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July 2, 2026

District 1 County Commission Candidates Talk Issues

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

The three women running for the District One Kingman County commission seat, during a community forum Wednesday in Norwich, answered questions about topics ranging from property taxes to data centers.

Bonnie Kopper, Renee Elpers and Michelle Kyle are the three candidates who filed to run in the Republican primary in August. No Democrats filed to run for the seat. When it came to concerns about

property taxes, Elpers said she understood the county has lowered the mill levy by 10 mills and that they are working to reduce expenditures. But she said that it requires some give and take.

"You're going to have to just ask your constituents what they want to see," Elpers said. "Do they want more money spent to fix a bridge (that's) aging, but you're only one vote in the set of the three county commissioners. So it's going to be a give and take. It's not just a yes or no question."

Kyle said it's important to deter-

mine funding priorities and make sure to get input from constituents on what priorities should be.

"I think we have to be okay with clearly communicating what those financial priorities are for the county and educating our constituents on the fact that we can't do everything for everybody," she said. "That's the difficult part about managing a budget."

Kopper agreed that it will be about priorities and having discussions with citizens, along with committees and each entity to explain what they need and where

they are willing to give up on a request.

"All of that comes in and balances and as more houses come into the community and more businesses, that does increase the amount of money that comes in, but still it's a responsibility," Kopper said, "Just because you get an extra \$60,000 because it came in because seven houses were built does not mean, okay, we can just give it up because all of the other costs have gone up."

As for the subject of data centers, Kopper noted that they have been given a 20-year exemption on sales

tax, the large ones employ about 50 people, they use a lot of water and take up a lot of acreage.

"They're also getting a reputation for going back on their promises and asking for more and more," Kopper said.

Kopper noted that, while some may argue that people shouldn't be told what they can do with their land, there are zoning laws in place that limit land usage. Therefore, the county should be able to have similar laws regarding data centers.

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Modular Housing Proposed for Memory Lane

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

The Kingman city commission Thursday, meeting as the city land bank, heard a presentation from representatives of Prime Craftsman Homes about possibly offering its homes for the Memory Lane subdivision.

Prime Craftsman offers modular homes that are described as "more efficient and more affordable than traditional construction." The homes do not resemble manufactured homes, but are "precision built" to resemble traditionally-built homes.

Steve Fullmer, the chief executive officer for the Wichita location, said that Prime Craftsman offers a less expensive alternative to traditionally-built homes and, thus, more people are able to afford them. He said the company's designs were inspired by the principles of Franklin Lloyd Wright.

Prime Craftsman is based in Tulsa, Okla., and Fullmer said he visited with those

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BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

Firefighting Lessons: Female Only Camp Held

Kingman Fire Chief Shae Brooks hosted several girls for a Future Female Firefighting Camp held Saturday and Sunday. She met with the girls at the fire station Saturday afternoon and all day Sunday, during which time the girls learned about the trucks, the equipment and apparatuses that firefighters utilized when responding to a call. They also joined members of the Kingman fire department Saturday morning for lessons about extrication when a person is trapped in a vehicle after a crash.

County Budget Discussions Continue

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

Kingman County Financial Officer LaDawn Stegman gave the Kingman County commissioners a bigger idea about how the 2027 budget might take shape during Monday's commissioners' meeting.

Stegman met with County Commissioner Jack Thimesch late last week to go over the budget and presented a worksheet that did make a few adjustments to department requests and outside agency requests, but didn't include updated figures for health insurance and didn't include overtime.

Based on those numbers, the county would be looking at a mill levy of 59.748. The county's revenue neutral rate is 59.752, so the county wouldn't have a lot of wiggle room to avoid a revenue neutral rate hearing if it went with the figures as presented.

Stegman told the county commissioners that she utilized the state's budget

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City OK's Disc Golf Course at Riverside Park

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

The Kingman city commission Thursday approved moving forward with a disc golf course at Riverside Park, which will be paid for the Kingman Recreation Commission.

Aric Hook visited with the recreation commission about the proposal and gave a similar presentation to the city commission. He said his idea came after the city decided not to move forward with Walker Park plans, which would have included a disc golf course.

Hook said, when he designed the course, he put kids' safety in mind and made sure that holes were placed away from playgrounds, shelters, roads and

high-traffic pedestrian areas. He said he tested his design with a few baskets that he owned, then made some changes after playing.

Hook said that a disc golf course could draw more people to Riverside Park and would allow anyone from children to senior citizens to get out and play.

