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 Volume 149 / Issue 22 Official Newspaper for Kingman, Norwich & USD 331 May 28, 2026

## ROD Office, County Involved in Suit Over Fund Usage

### Complaint Filed By Hubbell Over Payments; County Claims Policies Not Followed

#### STAFF REPORT

Kingman County Register of Deeds Susan Hubbell has filed suit against Kingman County Treasurer Jamie Smith and the board of county commissioners over a dispute about payment to two register of deeds office employees out of the office's technology fund.

Smith and the county commissioners have since filed a response to the suit, claiming the payments attempted to circumvent county policies, and requested a jury trial.

A case management conference is scheduled for July 1 at 11 a.m. in Kingman County District Court with Judge Gaten Wood presiding.

The dispute centers around the usage of the register of deeds (ROD) technology fund and how it may be utilized to pay for anything related to technological equipment and services, with the county claiming it circumvented county policies and state statutes regarding salaried employees.

Hubbell's suit was originally

filed in District Court on March 31, in which the filing by her attorney, Josh V.C. Nicolay of Pratt, states that a register of deeds technology fund was established by the state legislature for county register of deeds "to acquire equipment and technological services." It's funded solely by fees collected by the register of deeds and is not subject to county budget requirements.

The petition Nicolay filed states that ROD deputy Peggy Kaufman and assistant Vanessa DeWeese

performed services related to these technology services, and that on Dec. 24, 2025, she submitted to the treasurer a signed order for payment of such services out of the ROD tech fund. The amounts in question were \$9,431.25 to Kaufman and \$3,362.50 to DeWeese.

The petition states that on or around Jan. 20, 2026, counsel for the treasurer and county commissioners notified her office that payments to the ROD employees

"will not be paid as they cannot circumvent the countywide policy on staffing, salaries, taxes, etc., which is made clear in state statute."

The petition further stated that Kansas Attorney General Opinion No. 2010-14 reasoned that register of deeds "salaries may be appropriate expenditures provided the activities performed by staff are related to the storing, recording, archiving, retrieving, maintaining

See **SUIT** / Page 2

## Park Board Proposes New Basketball Court for Main Street Park

BY BOB MORRIS

Managing Editor

Kylie Maloney, president of the Kingman park board, visited with the Kingman city commissioners at their May 14 meeting about proposed improvements to the basketball court at Main Street Park.

Maloney said the park board had discussed other parks that have received improvements in recent years, such as Depot Park and Rotary Park, but wanted to turn its attention to Main Street Park.

"I don't think it's a mystery that Main Street Park has been neglected," Maloney said. "It definitely needs some love. It's a great central location. It's safe for kids to travel to. You don't have to cross (Highway) 54 or cross the bridge. It's heavily used by the people."

She shared information about what the park board would like to do with Main Street Park. The park currently has a basketball court that measures 30 feet by 60 feet. The park board has proposed a new concrete pad measuring 40 feet by 60 feet with two goals, plus two new goals for the existing court.

"Those goals are adjustable," Maloney said. "We would put aluminum backing on it to make them more durable so they wouldn't be like the plexiglass that tends to crack or break."

The park board would also like to install a 150-foot iron fence along the west edge of the park. Maloney said that would be for safety reasons.

"A lot of the balls will bounce out into Main Street — it's just to kind of keep the balls contained," she said.

She added that the park board would like to have a water spigot or other water source. It didn't have to be a drinking fountain but some type of source to allow people to fill water bottles.

The park board obtained estimates from Mark Arensdorf, who estimated the work for the new concrete pad

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STEPHANIE JUMP / Leader-Courier

## Memorial Day: Remembering Those Who Served

Memorial Day services were held at Walnut Hill Cemetery Monday, featuring presentation of the colors by the Ninnescach VFW Post 1164 color guard and the placing of a wreath in memory of U.S. Veterans by VFW Post Commander Bill Bemis and Chester James of the American Legion. Many people attended to pay their respects to veterans who have passed away while serving their country.

## City Commission OKs Using Centennial Fund Money for America's 250th Celebration

BY BOB MORRIS

Managing Editor

The Kingman city commission, at its May 14 meeting, approved utilizing money in the Centennial Fund to go toward plans for the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration Of Independence.

The Centennial Fund has \$12,251.57 remaining from the fundraising done at the time when the city marked its 125th anniversary. City

Attorney Greg Graffman, who chaired the fundraising committee at the time, told the city commissioners that the intent was to keep it for the city's 150th anniversary celebration, but "I don't think there's anything descriptive" that says it must be used for that purpose.

In a previous meeting, City Commissioner Jon Wollen had mentioned the Centennial Fund as a possible source of money for the America's 250th celebration. The request was for \$6,074.

Graffman mentioned that there are some things that can be done to build the fund back up if people wanted to do something to celebrate the city's 150th anniversary.

Deena Lampe, who is on the committee planning the 250th celebration, noted that those activities are separate from the Family Fun Fest that the Kingman Area Chamber of Commerce will hold.

Lampe noted that the organizers have made a slight adjustment to which portions

of Main Street will be closed at that time. That was done to make sure the fire department isn't blocked, so firefighters are able to respond to calls if necessary.

In other business, the city commission approved an airport fuel purchase of \$4,000 for 590 gallons, to include a request to change the city's policy to allow the airport manager to determine the price that fuel will be sold based on market conditions.

Kingman Airport Manager John Streach told the com-

missioners that the cost of fuel has risen and some pilots have been coming to the airport to get fuel because the Kingman Airport was offering it for less than other airports.

"We were the cheapest and least expensive in a 50-mile radius," Streach said. "And so our sales went way up."

Streach said that becomes an issue because he is unable to increase the price without authorization from the city commission. He asked about giving authority to the city

manager, city clerk and airport manager to resolve such issues.

One thing he and City Manager Dan Knoell noted was that the fuel purchase would put the airport over its budgeted limit for fuel, but it wouldn't exceed the overall budgeted limit for the airport. The airport does have about \$27,000 budgeted for capital outlay.

Knoell explained that, when cities set their budgets

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# GOLF TOURNAMENT

## June 13, 2026

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# NEWS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Bob Morris at (620) 532-3151 or email bmmorris@kcnonline.com

## SUIT

• From Page 1

and handling of data recorded or stored in the office of the register of deeds” and that “expenditures from the technology fund are appropriate where a reasonable nexus exists between the expenditure and the electronic storing, recording, archiving, retrieving, maintaining and handling of data recorder or stored in the office of the register of deeds.”

The petition filing by Nicolay requested a declaratory judgment that the ROD may authorize such payments to employees from the tech fund and that the treasurer is obligated to pay them out of that fund.

It also requested a writ of mandamus to the county treasurer to compel payments for outstanding invoices and a permanent restraining order against the county commissioners from intervening in the ROD’s use of the tech fund.

In the request for writ of mandamus, the filing states that the county treasurer has

“failed to issue payments pursuant to the ROD’s December 24, 2025 signed order for payment” and thus “the Treasurer has willfully refused to perform a specified duty of office.”

In the request for a restraining order, the filing states that the county commissioners’ attempt to override those orders “is an unlawful interference with the ROD’s Tech Fund which causes irreparable harm to the ROD, as the ROD is unable to exercise its discretion in utilizing the Tech Fund for its statutory purposes.”

Smith and the county commissioners filed a response to the complaint in a filing dated May 11, then submitted an amended response on May 21. They are represented by Oakley attorney Christopher J. McGowne and the filing makes several counterclaims.

The initial response from the defendants stated that they are “responsible for the management and supervision of the County. They are the custodians responsible for the stewardship and over-

sight of county resources.” McGowne’s filing states that the defendants deny any refusal to perform duties of an office or engage in unlawful interference with the ROD’s tech fund.

The response also stated the ROD has “repeatedly attempted to circumvent statutory requirements in order to enrich her employees and friends at the expense of the taxpayers.”

McGowne’s filing also stated that “the ROD has actively harassed and generally engaged with County employees, including the Defendants, in an inappropriate manner creating a hostile workplace environment.”

The response stated that the “clear terms” of the tech fund provide that payments are subject to personnel policies established by the board of county commissioners, any pay plan established by the board, any applicable collective bargaining agreements or civil service system and the board-approved budget financing the ROD office operations.

The response stated that

the ROD sought payment from the fund which violates state statute and asks for a declaratory judgement that the ROD follow those policies and the requested payments are not authorized by law.

The response also requests that the court enjoin the ROD from “making inappropriate funding requests in violation of state statutes” and from “engaging with County employees for any purpose other than official business related to her role as the ROD.”

In the amended response by McGowne dated May 21, another claim made was that the ROD office has made “demands of the Counterclaimants that are unreasonable and violate Kingman County polices and Kansas statutes” and requests injunctive relief against the ROD to prohibit the usage of money from the Tech Fund to “circumvent County employment policies in violation of Kansas Statutes.”

Another claim states that the ROD office has gone through “multiple employ-

ees in a nearly two-to-three-year-period” with some employees having left the county, others transferring to other departments and others who “took pay cuts to move into alternative positions.”

“The common thread amongst those employees is the manner in which they have been treated by the Register of Deeds,” the amended response stated. “Despite multiple attempts to engage on a professional level with the Register of Deeds, the Register of Deeds has consistently behaved in a manner unbecoming of her office.”

There is also a claim that the ROD placed restrictions on videotaping government officials within government offices, noting that it’s allowed “so long as it does not directly interfere with the administration of the purpose of government office or the work of the government officials and/or employees.”

While the county may put in place “certain time, place or manner restrictions,” those restrictions must conform to constitutional provi-

sions and be put in place by county building administrators.

“Yet the Register of Deeds has taken it upon herself, in violation of the Kansas and US Constitutions, to put such restrictions in place,” the amended filing stated. “Specifically, there is a sign, clearly posted in a conspicuous location in the Register of the Deeds office, that prohibits the use of cameras, scanners, cell phones, thumb drives or electronic devices of any kind. The Register of Deed does not have the authority to limit the actions of citizens coming into her office.”

The amended response also states that “the Register of Deeds has repeatedly requested the County Treasurer to ignore county polices and procedures, as well as general accounting and finance procedures, when seeking to disperse taxpayer funds.”

“Rather, the Register of Deeds instead simply ‘orders’ the Treasurer to pay funds as she sees fit,” the amended response stated.

## PARK

• From Page 1

would be \$19,200, plus \$2,000 for dirt work. The estimated cost of the fence would be \$12,000 and the estimated cost for the basketball goals would be \$12,000.

Maloney noted that three individuals have expressed interest in donating a goal in memory of an individual, so that would cover about \$9,000. That would mean \$36,200 that the city would need to cover.

In response to commission questions, Maloney said the court wouldn’t be a full-size court but the 40-foot-by-60-foot court would be big enough to allow for a three-point line. She said a full-size court would cost about \$40,000, so the park board



BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

Kingman Park Board President Kylie Maloney recently visited with the Kingman city commissioners about adding a new basketball court to Main Street Park. The project would also include new goals and a fence. The park board has received interest from several people who were willing to donate money for a goal in memory of an individual.

decided to scale it back.

As far as other potential improvements in the future, Maloney said that there are light poles already there, though she didn’t know how well they worked. She added that parking could potentially be added.

The questions the city

commissioners discussed was where any city funding would come from. There is a special parks and rec fund that has \$48,416, but only \$21,500 is budgeted for 2026, so a budget amendment would be required to go over that.

Maloney said she believed

the park board could get more donations but at least one person wanted more details before committing. She said she believed some donors would like “some sort of confirmation” that the city commission wanted to do it before donating to the project.

