Secretary Laura Howard said. "These grants offer great flexibility to fulfill the needs of the providers."

The grant program will be administered by Child Care Aware of Kansas. The grant application is available starting March 1 at www. ks.childcareaware.org. Applications are accepted until Nov. 30, 2022. Grant dollars may be used for personnel costs, rent/ mortgage, utilities, personal protective equipment, goods or services, purchases of or updates to equipment and supplies, and mental health supports.

"Financial support from these grants represent an unprecedented investment in the stabilization of our existing child care infrastructure, ensuring that parents have a safe, nurturing environment for their young children," said Kelly Davydov, Executive Director of Child Care Aware of Kansas. "These funds are critical to ensuring that child care businesses are able to keep paying staff, even when enrollment fluctuates due to illness. They also allow child care programs to

absorb the increased cost of essential supplies, like food and personal protective equipment."

To be considered for funding, newly licensed or established child care programs must maintain an active permanent license with Kansas Department of Health and Environment, whether they remain open or temporarily closed. Funds may be used for any normal operational expenses, additional expenses the child care program has due to meeting CDC guidance for mitigating the spread of COVID-19, and other activities necessary to maintain or resume the operation of programs.

Qualifying child care providers in Kansas are encouraged to apply at www. ks.childcareaware.org.

Round 1 and 2 of the Child Care Sustainability Grants provided \$97 million in support to Kansas child care providers. Child Care Aware of Kansas estimates that nearly 211,000 children were impacted by the grants.

Round no. 1: \$49.5 million

Round no. 2: \$47.5 million



I misspelled the names of these two nice young atheletes in last week's paper. Apologies to the family!



Parent Night Correction!



Keiden and Kelden Mills and parents

Fourth Grade Revs It Up



The 4th graders of Cunningham Elementary have been studying "Energy". The final project consisted of the students designing cars powered by a balloon, the cars were to travel at least 5 feet. The students recorded their distances and times, then they calculated the speed of their cars and created distance and speed graphs using Excel spreadsheets.

Back Row: Bryer Barber, Landen Hageman, Cooper Neufeld, Brody Halderson, Walker Winfrey, Carter Wyatt, Kalvin Fischer, Alyssa Osner, and Joey Vaughn.



Middle Row: Carly McGuire, Landon Green, Lux Thimesch, Casyn Miller, Ava Neywick, Vaughn Preisser.

Front Row: Mackley Glenn, Jace Oldham, Lucus Theis, and Leddie Parkins

Not pictured: Jonathan Fowler. photo and story submitted by Carrie Vahsholtz