"It encourages people to be outside and be active," Hook said.

He added that there would be course rules and an etiquette sign posted at the first hole, to include reminders to players that pedestrians have a right of way on walking paths and cars have the right of way on the streets.

Four of the holes would be at the west end of Riverside Park, while three

holes would be located further into the park and two would be on the east end where the outdoor learning sites are located.

The cost to install the course would be \$5,000, not including concrete tee pads, but four holes would use existing sidewalk concrete for that and the other five would require a five-foot-by-10-foot concrete pad at some point. However, Hook said, that would not be required to get started and future fundraising could be done to get the pads installed.

In response to a question about what happens if somebody hits a car, Hook said that would fall under the normal

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JASON JUMP / Leader-Courier

Freund: Former Player Returns

Nolan Freund throws out the first pitch before the Kingman Islanders baseball game against the Performance Factory Phenoms Monday at Riverside Park. Freund, a former Islander himself, played for University of Arkansas-Little Rock in the spring, advancing to the Super Regionals.

DID YOU KNOW?

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NEWS

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

HOUSING

• From Page 1

people and he saw the homes the company was building. He said the homes aren't "tiny homes," but have anywhere from 800 to 1,300 square feet with two-bedroom and three-bedroom options. The homes typically have no basement but can have tornado shelters. Garages can be added and those are built on site.

Fullmer noted that the

typical builder who builds a starter home is at about \$240 per square foot, which means a 1,300 square-foot home runs about \$300,000. He added that doesn't include the cost of building a garage, addressing utilities, a driveway or landscaping.

He said that Prime Craftsman utilizes a factory-like setting, in which lasers are used to precisely cut wood to what is needed for a house. The crew then erects the house, taking less time to

complete the process. The house can then be transported to a site, where a foundation is laid.

Fullmer said that this process means there's less wasted material and thus less of a need to haul materials away from a construction site.

He reviewed the advantages that Prime Craftsman had over a site-built house. The company is able to spend less on the foundation, materials, labor, subcontractor markup, marketing and other

costs. As an example, a 1,300 square-foot home would typically cost \$307,000, once all factors are accounted, to get a \$15,000 profit, but Prime Craftsman could offer the same home for \$210,000 at the same profit.

The city commission has already started the process for a reinvestment housing incentive district at Memory Lane, with a requirement that homes be stick built. Fullmer said that these modular homes are "technically

stick builds, it's just they're not stick built on site."

He proposed that the city donate the first six lots on Memory Lane to Prime Craftsman, then the company will price each home at cost plus \$20,000 for appreciation. The company would also offer \$7,500 in down payment assistance to potential buyers.

After the first four homes are sold, the company would then purchase the next six lots for \$5,000 each. After

that, the company would purchase the final five lots. The pricing structure and downpayment assistance would remain the same.

Prime Craftsman would restrict the deeds so that there are none purchased for rentals nor any resale for the first five years or 50 percent of net gain transfers to a local community foundation.

The city commissioners took no action on the proposal but are expected to discuss it more at a later meeting.



BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

Michelle Kyle, right, answers a question as Bonnie Kopper, left, and Renee Elpers listen during a question and answer forum for the Kingman County Commission District One candidates June 24 in Norwich. The three Republican candidates are running in the August primary for the seat, which will be a four-year term.

ISSUES

• From Page 1

Elpers said she didn't believe that data centers would be located in Kingman County but they are coming to other counties. She said that knowing how things turn out in those counties could help with Kingman County's direction.

But Elpers added that the county might be able to look at ways to ensure the county gets something in return if a data center were built here.

"If it's something and you can't stop it, could you make them pay a tax to your county conservation district, so that they turn around and they pay money back to farmers," Elpers said. "Because you always have your stipulations... where they have to then turn around and pay back money to farmers from conservation, whether it's terraces, whether it's waterways, whether it's anything."

Kyle said she is not in favor of data centers and referred to a conversation she had with a friend who is involved with information technology.

"I was talking to him the other day and his famous words were, they're going to use the least amount of energy the day they open, and everything else goes awry from there," Kyle said. "What we don't know is the potential drain on our energy infrastructure and what it would take for us to make sure that we have that shored up so that we have excess capacity."

"Because as they grow and as those

things spin up, I think it's very (difficult) for us trying to always play catch up in terms of keeping up with the energy demand."

She said she didn't think the county has the resources at this point to form an effective partnership with a company wanting a data center. She favored keeping the moratorium currently in place and continuing to research the topic.