## FUND

• From Page 1

for the coming year, they have to stay within the budgeted expenditures for the year unless the city commission does a budget amendment.

But Knoell said his understanding was that the city

budgeted for fuel based on the price the city previously paid for fuel and did some calculations to help offset related costs.

“I think what we need to do moving forward is, especially in these inflationary times of cost, is we need to kind of do the same thing,” Knoell

said. “We need to make sure we set a price to make sure that we’re covering the cost of that fuel, and that would be our bare minimum.”

Knoell said it made sense to him to move forward with the fuel purchase because “trends right now just look like gas is going to keep go-

ing up for a while.”

As for the city policy change, Knoell said that he would recommend a resolution or ordinance to make it where the airport manage could watch the fuel supply and cost, then bring information to the city office and make changes as necessary.

## LEGAL NOTICE

(First published in the Kingman Leader Courier, on Thursday, May 28, 2026) 3t

**IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF PHYLLIS L. BLACKER, DECEASED.**

Case No. KM-2025-PR-000039

### NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Kelli McCormick and Kyla Eller, duly appointed, qualified and acting Co-Executors of the Estate of Phyllis L. Blacker, deceased, requesting that Petitioners’ acts be approved; account be settled and allowed; the heirs be determined; the Estate be assigned to the persons entitled to it pursuant to the Will; fees and expenses be allowed; costs be determined

and ordered paid; the administration of the Estate be closed; the Co-Executors be discharged and Petitioners be released from further liability.

You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before June 18, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. in the District Court, Kingman, Kingman County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail to file your written defenses, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Kelli McCormick, Executor  
Kyla Eller, Executor

Mandi J. Stephenson, #24694  
Stephenson Law Office LLC  
227 N Main, PO Box 204  
Kingman, KS 67068  
620-532-5156  
Attorney for Petitioners

## NEWS BRIEFS

**GLORY DAYS OF SUMMER TO BE SHOWN MAY 28**  
“The Glory Days of Summer” will be shown at the Kingman library on Thursday, May 28 at 2 p.m. The public is invited to come and relive the Rago story of what it was like to play or watch men’s fast pitch softball in the 1950s.

**KLC OFFICE TO BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, MAY 29**  
The Kingman Leader-Courier offices will be closed on Friday, May 29 as staff will be at the State track meet that day. The office will reopen normal hours on Monday, June 1.

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OWNERS  
Stephanie Jump  
PUBLISHER  
sjump@kcnonline.com

Published by:  
Kingman Leader-Courier  
140 N. Main Street  
Kingman, KS 67068

Weekly - Thursday  
Periodicals Postage Paid at  
Kingman, KS 67068

POSTMASTER:  
Send address changes to  
Kingman Leader-Courier  
PO Box 374  
Kingman, KS 67068

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# OPINION

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Stephanie Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email sjump@kconline.com

## Nitrates in Rural Water

By Alan Albers, Cunningham Resident

Before I get people concerned, the information that I'm about to dispense is only about rural water.

Those of you who are on city water as Kathy and I are, the water is safe and tested frequently. As some of you might recall after attending the Governor's Water Conference last fall, I wrote about one speaker from Nebraska who is in charge of rural water in Nebraska who spoke about the high rates of nitrates in Nebraska's rural water.

This information inspired me to try and find out how Kansas rural water compared. My efforts were frustrated by the fact that no one seemed to know. After talking to family and rural water users I found that few had ever tested their water for nitrates or coliforms.

Coliforms are bacteria in the water and are usually caused by human waste or animal feces. So I searched for funding to pay for the cost of getting the water samples tested. Since I'm a member of the Red Hills Water advisory board I started there. The board stated that they thought that this

was a worthy cause but they had no money to contribute to this testing. So I went to the County Commissioners thinking that this was a rural public health issue and that they would want to know this information. Wrong!

The County Commissioners turned me down not once but twice. Apparently the health of the rural residents of Kingman County isn't an issue worthy of tax payers money to be spent on. So the three schools in the county and private donations have paid for the testing. The testing is expensive and time sensitive. Tests have to be in the lab within 32 hours from the time they are collected to be valid. The original cost I was quoted was \$55 for nitrates and coliform tests.

I was able to negotiate a lesser price with ServiTech in Dodge City of \$30 with the help of Heartland Soil Services in Cunningham. I'd tested my drinking water for over 40 years and thought I knew what to expect from these water tests. After all, when the water in my animal wells west of Cunningham had reached 20 parts per million and was

high enough to eat holes in my metal pipes I thought that was high and I drilled two water wells 100 ft. and thought that I had solved the problem.

All three schools science teachers agreed to set up a testing program and collect sample and all three Schools agreed to pay for half of the testing. I appreciate Cunningham Schools for being the first to volunteer their time and money. A special shout out to Cunningham science teacher Ms. Wilson for her wonderful help.

Now for a little information about nitrates in the water. Now 10 parts per million is considered a safe level. Above 10 ppm in pregnant women can cause miscarriages, children under three can actually die from too much high nitrate water. New testings have shown that high nitrates might be causing colon cancer and Alzheimer's.

Nitrates can also attach to blood and limit the oxygen carrying capacity of the blood so those on oxygen will be harmed by nitrates. Now for the findings from the 34 tests that I have. Six-

ty-seven percent of the tests were over the 10 ppm level. So some of the tests were scarily high, higher than I expected with tests in the middle 20's and as high as 47.4 ppm. Twelve percent of the tests were just under the 10 level and only 21 percent of the tests at the safe level. Also around 25 percent were positive for coliforms.

So please test your drinking water if you live in the country. Your health and possibly your life may depend upon it. Test kits are available through the Extension office in Pratt and Kingman. SDK labs in Hutchinson is the easiest way to get your water tested, they are on East 4th Street in Hutch. If your water is high in nitrates, a reverse osmosis device may solve your problem and you can treat your own well with a bottle of Clorox if needed so please test soon.

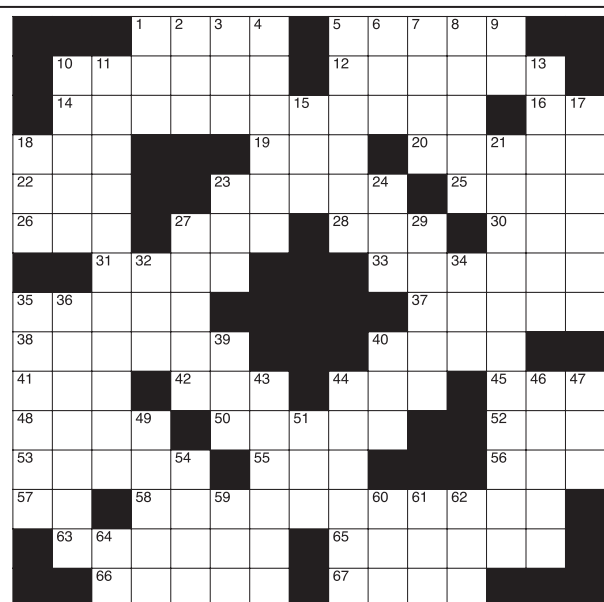
Much appreciation to Cunningham, Kingman, and Norwich schools for your help in protecting your students and a shout out to Heartland Soil Testing and a kind lady from Kingman for making our testing possible.

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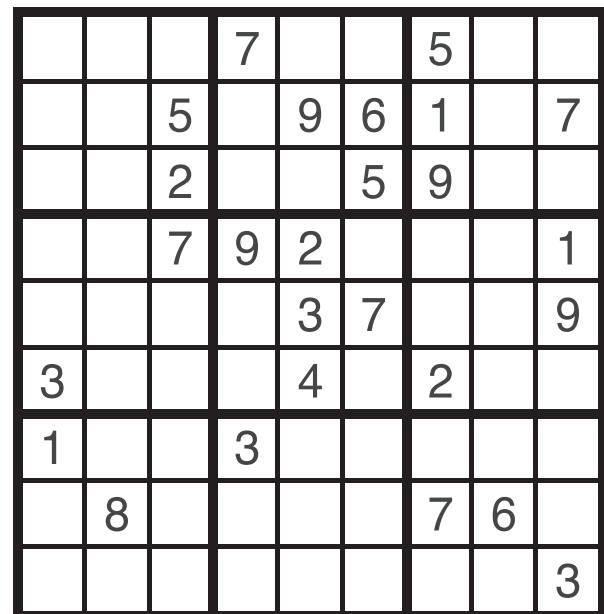


### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Streetcar
- 5. Take \_\_\_ of it!
- 10. SW Asia peninsula
- 12. Beating wings to escape from a perch
- 14. One who revitalizes
- 16. Indicates position
- 18. Dishonorable man
- 19. Singer King Cole
- 20. Short-tailed marten
- 22. One point east (clockwise) of due north
- 23. The god of the underworld in ancient mythology
- 25. Dirt
- 26. Superconducting super collider
- 27. Not good
- 28. A way to sink
- 30. Unwell
- 31. Follow orders
- 33. Deep ravine
- 35. Perfumery practice
- 37. Indian film director Sultan
- 38. Member of U.S. Navy
- 40. Wing-like
- 41. Very fast airplane
- 42. Slang for cigarette
- 44. Most cars still need it
- 45. Political war chest
- 48. Cools down
- 50. Diminish toward one end
- 52. Indigenous person of Thailand
- 53. Combined
- 55. Container
- 56. Expression of satisfaction
- 57. Thou
- 58. Return a favor
- 63. Go over once more
- 65. Removed
- 66. "Silence of the \_\_\_"
- 67. Comedian Rogen

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Children's game
- 2. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 3. Own (Scottish)
- 4. Female follower of Bacchus
- 5. Subsidies
- 6. Protects from weather
- 7. Spanish municipality
- 8. Supermarket chain
- 9. Domain name
- 10. Semitic peoples
- 11. Designs anew
- 13. City associated with Jesus
- 15. Cool!
- 17. Bank employee
- 18. Central nervous system
- 21. Standardized piece of text
- 29. Aspirations
- 32. Baby's eating accessory
- 34. Actress Thurman
- 35. Turn into bone
- 36. One who saves you
- 39. Consume
- 40. Swiss river
- 43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
- 44. Categories
- 46. Expressed amazement
- 47. It's important in respiration (abbr.)
- 49. Greek war dance
- 51. Bland, semi-liquid food
- 54. Regard in a specified way
- 59. Taxi
- 60. Naturally occurring solid material



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

### LAW ENFORCEMENT WORD SEARCH

AFFIDAVIT, BAILIFF, BOOKING, CHAIN, COMPLIANCE, CUSTODY, DETECTIVE, DETENTION, DISPATCHER, EVIDENCE, FELONY, FORENSICS, INTERROGATION, JURISDICTION, MIRANDA, MISDEMEANOR, PATROL, PRECINCT, PROBABLE, PROCEDURE, SERGEANT, SUBPOENA, SURVEILLANCE, WARRANT



## Byways and Backroads

By Greg Doering, Kansas Farm Bureau

Summer starts on Memorial Day, even though the solstice is about a month later. Schools are out, it's warm enough to stay out late and it's the beginning of road trip season. Whether its families packing the station wagon (or modern equivalent) for vacation or an individual making a short journey, now is when the open road beckons.

No doubt these travelers will rack up millions of miles along interstate highways this summer. Sometimes it's not the journey, but the destination that counts. The interstate will get you there faster than any other road, but the time savings comes at a cost.

The interstate system, thanks to President Dwight D. Eisenhower, is a marvel of engineering and efficiency. Its effectiveness is its downfall, however, for experiencing the joy of driving.