The three also answered a question about fire and EMS services, in which county residents have concerns about what will happen with fire protection and EMS in smaller communities, as it becomes harder to find funding and volunteers.

Elpers noted that Christy Crews with Hometown Grants has been instrumental in helping the fire departments get grants or equipment. She said she would like to see that continue.

Kyle said that there needs to be ongoing communication between EMS, fire departments and the various entities about what is needed. She said she would like to educate herself more to learn about what can be done to fill in the gaps.

Kopper said that she is still trying to figure out who has responsibility for what, but believes there are good people in place and that it's matter of getting people together to discuss what is needed so that an overall plan for the county can be put into place.

When it came to the subject of economic development, Kopper said it's not just about bringing businesses to

the county, but making sure that the buildings, infrastructure and people are in place.

"If a company comes in and you don't have the workers for it, then there's that pain again," she said. "If you don't have the housing for the workers, it rolls into another problem. So it is actually the whole community working together to provide all these things."

Elpers called economic development "a noun and a verb." She said most people think about the noun when using the phrase, but there's also action needed. Elpers again cited Hometown Grants for the work that organization has done, such as getting a new tornado alarm for Zenda.

"And that is economic development to me," she said. "You need things like roads, the sewer, Internet, broadband for towns to thrive. In the state, you can't ask somebody to come to town if you don't have Internet in a lot of cases."

Kyle said that economic development is "multi-faceted," whether it's supporting existing businesses or getting people outside the county to come create economic opportunities.

"And then you've got the entire infrastructure issue," Kyle said. "It's got to be solid in order to be able to support any kind of growth, whether it be organic growth or growth from the outside. And I think to constantly remind ourselves that all three of those components have got to be managed and managed well."

OBITUARY

ESTHER LOUISE COLE KLAASSEN

Esther Louise (Cole) Klaassen, 88, passed away peacefully on Sunday, June 21, 2026, surrounded by her daughters.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, July 2 at Ascension Lutheran Church, 842 N Tyler Rd, Wichita, at 1 p.m.

You can read Esther's full obituary on Resthaven's website. A private interment will take place at Resthaven in Garden of The Cross.



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FOR CHANGES OR ADDITIONS CALL (620) 532-3151 OR EMAIL SJUMP@KCONLINE.COM

PUBLIC NOTICE OF BIDS

(First published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, June 25, 2026) 2t

REQUEST FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that Kingman County, Kansas is soliciting bids for construction of KINGMAN COUNTY 2026 Pavement Improvements. The project consists of pavement repairs in Kingman County, KS along SW 90th Ave. from US Hwy 54/400 to 0.17 mi south of US Hwy 54/400 (0.17 miles), SW 50th St from SW 60th Ave. to 0.5 mi east of SW 60th Ave. (end of pavement) (0.5 miles), and SW 70th St at intersection with SW 40th Ave (50 feet). Total length is approximately 0.68 miles and will include a 2" hot mix asphalt (HMA) overlay, surface milling, tie-ins, shouldering, pavement markings to match existing, traffic control, HMA patching, and culvert pipe replacement along SW 50th St. Kingman County shall provide all of the funds required for this project. All Federal, State and County regulations must be complied with. Online Bids (vBids) for the proposed construction will be received by Kingman County via QuestCDN Virtubid until 2:00 pm local time July 16, 2026. Bids will be presented to the Kingman County Commissioners at their meeting in the Kingman County Courthouse Commission room at 10:00 a.m. local time July 20, 2026.

All Bidders are to be prequalified with the Kansas Department of Transportation, as outlined in Section 102 of the KDOT Standard Specifications or receive approval to bid the project from the owner.

All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a Certified or Cashiers check in the amount of 5% of the total bid. Checks or bonds are to be made payable to Kingman County and serve as a guarantee of the sincerity and integrity of the bidder, and shall be forfeited to the County if said proposal or bid is accepted and the bidder fails to execute the contract and file the required statutory and performance bonds as required in the contract documents.