Long straightaways and gentle grades, coupled with wide lanes, generous shoulders and one-way travel create a sterile and monotonous experience. The monotony of hurling down the road at a constant speed is imprinted on the faces of tired travelers at roadside rest

stops. It's far different from how driving evolved along U.S. Route 66, the so-called Mother Road, which turns 100 this year. Its pavement connected Chicago to Santa Monica, though imaginations and travelers mostly headed west.

Though it still lives on, including the 13-mile stretch in southeast Kansas, Route 66's glory days are long gone. Its legacy lives on as the first corridor of roadside commerce, fueling the growth of motels, restaurants and service stations all catering to cars.

The car culture it created still exists, but it seems to be headed to the same fate as the manual transmission. There are still paths out there that are worthy of drivers who understand driving is as much about the road as it is about the surroundings and the vehicle you're in.

Kansas Tourism has a helpful guide of our state's more traveled byways. Yes, Route 66 is included, as is the stretch of K-177 between Council Grove and Cassoday, which offers some unrivaled Flint Hills vistas. Other hills to explore via designated byways include the Gla-

cial Hills in the northeast and the Gypsum Hills in the south-central part of the state.

Out west is the "Land and Sky" route along K-27 which cuts through Cheyenne, Sherman and Wallace counties. At the southern terminus in Sharon Springs, head east on U.S. 40 and you'll be on the "Western Vistas" trail that features Kansas' badlands.

There are two byways dedicated to fencing, the aptly named "Native Stone" from Manhattan to Dover and "Post Rock" between Lucas and Wilson.

I've traveled on all of these and can vouch they're all worth driving if you want to feel like part of the landscape as you navigate narrow lanes with mirages shimmering on the blacktop, float a little as you crest hilltops a little too fast and feel the rush of the unknown around the next corner.

Sometimes the destination is more important than the journey, but every now and then it's worth the extra effort to take the slow way. Whether it's a backroad or byway, summer is a good time to buckle up and enjoy the drive.

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# KID SCOOP

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Get puzzle answers, recipes and more at [www.kidscoop.com](http://www.kidscoop.com)

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### Kid Scoop Together

## Desert Island Drama

A game soaked in silliness for two or more players!



1. Use jump ropes or garden hoses to create two island shapes a small distance apart from each other.
2. Each team has a bucket of water and a supply of sponges (or old dishcloths) on their island.
3. Start tossing sponges at the other islanders.
4. If your opponent catches the sponge you throw, you have to switch islands and be on their team.
5. Keep playing until everyone is soaked and on the same island!

Standards Link: Physical Education: Follow rules to play games with others.

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### Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:  
**SEEK**

The verb **seek** means to search for something.

Seeking adventure, Kevin rode the roller coaster at the county fair.

Try to use the word **seek** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

## SUMMER FUN AND GAMES!

The sun is shining. It's a great day to play! Here are some cool things to try On a bright summer day!



Ahoy! There be hidden treasure to find! (That's pirate talk.) But first, you'll need to make a proper map with your crew (a friend or family member!)

### STUFF YOU'LL NEED:



**Step 1: Crumple It!**  
Crumple the paper into a ball, smooth it out, then do it again and again until the paper looks very old.

**Step 2: Tea Time!**  
Place a couple of tea bags in the warm water and let them sit for about 5 minutes. The darker the water, the better.

**Step 3: Stain It!**  
Use the brush or crumpled paper towel to dab the tea water onto your paper. Blotchy looks better! Let it dry completely in the sun.

**Step 4: Map It!**  
Hide treasures (a ball, a small toy, lemons, etc.) outside. Draw a map to show where each treasure is located. Be sure to add details like sharks, sea monsters, and skulls!

**Step 5: Find It!**  
Set a timer. Have one person see how quickly they can find all the treasures using your map. Have another person try next. Who is the fastest finder?

Standards Link: Physical Education: Follow instructions to play a variety of games.

## DRAGON EGG RELAY

Two teams must carry a dragon egg (water balloon) to the castle. Create an obstacle course and see who can deliver the most dragon eggs without popping them!

Some possible obstacles:

- Magic well (a laundry basket you must step into and out of)
- Raging rivers (twisty garden hose you have to jump over)
- Cursed caves (boxes you have to crawl through)
- Waterfall way (run through a sprinkler)



How many differences can you find between these two pictures?

Standards Link: Reading: Follow multiple step written directions.

## SEEK AND HIDE

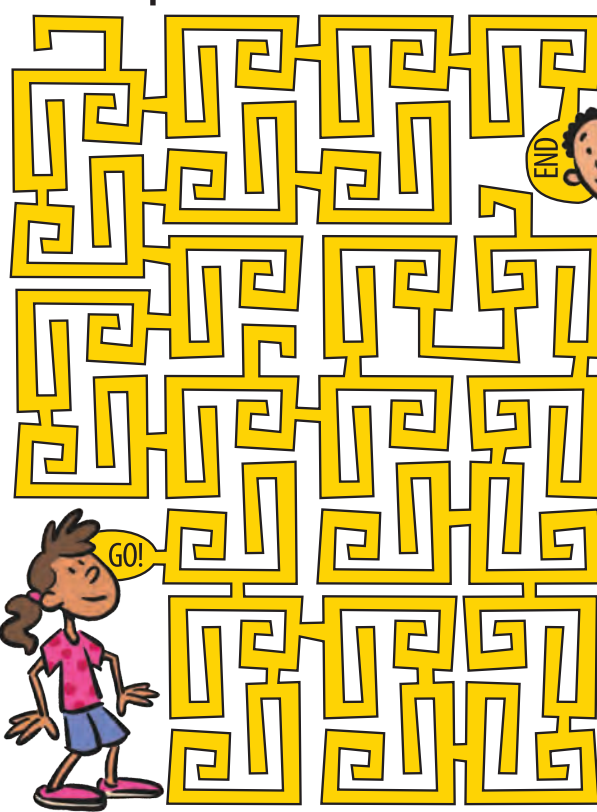
A new twist on a favorite game!

One player hides while everyone else closes their eyes and counts to 50. Then the search begins!

When you find the hider, don't say a word. Quietly hide with them!

Keep going until only one seeker is left searching.

Help Jada find her little brother!



## Secret Message Maker

STUFF YOU'LL NEED:  
• white paper  
• white crayon  
• watercolors

Write words you find in newspaper headlines on white paper with a white crayon. Have a friend paint paper with watercolor. The headlines will appear. See how quickly they can find these words in the newspaper.

Standards Link: Reading: follow simple written steps in sequence.

## Kid Scoop Puzzler

Do the math to see which summer treat belongs to each person. Draw a line from each treat to that person's name. Hurry! They melt quickly on a warm day!

13-9=	17-16=	3+5=	12-6=
18-15=	14-9=	2+0=	11-4=

1. Noah
2. Jada
3. Vanessa
4. Rohan
5. Lucy
6. Owen
7. Katie
8. Amelia

Standards Link: Math: Calculate sums and differences.

## Double Double Word Search

ADD  
BALL  
CRAYONS  
CRUMPLE  
DRAGON  
DRY  
GAME  
HIDE  
LEMONS  
TEA  
TREASURE  
SEEK  
STAIN  
SUN  
WARM  
WELL

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

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

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

## FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

### Friendliness Award

The capybara is known for being friendly. Think about someone who shows kindness or teamwork. Write a letter to the editor explaining why that person deserves a "Capybara Award" for friendliness.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write in letter format.

## Where do cupcakes go on vacation?

ANSWER: Olan-dough, Florida.

## Write On!

### Best Book of the Summer

Summer is a great time to read fun books. What book do you recommend other kids to read this summer? Why?

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# NEWS/DOCKET

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Stephanie Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email sjump@kconline.com

## Kansas FFA Convention Set to Host More Than 2,600 FFA Members

### PRESS RELEASE

More than 2,600 FFA members and guests representing more than 185 chapters across the state will gather on the Kansas State University campus in Manhattan this week for the 98th Kansas FFA Convention.

The event officially kicked

off Wednesday evening and will conclude Friday afternoon. New this year, the opening session will be held in the Morgan Family Arena, home of the K-State women's volleyball team.

During the session, award winners will be recognized and the crowd will hear from candidates

vying to be part of the 2026-2027 state FFA officer team.

To round out the evening, rising Texas country artist Parker Ryan will keep the energy flowing with a performance at The Hat in downtown Aggieville. His music is a blend of traditional country and modern rock influences.

This exclusive event is sponsored by Yoder Meats and is only open to Kansas FFA Convention attendees.

Throughout the remainder of the week, all other general sessions will be held in McCain Auditorium, where members will recognize additional award

winners, honor scholarship recipients and hear from featured speakers.

Attendees also will have the chance to participate in interactive workshops, hear from each of the outgoing state officers as they give their retiring addresses and enjoy many social events.

## KINGMAN CITY POLICE BLOTTER *By Officer Kyle Mandeville*

### Sunday, May 17

Traffic Stops 0  
Suicidal Person 400 Blk E B Ave

### Monday, May 18

Traffic Stops 1  
Medical Assist 200 Blk W H Ave  
Fraud 300 Blk N Main St  
Found Property N Spruce St and E C Ave  
Found Property 200 Blk E H Ave  
Traffic Accident N Main St E F Ave  
Civil Paper Served 400 Blk N Joliet St

### Tuesday, May 19

Traffic Stops 5

Fire 2200 Blk N Chariton St  
Theft 400 Blk N Joliet St  
Suspicious Person N Main St and N Spruce St

### Wednesday, May 20

Traffic Stops 5  
Animal Complaint 200 Blk W G Ave  
Domestic Disturbance 400 Blk W A Ave  
Traffic Accident 200 Blk E B Ave  
Disturbance 700 Blk W D Ave  
Disturbance 300 Blk W A Ave  
Medical Transfer 700 Blk W D Ave

### Thursday, May 21

Traffic Stops 1

Civilian Transport 100 Blk N Spruce St  
Harassment Riverside Park  
Traffic Accident 200 Blk N Main St

### Friday, May 22

Traffic Stops 4  
Theft 300 Blk W C Ave  
Medical Assist 1200 Blk N Chariton St  
Medical Assist 100 Blk W A Ave

### Saturday, May 23

Traffic Stops 11  
Suspicious Person Riverside Park  
Fire Investigation 300 Blk N Main St

## KINGMAN COUNTY SHERIFF BLOTTER

### Sunday, May 17

Traffic Complaint 100 Blk S Spruce St, Penalosa  
Miscellaneous 400 Blk E B Ave, Kingman  
Check Welfare 15000 Blk NE 50 St, Cheney  
Miscellaneous/Jail 120 N Spruce St, Kingman  
Traffic Complaint NE 60 & Cheney Lake Rd, Cheney  
Animal Complaint E Hwy 42 & S Hwy 14, Rago  
Non-Injury Accident 1100 Blk N Main St, Kingman

### Monday, May 18

Fraud 300 Blk N Dresden, Cunningham  
Court/Inmate 130 N Spruce St, Kingman

### Tuesday, May 19

Civil Paper Service 3  
Fire/Tree 2200 Blk N Chariton, Kingman  
Miscellaneous 300 Blk N Dresden, Cunningham  
Theft 300 Blk N Joliet St, Kingman

Abandoned Vehicle 5000 Blk E Hay 54, Kingman  
Miscellaneous 15000 Blk NE 50 St, Cheney  
Court/Inmate 130 N Spruce St, Kingman  
Fire/Tree 14000 Blk SE 160 St, Norwich  
Miscellaneous 120 N Spruce St, Kingman  
Suspicious Persons N Main & N Spruce, Kingman

### Wednesday, May 20

Traffic Stops 3  
Civil Paper Service 3  
Suspicious Person N Hwy 11 & NW 60, Kingman  
Court/Arrest 130 N Spruce St, Kingman  
School Walk Through 200 Blk S Parkway St, Norwich  
Traffic Complaint 17000 Blk NW 40, Cunningham  
Traffic Complaint 12000 Blk W H 54, Cunningham

### Thursday, May 21

Traffic Stops 1

Civil Paper Service 3  
Miscellaneous 120 N Spruce St, Kingman  
Transport Inmate 120 N Spruce St, Kingman  
Miscellaneous 120 N Spruce St, Kingman

### Friday, May 22

Traffic Stops 6  
Animal Complaint 14000 Blk SE 70 St, Norwich  
Traffic Complaint 5000 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman  
Agency Assist 800 Blk NE 20 Ave, Kingman  
Warrant Service/Arrest 100 Blk E 3rd St, Cunningham

### Saturday, May 23

Traffic Stops 8  
Civil Paper Service 1  
Miscellaneous 300 Blk E Washington, Kingman  
Miscellaneous S Main & E 6th St, Kingman  
Suspicious Activity 2000 Blk SE Murdock, Murdock  
Disabled Vehicle N Coronado & E G, Kingman

## KINGMAN COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

### Judge Roseanna Mathis

#### Thursday, May 28

2026: State of Kansas vs. Chase Aid-en Dakota Carter, hearing.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Terry Lee Headgepath, first appearance.  
2026: In the Matter of James P. Sower, bond appearance.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Craig M. Wise, hearing.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Craig M. Wise, hearing.  
2025: In the Matter of Aiden R. Dickson, hearing.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Alisha Maree Henken, hearing.  
2025: State of Kansas vs. Devon Daytona Devoshae Tucker, hearing.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Maxie Ann Eckhart-Havens, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Joel Dean Eileen, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Robert Samuel Gladwell, first appearance.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Josue Emilio Gonzalez-Martinez, hearing.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Joseph R. I. Greathouse, hearing.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Joseph R. I. Greathouse, hearing.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Justice Thomas Drake Hammond, first appearance.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Jeffrey A. Hawkins, hearing.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Jack Edward Henning, first appearance.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. James D. Lane, hearing.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Anthony

Scott Mills, hearing.

2026: In the Matter of Miguel Angel Nunez Silvestie, bond appearance.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Miguel Angel Nunez Silvestie, first appearance.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Jeremiah Keeyan Peer, hearing.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Daniel William Peters, diversion.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Binoop Pushkaran, diversion.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Mark Allen Schnitker, diversion.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Kinzie Ann Tennison, first appearance.  
2025: State of Kansas vs. Charles Shandien Torres, diversion.  
2026: State of Kansas vs. Emily L. Wenke, hearing.

## KINGMAN COUNTY JAIL BOOKINGS

May 20: Lacey Brianne Gardner, 42, probation violation.  
May 20: Angela Denise Rennaker, 54, possession of drug paraphernalia, \$1,000 surety bond.  
May 21: Clarence Lee Desmond Thurman, 36, failure to appear.  
May 21: David Allen West, 30, housed for Kiowa County, \$500 cash bond.  
May 22: Bryan Thomas Roberts, 48, failure to appear.  
May 23: Rebecca Lynn Reid, 30, driving with suspended license, \$500 surety bond.  
May 24: Jayme Ann Egelund, 57, driving with suspended license, no proof of insurance and speeding, \$1,500 surety bond.  
May 24: Raidel Cruz Alonso, 43, DUI and possession of controlled substance, court-ordered release.  
May 24: Primitivo Navarrete-Godinez, 53, DUI, aggravated endangerment of child and defective tail lamp, \$25,500 surety bond.

## Community Watch

**If you SEE something, SAY something!**

**Help watch out for your neighbors and make Kingman County better for all!**

**Call 620-532-5133 for Kingman Co. Sheriff's Office, 1-800-kscrim or 911.**



## PUBLIC NOTICE

*(Published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, May 28, 2026) 1t*

**OFFICIAL NOTICE OF ZONING APPEALS HEARING**  
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN AND TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on June 22, 2026, the Board of Zoning Appeals of Kingman County, Kansas will consider the following application at 7:00 p.m. in the District Court Room (Third Floor) at the Court-house in Kingman, Kansas:

Case No. BZA-SU- 26-002, Tiger Chemical LLC, 729 E 1st St. Cunningham, KS 67035 request an amendment to BZA-SU-16-702

Legal Description: A portion of the Northwest Quarter of Section 4, Township 28 South, Range 10 West of the 6th Principal Meridian in Cunningham, Kingman County, Kansas, more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the Northwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of Section 4, Township 28 South, Range 10 West of the 6th Principal Meridian; thence with a bearing South 00°25'24" West (basis of bearings is NAD83 Kansas South Zone) along the West line of said Northwest Quarter 303.00 feet; thence South 89°40'02" East 635.65 feet for the point of beginning; thence continuing South 89°40'02" East 686.66 feet; thence South 00°03'03" East 326.87 feet (previously described as 325.76 feet) to the Northerly right-of-way of the Kansas and Oklahoma Railroad; thence North 83°56'41" West along said railroad right-of-way line 692.91 feet; thence North 00°25'24" East 257.77 feet to the point of beginning.

And

All of that part of the Northwest Quarter (NW/4) of Section 4, Township 28 South, Range 10 West of the 6th P.M., in Kingman County, Kansas, more particularly described as follows, to-wit: Commencing at the Northwest corner of Section 4-T28S-R10W aforesaid, thence South on the West line of Section 4 aforesaid a distance of 303 feet to a point; thence East at right angles on a bearing of North 89 degrees 07 minutes 19 seconds East a distance of 620.40 feet to the point of beginning; thence East on a bearing of North 89 degrees 07 minutes 19 seconds East a distance of 701.66 feet to a point on the East line of a tract as described in the deed from William Becker and Darlene Becker to Kingman Manufacturing Company, Inc., dated May 9th, 1973; thence North along said East line and on a bearing of North 01 degree 15 minutes 58 seconds West a distance of 311.95 feet to a point on the North line of said Section 4; thence West on a bearing South 88 degrees 44 minutes 02 seconds West a distance of 699.60 feet to a point; thence South on a bearing of South 00 degrees 53 minutes 06 seconds East a distance of 307.20 feet to the point of beginning.

General Location: Just East of Valley Street along East First Street Cunningham, KS just outside of city limits to the South.

Acreage: 10 acres More or Less.

You may appear at this time in person or by agent or attorney, if you so desire, and be heard on the matter. After hearing the views and wishes of all persons interested in the case, the Board of Zoning Appeals may close the hearing and render a decision. The public hearing may be recessed and continued from time to time without further notice.

DATED this 29th day of May 2026  
Amanda Stucky, Secretary  
Kingman County Board of Zoning Appeals

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# SPORTS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Stephanie Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email sjump@kconline.com

## Cunningham Boy's Track Wins Regional Team Title Four Girls, 10 Boys Qualify for Class 1A State Track and Field Championships

BY BOB MORRIS  
Managing Editor

The Cunningham boy's track team won the team standings at the Class 1A Regional track meet with 90 team points last Friday at Kiowa County High School.

The Wildcats will send 10 boys and four girls to the Class 1A State track and field championships this Friday and Saturday at Wichita State University. Head coach Eric Kerschen said this is the largest group of athletes the Wildcats have taken to State track in a long time.

"I am very pleased with how the kids performed last Friday," Kerschen said. "There are always a few things that don't go the way you would like but with track there are so many moving parts that it is understandable.

"Just like anything it is hard to be perfect but we strive to be as close as possible to that standard. The kids hit many personal bests even if they didn't make the cut to state and I am very proud of them."

Those who will attend the Class 1A State meet are Skyler Thimesch in 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash and pole vault, Stephen Kerschen in the 100-meter dash, Liam McGuire in the 110-meter hurdles, 300-meter hurdles and triple jump, Kaiden Keasling in the 300 hurdles, Cole Hageman in the high jump, Andrew Kerschen in the javelin, John Paul Kerschen and Weston Rogers in the pole vault, and the 4x400-meter relay team of Stephen Kerschen, Jack Harden, Newt Heatherman and Skyler Thimesch.

For the girls, those who will attend State are Emily Ogg in the 100-meter dash

and high jump, Kyra Morgan in the shot put and discus, Grace Hageman in the long jump and Sage Thimesch in the pole vault.

Skyler Thimesch was the Regional champion in the 200-meter dash with a time of 21.90 seconds and in the pole vault with a height of 13 feet, six inches. He took second in the 100 with a time of 10.92.

The Wildcats won the 4x400-meter relay with a time of 3:30.28.

Stephen Kerschen was fourth in the 100 with a time of 11.10, Andrew Kerschen was second in the javelin with a throw of 170 feet, eight inches, John Paul Kerschen was second in the pole vault with a height of 13 feet, Rogers was third in the pole vault with a height of 12 feet, McGuire was fifth in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 15.96, fourth in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 42.38 and fourth in the triple jump with a distance of 43 feet, 3.25 inches, and Keasling was fifth in the 300 hurdles with a time of 42.49.

Ogg was fifth in the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.98 and fifth in the high jump with a height of four feet, 10 inches. Morgan was third in the shot put with a throw of 35 feet, 10.25 inches and fourth in the discus with a throw of 109 feet, five inches. Hageman was third in the long jump with a distance of 16 feet, 8.5 inches and Sage Thimesch was third in the pole vault with a height of eight feet.

The top three placers in Regionals automatically qualified for State, along with the six top performers in all Regionals who did not place in the top three.

Coach Kerschen said he believed the boys can have a



MATILYN JUMP AND JASON JUMP / Leader-Courier

LEFT: Cunningham's Grace Hageman makes an attempt in the long jump at the Class 1A Regional track meet last Friday at Kiowa County High School. RIGHT: Cunningham's Skyler Thimesch runs the preliminaries of the boy's 100-meter dash at the Class 1A Regional track meet. The CHS boys won the team title, with 10 boys and four girls advancing to the State track and field championships this weekend. Thimesch was a Regional champion in the pole vault and the 200-meter dash and the boy's 4x400-meter relay team also took first.

strong team performance at the State meet.

"You never know what can happen — no matter how you look at it on paper, the kids can surprise you and athletes can do some amazing things when they are intentional about their workouts, nutrition, and mindset," Kerschen said. "We have a good plan for this week's practice and two busy days on Friday and Saturday."

Complete results for the boys at Regionals were:

100-meter dash: Skyler Thimesch, second, 10.92; Stephen Kerschen, fourth, 11.10.

200-meter dash: Skyler Thimesch, first, 21.90; Logan Kinsler, 24.84.

400-meter dash: Jack Harden, seventh, 56.26; John Paul Kerschen, 57.06.

800-meter run: Newt Heatherman, fifth, 2:08.33.

1600-meter run: Blake Swope, 5:18.12.

3200-meter run: Blake Swope, 12:03.96.

110-meter hurdles: Liam McGuire, fifth, 15.96; Weston Rogers, 18.86.

300-meter hurdles: Liam McGuire, sixth, 42.38; Kaiden Keasling, fifth, 42.49.

4x100-meter relay: Cunningham, sixth, 46.36. (John Paul Kerschen, Liam McGuire, Kaiden Keasling, Stephen Kerschen)

4x400-meter relay: Cunningham, first, 3:30.28. (Stephen Kerschen, Jack Harden, Newt Heatherman, Skyler Thimesch)

4x800-meter relay: Cunningham, sixth, 9:13.23. (Newt Heatherman, Will Halderson, Blake Swope,

Jack Harden)

High jump: Cole Hageman, fifth, 6-0.