Work will commence no sooner than the date of the signed

contract (earliest start date) and no later than October 1, 2026 (late start date). All work shall be completed within 13 working days after the Notice to Proceed. Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents may be examined at the County Clerk's Office in the Kingman County Courthouse, County Public Works Office, and at the Engineer's Office at the following address:

Kirkham, Michael & Associates, Inc.
116 W. Iron Avenue
Salina, Kansas 67401

The contract documents are available at www.questcdn.com. This contract is QuestCDN project #10227170. A contractor may view the contract documents at no cost prior to deciding to become a Planholder. To be considered a Planholder for bids, a contractor must register with OuestCDN .com and purchase the contract documents in digital form at a cost of \$22.00. Registering as a Planholder is recommended for all prime contractors and subcontractors as Planholders will receive automatic notice of addenda and other contract document updates via QuestCDN. Contact QuestCDN Customer Support at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in membership registration, downloading digital project information and vBid online bid submittal questions. For this project, bids will ONLY be received and accepted via the online electronic bid service through QuestCDN.com. To access the electronic bid form, download the project documents and click on the online bid button at the top of the bid advertisement page. After the bid closes, bidders will be charged a fee of \$42.00 for successful bid submission. Prospective bidders must be on the Planholder list through QuestCDN for bids to be accepted. Questions regarding bids shall be directed in writing to Tanner Yost, tyost@kirkham.com a minimum of two (2) calendar days prior to the date of the bid opening.

NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE.

Kingman County reserves the right to waive any and all technicalities and to reject any and all bids.

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OPINION

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

Felix Natalis, USA

By Bernie Sheahan

Here's how I began my celebration of our nation's 250th anniversary, at 1:38 a.m. on June 29: I took an online geometry quiz. Whatever for? Hang on to your hats. I was trying to explain the meaning of the Semiquintennial, which is what we're commemorating this year. And I went into a long written reverie of my affinity for Latin — and the thirst for learning the same — which was stymied by the powers that be at Lynbrook High School, or maybe the California State Board of Education, because they stopped offering it just before I arrived my freshman year.

I'd been so excited to take it, because my mother was the Latin champ of the Class of '47 at Lowell High in Lowell, Massachusetts. And I wanted to strive for

that achievement as well. Like mother, like daughter. High School Latin champs at Lowell and Lynbrook, good ol' LHS on opposite coasts; wouldn't that have been swell? Mom claimed that I learned to read when I was a mere tot, thanks to the workbooks she used for teaching English-language learners. English, not Latin, although I'm sure she could have taught that, too.

And she could have read those soon-to-be-citizens the Latin translation of the "Declaratio Independentiae" which begins thusly: "Quum in rerum humanarum cursu contingat, ut populus aliquis necessitate coactus vincula politica..." You get the idea. Read along with me. "When in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands..." etc.

I had to look that up, the D of I in Latin. I happened upon the Portuguese translation as well, and it's no surprise that the Portuguese looks a lot like the Latin, because it is one of the Romance languages, which sounds Romantic, because it is. As in Rome. Spanish, French, Italian, too. Latin roots.

I learned Latin from church, because I'm just the age on the cusp of Latin/English, during what was called (in case you're Baptist and don't know) Vatican II. It brought the church back to the people, and a big part of that was understanding what was being said, in the vernacular. That word itself means "domestic, native, indigenous" (Latin: vernaculus), the language you use at home.

The nifty thing for a little

word nerd like me was that for a while, the liturgy (order of worship) was written in Latin on one side of the page, and English on the other. Those of us who were paying attention eventually aced the SAT, ACT and whatever vocabulary tests were put in front of us. Latin roots, prefixes, suffixes, baby! You can figure out a lot if you can eyeball 'em. "Mal"-anything is gonna mean "bad" and "bene-" is "good", and whatnot. Maladjusted, malfeasance, benefactor, benefit.

So what does all this have to do with a geometry quiz (which I aced, by the way.) It was only 10 questions but they were hard and I was so astonished that I printed out the certificate, which I taped to my office wall. "This is to certify that I (it really says

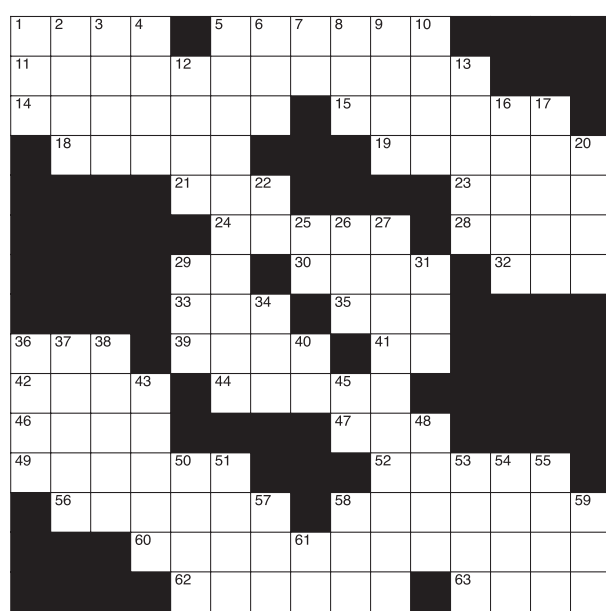
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PUZZLE ANSWERS