Long jump: Kaiden Keasling, seventh, 19-5; Alex Kamstra, 15-8.7.5.

Triple jump: Liam McGuire, fourth, 43-3.25; Brody Bock, 37-7.75.

Pole vault: Skyler Thimesch, first, 13-6; John Paul Kerschen, second, 13-0; Weston Rogers, 12-0.

Discus: Dylan Halderson, 105-11.

Javelin: Andrew Kerschen, second, 170-8.

Shot put: Dylan Halderson, sixth, 43-0; Brody Bock, 39-3.

Complete results for the girls at Regionals were:

300-meter hurdles: Sage Thimesch, seventh, 51.53.

4x400-meter relay: Cunningham, fifth, 4:31.51. (Morgan Oldham, Kaitlyn Ogg, Emily Ogg, Sage Thimesch)

High jump: Emily Ogg, fifth, 4-10.

Long jump: Grace Hageman, third, 16-8.5; Kaitlyn Ogg, 14-4.5.

Triple jump: Sage Thimesch, seventh, 31-9.5.

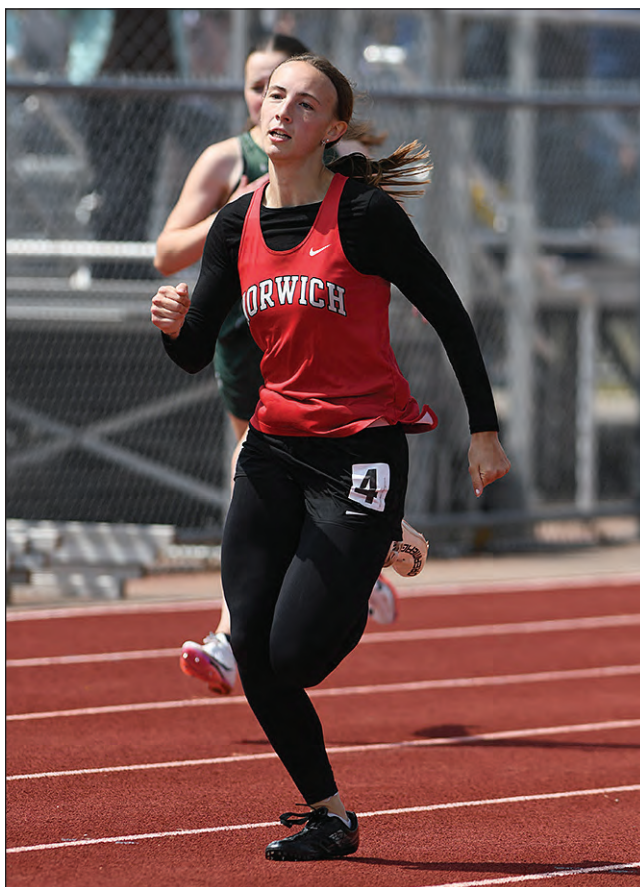
Pole vault: Sage Thimesch, third, 8-0; Grayci McCurry, sixth, 7-0.

Discus: Kyra Morgan, fourth, 109-5; Andi Young, 78-3.

Javelin: Kyra Morgan, 102-0; Keyonna Raney, 88-10.

Shot put: Kyra Morgan, third, 35-10.25; Kourtnei Fischer, fourth, 33-7; Keyonna Raney, 30-7.25.

## Norwich Track Has Four Regional Champions, Eight State Qualifiers



MATILYN JUMP AND JASON JUMP / Leader-Courier

LEFT: Norwich's Jayden Bengé completes an attempt in the triple jump during the Class 1A Regional track meet last Friday at Kiowa County High School. Bengé won the event with a mark of 45 feet, one-half inch and broke the Norwich school record for the event for the third time this season. RIGHT: Norwich's Alex Robinson takes the lead during the girl's 100-meter preliminaries at the Class 1A Regional track meet. She won the event with a time of 12.61 and will make her third straight trip to the State meet. Bengé and Robinson will be joined by six other athletes at State this weekend. Reagan Smith and the boy's 4x100-meter relay team also won Regional titles last Friday.

BY BOB MORRIS  
Managing Editor

The Norwich track team crowned multiple individuals as Regional champions at the Class 1A Regional track meet last Friday at Kiowa County High School.

The Eagles will send eight athletes to the Class 1A State track and field championships this Friday and Saturday at Wichita State University.

Those who are attending State for the boys are Jayden Bengé in the triple jump, Lucas Adams in the shot put

and discus, Trevor Bice in the 110-meter and 300-meter hurdles and the 4x100-meter relay team of Bengé, Bice, Marshall Eslinger and Easton Schroeder.

For the girls, those who will attend State are Alex Robinson in the 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash and long jump, Reagan Smith in the 100-meter hurdles and discus and Rachel Balzer in the pole vault.

Head coach Emily Schlickau praised her athletes for their performances, even as a few things didn't go the way

the team expected.

The boy's 4x100-meter relay won with a time of 44.43.

"The boys 4x100 was particularly impressive," Schlickau said. "They easily took first. Marshall Eslinger was really fast as the third leg. In the past he has always ran the mile right before the 4x100, so we got to see what he can do when he is fresh. The other members of the team, Jayden Bengé, Trevor Bice and Easton Schroeder ran a very solid mistake-free race and it all worked out well."

At Regionals, Bengé won the triple jump with a distance of 45 feet, one-half inch, setting a new school record in the process. It marked the third time he has broken the school record in the triple jump this year.

"He has been focusing on that event this year and it has paid off," Schlickau said.

Smith won the discus with a throw of 121 feet, which was a personal best for her.

"Reagan Smith is another senior who is really performing well at the end of her high school career," Schlick-

au said.

Robinson won the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.61.

"Alex Robinson continues to be a strong performer in the 100 and 200," Schlickau said. "This is the third year in a row she will be going to state in those events."

In other events, Adams was second in the shot put with a throw of 47 feet, 7.5 inches and fourth in the discus with a throw of 141 feet, nine inches, Robinson was third in the 200-meter dash with a time of 26.94 and fourth in the long jump with a distance of 16 feet, 7.5 inches, Smith was fourth in the 100 hurdles with a time of 16.85, Bice was third in the 110 hurdles with a time of 15.87 and second in the 300 hurdles with a time of 41.20, and Balzer was fourth in the pole vault with a height of eight feet.

"Trevor Bice was a new member of our team this year who has taken very naturally to hurdles with a little coaching from our principal, Kevin Hedrick, who has experience in that event," Schlickau said.

She added that Adams, who has broken the school record in the boy's discus, has the potential to make some impressive throws at State.

Balzer has broken her own record in the girl's pole vault this year, and the team of Smith, Robinson, Madison Lee and Lettie McIntire set a new school record in the girl's 4x100-meter relay. That relay didn't make it to State because of a mishap with the baton, but Schlickau said the girls battled back

from the mistake and she was proud of their resilience.

Complete results for the boys at Regionals were:

200-meter dash: Easton Schroeder, 23.84.

110-meter hurdles: Trevor Bice, third, 15.87.

300-meter hurdles: Trevor Bice, second, 41.20.

4x100-meter relay: Norwich, first, 44.43. (Jayden Bengé, Trevor Bice, Marshall Eslinger, Easton Schroeder)

Triple jump: Jayden Bengé, first, 45-0.5.

Pole vault: Marshall Eslinger, sixth, 11-6; Nolan Reese, 10-0.

Discus: Lucas Adams, fourth, 141-9.

Shot put: Lucas Adams, second, 47-7.5.

Complete results for the girls at Regionals were:

100-meter dash: Alex Robinson, first, 12.61; Madison Lee, 13.36.

200-meter dash: Alex Robinson, third, 26.94; Madison Lee, seventh, 27.50.

100-meter hurdles: Reagan Smith, fourth, 16.85.

4x100-meter relay: Norwich, sixth, 56.38. (Reagan Smith, Madison Lee, Lettie McIntire, Alex Robinson)

4x400-meter relay: Norwich, seventh, 4:47.00. (Madison Lee, Lettie McIntire, Reagan Smith, Indigo Nichols)

Long jump: Alex Robinson, fourth, 16-7.5.

Pole vault: Rachel Balzer, fourth, 8-0.

Discus: Reagan Smith, first, 121-0; Kori Murphy, sixth, 100-11.

Javelin: Kori Murphy, sixth, 106-9; Leighton Durr, 88-7.

## SPORTS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Bob Morris at (620) 532-3151 or email bmmorris@kcnonline.com

## Kingman Track Sending Five Athletes to State Meet

BY BOB MORRIS  
Managing Editor

Five Kingman track athletes have qualified for the Class 3A State track and field championships to be held this Friday and Saturday at Wichita State University.

They qualified based on their performances at the Class 3A Regional track meet last Friday at Cheney. Those who will attend State are Trent Clark in the boy's 110-meter hurdles and 300-meter hurdles, Logan Birkenbaugh in the boy's javelin, Braylon Price in the boy's high jump, Jayda DeWeese in the girl's high jump and Marianna Gutierrez in the girl's 200-meter dash.

For Birkenbaugh and DeWeese, it's the first time they have qualified for State, while the others have qualified for the second straight season.

Head coach Garrett Higgins noted that a number of athletes just missed out on qualifying based on

performances.

"We had one of the tougher regionals in Class 3A, and our Regional benefited greatly from the new qualifying format: the top three from each Regional, plus the next six best performances, with no more than four additional qualifiers from any single Regional," Higgins said.

Clark was sixth in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 15.58 and second in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 39.06, Birkenbaugh was fourth in the javelin with a throw of 166 feet, 10 inches, Price was sixth in the high jump with a height of five feet, 10 inches, DeWeese was fourth in the high jump with a height of five feet and Gutierrez was sixth in the 200 with a time of 26.87.

Higgins said that competing in a tough Regional should help the Eagles a lot when it comes to the State meet.

"The advantage of coming from

one of the more difficult Regionals is that if you perform well enough to qualify for State, you have a great opportunity to place," Higgins said. "I believe all of our State qualifiers have a strong chance to do that. It won't be given to them — they still have to show up and perform extremely well, but they've put themselves in a great position."

Complete results for the boys at Regionals were:

100-meter dash: Jon Silba, 11.85; Boston Beck, 12.32.

200-meter dash: Gabe Andersen, 24.61; Boston Beck, 24.68.

400-meter dash: Gabe Andersen, 56.87.

800-meter run: Grayson Andersen, 2:46.62.

1600-meter run: Grayson Andersen, 5:41.12; Hayden Wood, 5:50.53.

3200-meter run: Hayden Wood, 12:58.45.

110-meter hurdles: Trent Clark, sixth, 15.58; Logan Birkenbaugh,

17.08.

300-meter hurdles: Trent Clark, second, 39.06; Logan Birkenbaugh, 41.84.

4x100-meter relay: Kingman, 45.88. (Boston Beck, Jon Silba, Chris Hepburn, Gabe Andersen)

High jump: Braylon Price, sixth, 5-10; Dawson Wood, 5-8.

Long jump: Hunter Stasa, 16-7; Andrew Hepburn, 14-8.5.

Triple jump: Dawson Wood, 37-10; Andrew Hepburn, 33-4.5.

Discus: Jon Silba, sixth, 140-2.

Javelin: Logan Birkenbaugh, fourth, 166-10.

Shot put: Jon Silba, 40-0; Chris Hepburn, 35-7.

Complete results for the girls at Regionals were:

100-meter dash: Marianna Gutierrez, seventh, 13.16; Michelle Swope, 13.71.

200-meter dash: Marianna Gutierrez, sixth, 26.87; Michelle Swope, 29.04.

400-meter dash: Marianna Gutierrez,

sixth, 1:03.02; Isabelle Kaufman, 1:11.15.

800-meter run: Raynee Dick, sixth, 2:29.36.

1600-meter run: Georgia Huse, 6:15.07.

100-meter hurdles: Addi Geifer, 17.39; Lexi Winsor, 17.67.

300-meter hurdles: Addi Geifer, fifth, 49.10; Lexi Winsor, 50.88.

4x100-meter relay: Kingman, 52.69. (Michelle Swope, Rylie Smith, Lexi Winsor, Marianna Gutierrez)

4x400-meter relay: Kingman, 4:40.92. (Jymma DeWeese, Addi Geifer, Shay Watkins, Raynee Dick)

High jump: Jayda DeWeese, fourth, 5-0; Isabelle Kaufman, 4-6.

Long jump: Naomi Loop, 12-4.

Triple jump: Lexi Winsor, 30-8.75.

Discus: Shay Watkins, 87-11; Jenna Parsons, 76-8.

Javelin: Shay Watkins, 93-1; Jayda DeWeese, 88-5.



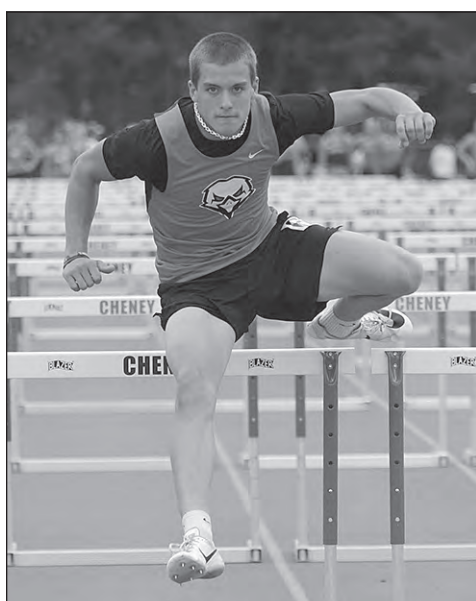
JAYDA DEWEESE



BRAYLON PRICE



LOGAN BIRKENBAUGH



TRENT CLARK



MARIANNA GUTIERREZ

## Lady Eagles Softball Season Ends in Regional Semifinals Against Osage City

BY BOB MORRIS  
Managing Editor

The Kingman softball team's Regional tournament run ended in the semifinals at Haven Thursday with a 4-2 loss to Osage City.

The Lady Eagles managed just three hits in the game while the Lady Indians had six, but two of those hits were home runs. One was a two-run home run in the second inning and the other was a solo home run in the fourth inning.

"We just didn't get a timely hit," said head coach Ashley Podschun. "We had runners, bases loaded with no outs and had kind of two unproductive outs there and couldn't get any more runs across than just one, so, I mean, really, the difference was they got timely hits."

Podschun noted that Parker Beam had two hard shots, one in the fifth inning to centerfield with the bases loaded, but Osage City's centerfielder managed to snag it in her glove before it hit the fence. Beam also had a hard shot to right field in the seventh inning, but the right fielder managed to get a glove underneath it to end the game.

"If we could have got a few more hits when we had runners on, I think it would have been a whole different ball game," Podschun said.

The Lady Eagles got on the board in the first inning after Beam drew a walk, stole second, then scored on a double to left field by Teagan Dick.

After the Lady Indians got a two-run homer from Lillian Lohmeyer in the second inning, Peyton Pitts scored on a passed ball to make it a 3-1 game. In the fourth inning, Maddison Heptinstall then hit a solo home run to make it 4-1.

Kingman loaded the bases in the fifth after Addyson Belt had a bunt single, Tangi Mertens hit a hard shot to the shortstop for a single, then Ava Ziegler drew a walk. But the only run came after Beam's shot to centerfield was caught and Belt was able to tag up and score.

"If Parker's deep ball to center is, you know, maybe to the right another foot, she doesn't make that catch, and then her hard hit line drive, if it's to the left anymore, it's in the gap, and she's probably on three at that point," Podschun said.

She said that the difference came down to the two home runs that the Lady Indians, noting that the Lady Eagles didn't have any errors and that pitchers Caylor Helm and Haidyn Hartley did a good job keeping batters off balance for most of the game.

Helm gave up three earned



LEFT: Kingman's Caylor Helm fields a short grounder and makes the throw to first base during the Class 3A Regional softball tournament game against Osage City last Thursday at Haven. RIGHT: Kingman's Haidyn Hartley fields a ground ball and throws to first during the softball game against Osage City. The Lady Eagles had just three hits and the Lady Indians had two home runs, handing Kingman a 4-2 loss.



BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

runs off six hits in three-and-one-third innings with one walk and four strikeouts. Hartley pitched two-and-two-third perfect innings to close the game.

Dick, Belt and Mertens had the only hits for Kingman in Thursday's game.

The Lady Eagles finished the season with a 14-12 overall record. Podschun said she was proud of how the girls played this season.

"No one really came in expecting the 11th seed to do what we did, and so, just

very proud," she said. "They never gave up, they fought completely till the end, and I told them... if they felt like they left everything on the field, then I'd be a happy coach, and so, I couldn't ask for a better team this year."

She praised seniors Helm, Mertens, Ziegler and Addy Campbell for all the work they put in this season.

"They are hard workers, they come in day in, day out — it doesn't matter what I ask them to do, they're doing it, never complaining,"

Podschun said. "The last week has been, you know, a little bit more relaxed at practice, but we get in, we get our work done, they're busting their butt."

The Lady Eagles have a lot of juniors who will return next season, so Podschun said the expectations will be high.

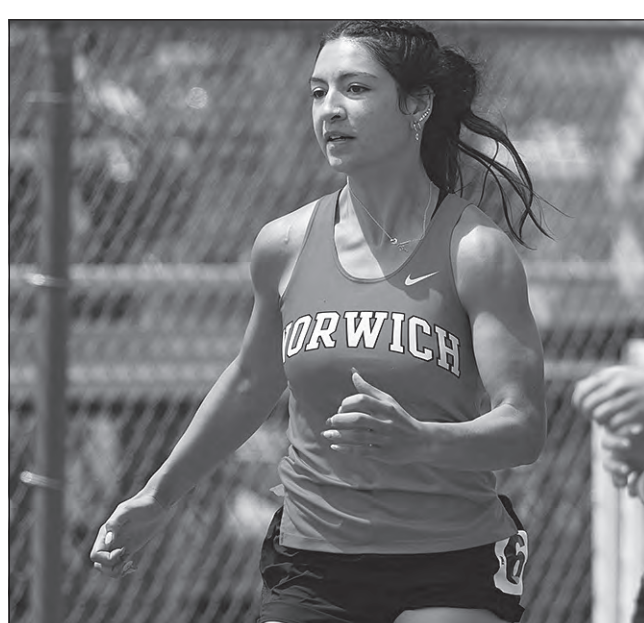
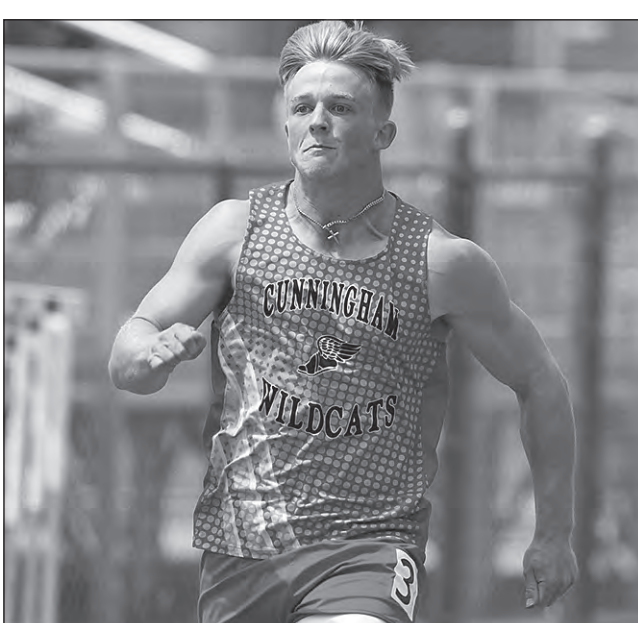
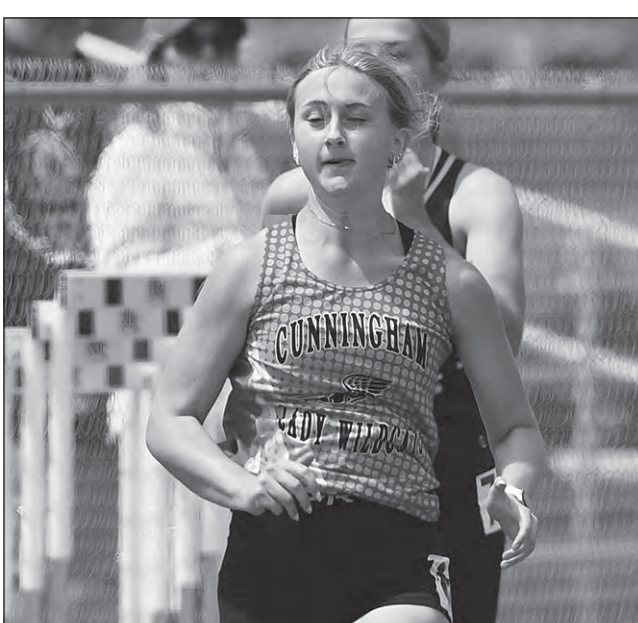
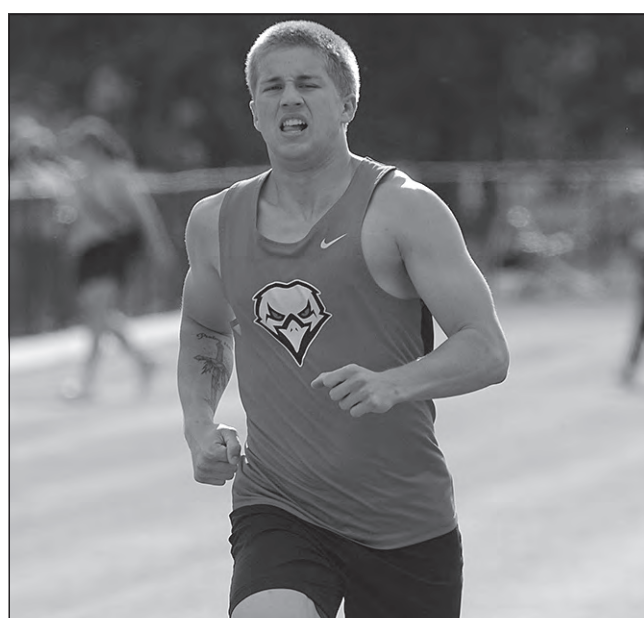
"I've got two returning in the circle (Hartley and Belt), I've got seven juniors — I have one, Brynlee (Friess) who didn't get much playing time this year, solely be-

cause she had another senior in her spot, but she's perfectly capable of starting every game for me as well, so I'm excited," Podschun said.

"I told them that I've got big expectations for them next year, and hopefully we can add a couple new pieces just to finish off our team. I'm excited for what the future holds, especially with this junior class that's gonna be seniors next year. There's seven of them, so the future's really exciting for me."

# REGIONAL TRACK

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Stephanie Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email [sjump@kconline.com](mailto:sjump@kconline.com)



# NEWS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Stephanie Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email sjump@kconline.com

## KINGMAN CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

April 23 Meeting

### Attendance:

Present: Mayor Winsor, Vice Mayor Kaufman, Commissioners Wollen, McFarland, and Arensdorf were present. City Staff consisted of Interim City Manager John Deardoff, Clerk Bieghler, Attorney Graffman, Director Kari Goldston, and Chief Lux.

Call to Order: Mayor Winsor called the meeting to order at 6:00p and Darrell Decker led the opening prayer.

Agenda: The Commission considered the agenda.

- Motion made by McFarland, seconded by Kaufman, to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

Consent Agenda: The Commission considered the consent, which consisted of the following items:

1. Minutes: 4/9/2026
  2. Bills Payable: \$439,137.09
- Motion made by Arensdorf, seconded by Kaufman, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0 with McFarland abstaining as he was absent at the last meeting.

Kudos Awards: Commissioner Wollen presented a Kingman Kudos Award to Interim City Manager John Deardoff for his dedication and service to the city this year. Commissioner McFarland presented a Kingman Kudos Award to City Attorney Greg Graffman for his 23 years of service to the city as city attorney and eight years of serving as City Manager.

Public Comment: No citizens signed up for public comment.

Ordinance 2157— Ark Valley Franchise Fee: AN ORDINANCE GRANTING ARK VALLEY ELECTRIC

COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED, A KANSAS CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS,

AN ELECTRIC, LIGHT, HEAT, AND POWER FRANCHISE, PRESCRIBING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS THEREOF, AND RELATING THERETO was considered.

- Motion made by Wollen, seconded by McFarland, to adopt Ordinance 2157 as presented. A vote was called with the following results:

- o Yea: Kaufman, Arensdorf, McFarland, Wollen, Winsor

- o Nay: None

The motion was declared carried, and ordered signed by the mayor, attested by the city clerk, and published in the official newspaper.

2026-2027 Health Insurance Funding: Mike Minton with Gallagher Benefit Services was present and presented various funding options for the 2026-2027 employee health insurance premiums as well as some proposed plan changes. The plan changes include an increase to employee deductibles for the PPO plan, a required federal increase of deductibles in the HDHP, and in increase max benefit to the employee dental plan. The recommended funding is 85%, the same as the 2025-2026 funding level, which will result in an estimated cost of \$647,323.73, a slight (1%) decrease from this year's expected cost. There was discussion as to whether 80% funding would be sufficient as well, which Mr. Minton said that the reserves were healthy enough, but it was ultimately the decision of the commission.

- Motion made by Wollen, seconded by McFarland, to approve the 85% funding level of the 2026-2027 insurance plan as well as the three plan changes presented. Motion carried 3-2 with Winsor and Kaufman voting

against.

OSE Engineering — County/Armory Rental Plan: County Commissioner Jack Thimesch and Gent Garman of OSE Engineering presented a preliminary plan to move forward with supplying HVAC to the armory and a preliminary layout of the facility if the County was to indeed rent the facility for county offices while the courthouse undergoes a year-long renovation project. The proposal has been that the county provide HVAC in the armory in lieu of rental costs. The preliminary design provides 1 HVAC unit, which is engineered to be sufficient for courthouse rental use. However, for future events where there are several participants in the gymnasium during the hottest months of the year, a second unit would possibly need to be considered later, which would not be the responsibility of the county. The County and the engineers are asking if there is a consensus to move forward with further planning. The consensus of the commission was for the county to proceed forward. No official action was taken.

Wilson & Company On-Call Service Agreement: Interim Manager Deardoff presented a on-call service agreement for engineering services by Wilson & Company and answered commissioner questions.

- Motion made by Arensdorf, seconded by Kaufman, to approve the on-call service agreement with Wilson & Company. Motion carried 5-0.

Street Sealing Bids: Public Works Director Karl Goldston and Interim Manager Deardoff presented bids for the 2026 Street Sealing Project. This year's project includes Walnut Hill Cemetery and Riverside Park as well as an alternate option to

add Marquette St. Goldston shared that \$80,000 was budgeted for the project and both bids came in over budget, but because the locations were skipped in last year's project, it really needed to be completed and cuts would have to be made elsewhere. One bid was from South Central Sealing & Paving for slurry seal in the amount of \$91,614.09. The second bid was from Vance Brother for chip seal in the amount of \$88,240.20. Goldston said that the bid packet asked for bids for both chip seal and slurry seal, but each vendor only chose to bid those specific products. Goldston recommended the chip seal bid from Vance Brothers as it was the lower bid on a project already over budget and the fact that chip seal lasts longer than slurry seal. Mayor Winsor expressed concern about the chip seal due to the potential of loose rock and kids walking barefoot at the park.

- Motion made by Wollen, seconded by Arensdorf, to approve the Vance Brothers bid for Chip Seal to not include the alternate in the amount of \$88,240.20. Motion carried 4-1 with Winsor voting against.

Extended CMB/Liquor Sales: The Commission reviewed a notice from the Kansas Department of Revenue's Alcoholic Beverage Control Division that extended the sale of CMB and Liquor to 6a -5a every day between June 11, 2026, to July 19, 2026, for the FIFA World Cup. The document informs municipalities that an ordinance or resolution must be passed to opt-in to the allowance. Clerk Bieghler shared that he has been contacted by both Dollar General and DAKs, who has requested such an ordinance. The consensus of the commission was to have the city

attorney draft an ordinance to allow the extension for the next meeting. Commissioner Wollen was against it.

City Manager's Report: Interim Manager Deardoff shared the following information:

- Received a follow-up email from the engineers regarding the mill race.

- Clean-up week is in progress and is going well.

- This will be Mr. Deardoff's last meeting, and he has enjoyed his time at Kingman and working with the city commission.

Commissioner Comments:

Wollen

- Appreciated the quarterly reports provided by the department heads in the packet.

McFarland

- There are some streetlights out on Main St. Director Tim Goldston was in the audience and got the locations.

Kaufman

- Thanked Interim Manager Deardoff for his services to the City during this interim period.

Winsor

- There are mounds of sand at Riverside Park. Director Kari Goldston said that they had left the mounds of sand there for the kids to play.

- The digger playground equipment at Riverside Park is in need of repair. Director K. Goldston took note.

- Thanked John Deardoff for his service.

Commissioner Arensdorf had no comment.

Adjournment

- Motion made by Arensdorf, seconded by McFarland, to adjourn the meeting at 7:28pm. Motion carried 5-0.



## Days of Yore

### 11 Years Ago

A joint meeting between the Kingman city and county commissions grew tenuous when the subject of economic development came up; the point of contention was over the city deciding not to pay its share of the Kingman County Economic Development Council budget and spend its economic development funds as the city saw fit. Wheatlands Health Care Center got a perfect score for its most recent inspection of the nursing home and assisted living center. Pat Maloney, part of a five-generation farming and ranching family, sat down with the Leader-Courier to talk about his expectations for the beef industry. A Kingman Elementary School student who tested positive for whooping cough was the second confirmed case of the ailment by the Kingman County Health Department. KHS graduate Tim Schrag was named the editor of the K-Stater magazine for the Kansas State Alumni Association. The Cunningham girl's track team won its regional and sent six athletes to the State meet.

### 35 Years Ago

The Kingman Jaycees made a "citizens arrest" of Kingman police officer Paul Hinten and his wife Theresa, in which Theresa was "held in custody" during the Jaycees meeting and served coffee until Paul went to the meeting to sign an applica-

tion for membership. Vivian DeWeese, John Albers and Rubie Cushenbary were the newest inductees to the 332 Hall of Fame during the Cunningham High School athletic banquet. The City of Kingman signed a contract with Hobart Boroughs & Son of Kingman to construct an addition to the city power plant. Norwich's Kelly Hare set a new school record in the javelin and won the event at regionals, joining teammate Ken Farrar at the State track meet; Farrar took second in the long jump at regionals. The opening of the Kingman swimming pool was delayed, first because of problems with a water pump, then because not enough lifeguards were available for the scheduled opening on Memorial Day weekend. Early reports from Paul Mitchell, manager of the Bunge Corp. elevator in Kingman, indicated that an early wheat harvest was expected, but with a below average crop for farmers. Residents experienced a brief electrical outage when a major circuit breaker at the power plant exploded.

### 60 Years Ago

Paul Clark of Barton County was hired to teach science and coach all sports for the Unified School District 332. Bill Bauer, jeweler at Walker Jewelry in Kingman, demonstrated techniques and talked about his custom jewelry during a Kingman Rotary Club meeting. Early reports indicated a bleak outlook for

the local wheat harvest, with a late freeze in May responsible for much of the damage to the wheat crop. The Kingman Jaycees organized tennis and golf tournaments for area boys under the age of 18. Neal Robb, window clerk at the U.S. Post Office in Kingman, was photographed on one of his final days working at the post office; he was set to retire June 1. Kingman County raised a total of \$2,671 for the annual county cancer crusade. Miss Loetta Marlene Westerman was the valedictorian of the Nashville High School graduating class. Safeway advertised boneless beef roast for 99 cents per pound,

### 85 Years Ago

V.R. Stuart purchased Kingman Hardware from M.E. Garrison; Stuart was originally from Englewood and came to Kingman in 1918. Kingman County Schools Superintendent Ed Naanes reported that there was a shortage of applicants for teaching positions at the county and rural schools; Naanes was looking to fill seven vacancies. Draft board member Henry Gibbens announced that Kingman County must furnish seven men to the U.S. Army between June 10-30. A downpour didn't dampen spirits for the Kingman Pioneer Day celebration and, once when the rain went away, the parade took place as scheduled. Seven softball teams comprised the Kingman County League, which

was set to begin play June 3. Stella Tremaine, who recently returned from missionary work in China, was set to speak at the Christian church. B&W Grocery advertised a two-pound jar of grape jam for 25 cents.

### 110 Years Ago

The oil excitement spread to Spivey and prospective millionaires were planning on building castles. Fifty more stockholders in the Kingman Oil Co. have kicked in \$100 each for exploration. Rose Spurrier, respected teacher, passed away; her name was well remembered each spring when the KHS scholarships endowed in her name by her daughter, Maud Wallace, are distributed. Josephine Gillett was voted one of the 10 prettiest girls at KU. All teams and wagons as well as automobiles were urged to keep on the right side of Kingman streets for safety. White Township advertised to remind everyone that it was illegal to dump trash on the roadsides. Ray Moore, wire chief for Bell Telephone in Kingman, fell from the top of a pole and tore his right side considerably; he hit a metal foot step on the way down. The Henning Orchestra furnished the music for a big dance at Willowdale. Kingman High School's graduating class was announced at 35 students. John J. Cragun attended the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

(Published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, May 28, 2026) 1t

### OFFICIAL NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN AND TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Kingman County Planning Commission will meet, Monday June 22nd. The Kingman County Planning Commission will consider the following zoning application at 7:00 p.m. in the District Court Room (Third Floor) at the Courthouse in Kingman, Kansas:

Case No. Z -26 -003. Proposed property by Shane & Joanie Estell for the change of zoning district A-1 General Agriculture District to R-R Rural Residential District.

Legal description: Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Section 4; Thence Easterly along the North line of said Section 4 and on an assumed bearing of South 89

degrees 59 minutes 48 seconds East a distance of 1416.00 feet to the Point of Beginning; Thence Southerly on a bearing of South 00 degrees 14 minutes 53 seconds East a distance of 700.00 feet; Thence Easterly on a bearing of South 89 degrees 59 minutes 48 seconds East a distance of 684.00 feet; Thence Northerly on a bearing of North 00 degrees 14 minutes 53 seconds West a distance of 700.00 feet to a point on the North line of said Section 4; Thence Westerly along said North line and on a bearing of North 89 degrees 59 minutes 48 seconds West a distance of 684.00 feet to the Point Of Beginning. Said tract contains 10.99 acres of land more or less which includes road right-of-way on the North.

General location: 1416 feet East of SE 130 Ave on SE 120 St in Section 4 Township 30 Range 05 West. Acreage: 10.99 acres more or less.

You may appear at this time either in person or by agent or attorney, if you so desire, and be heard on the matter. After hearing the views and wishes of all persons interested in the case, the Planning Commission may close the hearing and consider a recommendation to the Governing Body which, if approved under the County Zoning Regulations, would be effectuated by resolution. The public hearing may be recessed and continued from time to time without further notice.

Please enter at the South door of the building:

DATED this 29th day of May 2026.

Amanda Stucky, Secretary  
Kingman County Planning Commission

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# NEWS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Stephanie Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email sjump@kconline.com

## PUZZLE ANSWERS



6	9	1	7	8	3	5	2	4
8	4	5	2	9	6	1	3	7
7	3	2	4	1	5	9	8	6
4	6	7	9	2	8	3	5	1
2	1	8	5	3	7	6	4	9
3	5	9	6	4	1	2	7	8
1	7	4	3	6	2	8	9	5
9	8	3	1	5	4	7	6	2
5	2	6	8	7	9	4	1	3



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### HELP WANTED

CHIEF OF POLICE –  
Position Opening

The City of Harper is seeking qualified applicants to fill the position of Chief of Police due to the upcoming retirement of the current Chief at the end of the year. Requirements: A high school diploma or GED and a technical degree or some college credit in Criminal Justice or related field is required. Applicants should have a minimum of ten years of law enforcement experience, current KLETC certification (or ability to obtain), and valid driver's license. This is a working chief position, combining leadership, administrative responsibilities and active participation in patrol and law enforcement duties. The Harper Police Department consists of the Chief with two full-time officers, three part-time officers and two reserves. The successful candidate must be able to pass a physical exam and background check after an offer of employment has been made. Residency within the city limits is required within 6 months of employment. For a full job description please visit www.cityofharper.com

Salary/Benefits: Salary range for this position is \$58,500 - \$87,700 DOQ. Benefits include health, dental, vision and life insurance; KPERS retirement and 457(b) deferred compensation options with employer match; paid vacation, sick and funeral leave. Resumes should be addressed to City of Harper, Attn: City Administrator, 201 W. Main St. Harper, KS 67058 or submitted via email to tcooperrider@cityofharper.com. Please contact Tiffany Cooperrider at (620)896-2511 for any additional questions. Position open until filled.

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# COMMUNITY

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Stephanie Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email sjump@kcnonline.com

## Next Year, Let's Do It Right

By Stephanie Jump, Co-Owner, M<sup>3</sup> Publishing LLC

Monday I stood ready. I had my camera, I got there early enough to find a place to park where I could slip out somewhat easily, I even had my red peony placed on my shirt ready to go. I waited, tested my camera settings, observed the cars, or lack thereof, coming into the cemetery. I spoke to a few people, said good morning to others, but basically went about my day getting ready to take pictures of the ceremony.

I was testing my camera when I heard someone mention there weren't very many people there and how that cemetery should be "crowded" with people coming to the Memorial Day service. I myself pondered, where was the big crowd?

They began to come, slowly, carrying chairs and finding a spot in shade to pay their respects but the question still bothered me. Where is the big crowd? Many people in the cemetery were my parents age and older, some a bit younger, but for the most part, they were a generation ahead of mine.

Where is my generation? Don't get me wrong, there

were some there my age. Some brought their grandkids, but in a time where we are so overwhelmed and overworked, where is my generation? Some were at sporting events, some were taking a much needed break, some probably had no idea that the ceremony was even happening (plug here for subscribing to your local paper). But the fact remains, that these types of celebrations are becoming less and less popular with younger crowds.

I will admit, I had lots to do Monday. My house is a mess, my yard looks abandoned, my desk, well, we won't speak of what it looks like. The point is I could have been lots of different places and if I wasn't taking pictures, I asked myself, would I have been there either?

The sad and honest answer, is probably not. I would have let life get in my way and found a million and one reasons why I needed to be doing something else. That is the honest truth, but it is one that makes me uncomfortable.

Because I do think these

types of ceremonies and remembrances are important, and the fact is, someday it is going to take a different generation to step up and lead them. It is going to take my generation and ones after that, to keep the tradition of honoring our military going for the even next generation. We are all busy, we all have a million things happening, but we all are going to have to help if we have any chance of these celebrations being able to continue.

Here's the good news. I also saw hope Monday morning in the little ones who were dressed in patriotic gear and came to the ceremony with moms and dads, grandmas and grandpas. I saw some of our Cub Scout Troop there, decked out in uniforms and ready to help where needed. I saw little ones salute the flag, stand quietly, listen to words they probably didn't understand but knew were important just by the fact someone in a uniform was saying them.

Next year, let's all get out there and honor those who gave all to our country for our freedoms.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Pack 3337: Kingman Cub Scouts Help Place Flags

Kingman Cub Scout Pack 3337 was up bright and early this past weekend placing flags on veteran's graves in Walnut Hill Cemetery ahead of Memorial Day services on Monday. Pictured (L to R) are: Nathan Rodman, Robert Rodman, Luke Winsor, George Ross and Maddox Vredenburg.

KINGMAN SENIOR CENTER	
<b>JUNE SCHEDULE</b>	
Friendship meals: Every weekday at noon.	KCCOA Board Meeting: June 23 at 1 p.m.
Card Group: Every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon.	<b>JUNE TRANSPORTATION</b>
Free Coffee: Each Tuesday and Thursday from 8 to 10 a.m.	Transportation to Wichita: June 3, 4, 8, 10, 11, 15, 17, 18, 24, 25, 29.
Blood pressure check: June 10 from 11 a.m. to noon.	Transportation to Pratt: June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.
Bingo: June 17 from 1 to 2:30 p.m.	Transportation Available: June 1, 5, 12, 19, 22, 26.
Monthly Commodities: June 9 from 8	

## Schultz Named to Spring 2026 Honor Roll

### PRESS RELEASE

McPHERSON - McPherson College, a four-year private college located in central Kansas, recognizes its highest academic achievers in its spring 2026 Honor Roll and Honorable Mention. Cara Schultz of

Kingman was named to the honor roll.

Students must be enrolled full-time and earn a grade point average of 3.55 or higher during the last term to qualify for the honor roll. Students earning a grade point average of 3.25 to

3.54 are named to the honorable mention.

McPherson College offers more than 20 bachelor and pre-professional programs with a curriculum emphasizing entrepreneurship and career-focused education.

## Hawk 4-H Club Holds May Meeting

### ORGANIZATION REPORT

The Hawk 4-H club gathered on Monday, May 11 at Livingstons Family Center for their monthly meeting. During the meeting members voted to give one hundred dollars to the memory of Albert Ziegler. Peyton Boos did a project talk to inform the club

about her dog project. Christina Ziegler demonstrated how to tie a crown knot. Vaisu Kamesh talked about how to care for rabbits. After the meeting members enjoyed cookies and juice.

Christina A. Ziegler  
Hawk 4-H Club Reporter

## SCKAA MEALS

Please call 620-553-4177 for meal reservations

**Monday, June 1:** Hamburger, potato salad, baked beans, blushing pears, milk.

**Tuesday, June 2:** Baked chicken, green beans, macaroni salad, mixed fruit, roll, milk.

**Wednesday, June 3:** Soft tacos, peas and

carrots, refried beans, peaches, milk.

**Thursday, June 4:** BBQ sandwich, cole slaw, corn, tropical fruit, milk.

**Friday, June 5:** Chicken chef salad, banana, fruit jello, crackers, milk.



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## PUBLIC NOTICE - QUARTERLY REPORT

(Published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, May 28, 2026) 1t

Kingman County

Treasurer's Quarterly Report Publication  
Selected Date Range: 02/01/2026 to 04/30/2026

Fund	Fund Name	Ending Cash
010	TAX/CUR-RL PP OL SP GS SA FUND	\$1,585,383.25
065	TAX/DELINQUENT-PP OL GS FUND	\$1,394.73
070	MOTOR VEH RV TAX	\$4,570.75
072	COMMERCIAL MTR VEH FEE	\$51,446.07
075	NVHS 0.75% SALES TAX FUND	\$0.01
080	MV PROPERTY TAX	\$314,806.93
084	ANTIQUE VEHICLE FUND	\$2,328.00
085	REDEMPTIONS	\$36,564.24
086	DRIVERS LICENSE FUND	\$231.50
088	STATE MV FEES FUND	\$596.57
089	STATE MV SALES TAX FUND	\$64,925.00
090	MOTOR FUEL TAX FUND	\$131,894.12
095	TAX/CURRENT-TK	\$2,558.38
097	TAX/DELINQUENT-TK	\$256.08
098	COUNTY 0.75% SALES TAX FUND	\$1,014,158.52
099	CLEARING FUND	\$6.11
115	GENERAL FUND	\$3,070,559.53
120	ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	\$1,024,448.42
125	SPECIAL BRIDGE FUND	\$306,128.35
130	PUBLIC HEALTH FUND	\$157,965.76
135	EXPO CENTER FUND	\$86,502.22
145	APPRAISER FUND	\$129,664.60
155	NOXIOUS WEED FUND	\$105,377.83
165	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND	\$1,248,083.91
167	SELF-INSURANCE RESERVE FUND	\$1,392,090.72
200	DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$3,471,382.40
205	CNTY TREASURER AUTO FUND	\$12,758.88
212	RAINY DAY RESERVE FUND	\$1,110,000.00
215	KS FIGHTS ADDICTION FUND	\$34,596.33
225	SPECIAL PARK & RECREATION FUND	\$23.14
230	DRUG STAMP TAX FUND	\$1,541.25
256	GRANT PROCEEDS FUND	(\$3,088.27)
259	SHERIFF EQUIPMENT FUND	\$88,566.10
261	COURTHOUSE REMODEL FUND	\$258,805.49
265	SOLID WASTE FUND	\$183,046.30
272	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RSRV FUND	\$2,582,328.24
273	CAPITAL EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND	\$270,183.31
275	SPECIAL HIGHWAY IMPROV FUND	\$271,398.07
277	PROSECUTING ATTY TRAINING FUND	\$6,417.70
280	SPECIAL MACHINERY FUND	\$41,971.95
282	DIVERSION FUND	\$108,113.15
284	SPECIAL PROSECUTOR TRUST FUND	\$10,505.93
287	FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT	\$12,770.50
288	CIVIL ASSET FORFEITURE FUND	\$9,829.86
298	HERITAGE TRUST FUND	\$398.00
715	ROD TECHNOLOGY FUND	\$68,190.86
717	CLERK TECHNOLOGY FUND	\$28,100.18
719	TREASURER TECHNOLOGY FUND	\$12,848.51
911	911 COMMUNICATIONS FUND	\$38,281.57
<b>Total of all Funds</b>		<b>\$19,350,911.05</b>

Bank Balances as of: 4/30/2026

Bank Name	Balance
1 PEOPLES BANK AND TRUST	\$526,269.73
2 CASH ON HAND BANK	\$1,620.00
4 CONWAY BANK	\$224,119.81
5 NINNESCAH VALLEY BANK	\$800,000.00
7 CITIZENS BANK OF KANSAS	\$17,798,901.51

Total for all Banks

County Treasurer: Jamie Smith

I do solemnly swear that the above statement is complete, true, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, so help me God.

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