Chris Huhman
Financial Advisor
240 N Main St
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620-532-1190

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

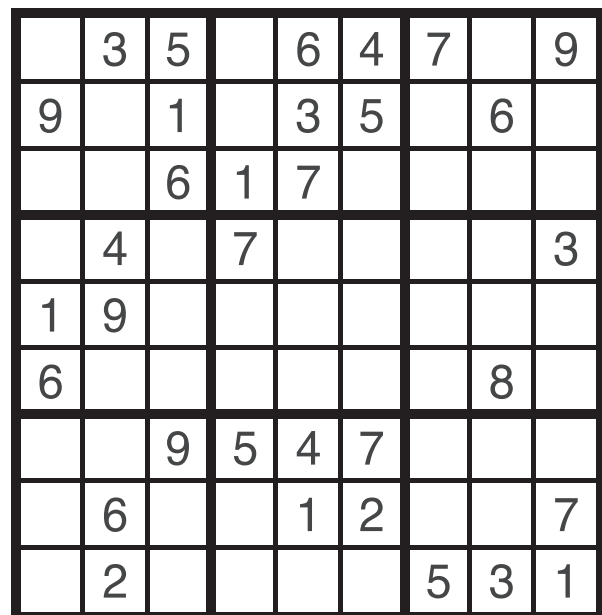


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. ___ chat
- 5. Statue near the Pyramids
- 11. A process to change the look
- 14. Herb
- 15. Think about excessively
- 18. Bass vocal part
- 19. Supreme Allied Cmdr. of NATO
- 21. A major division of geological time
- 23. New Zealand parrot
- 24. Cognitive contents
- 28. Lump of yarn
- 29. Atomic #109
- 30. Let go of
- 32. Indian title of respect
- 33. Whereabouts unknown
- 35. Electronic data processing
- 36. Drivers' licenses count
- 39. Snake-like fishes
- 41. They precede C
- 42. Popular personal computers
- 44. Intermediate community stage in ecological succession
- 46. Wings
- 47. Indicates position
- 49. Pleasantly smooth or soft
- 52. Jeweled headdress
- 56. In slow tempo
- 58. ___ Falls
- 60. Reassertions
- 62. Eras
- 63. Hyphen

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Corporate executive
- 2. A plant used for flavoring food
- 3. Opinion or belief
- 4. Sheep in their second year
- 5. Intensities of sound
- 6. Indicates support for
- 7. Expression of laughter
- 8. OJ trial judge
- 9. Pointed ends of pens
- 10. True bugs genus
- 12. Lawyers argue theirs
- 13. Body parts
- 16. Closes tightly
- 17. World Heritage site in Nigeria
- 20. Islamic calendar month
- 22. Commercial
- 25. "Westworld" actor Harris
- 26. They ___
- 27. Religious guilds
- 29. Woman (French)
- 31. Parts per billion (abbr.)
- 34. Brew
- 36. Spiritual leader
- 37. Indigo bush
- 38. Burn with a hot liquid
- 40. Older citizen
- 43. Scad fish genus
- 45. Morning
- 48. Line passing through the center (abbr.)
- 50. Double S-shaped curve
- 51. Small, thin person
- 53. Older
- 54. Mars crater
- 55. Humanities
- 57. Word element meaning ear
- 58. To the ___ degree
- 59. Residue
- 61. It cools your home



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

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PUBLIC NOTICE - PRIMARY ELECTION NOTICE

(First published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, June 25, 2026) 3t

PRIMARY 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 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 14, 2026 and will remain closed until the day after the Primary Election which will be held in the County of Kingman, State of Kansas on the 4th day of August, 2026. Books will reopen on August 5th, 2026.

OFFICE HOURS:

The books will be open each day Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the County Clerk's Office. At 5:00 p.m. on July 14th, 2026 the books will close and remain closed until August 5th, 2025, which is the day after the Primary Election.

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

election.

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

1. The voter changes name by marriage, divorce or legal proceedings.
2. The voter changes residence in which he resided at the time he registered.
3. When a voter dies or is disqualified for voting, his or her registration will be pulled from the files after verified.
4. When a voter fails to vote in two consecutive General Elections after the NVRA process, 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 hereunto set my hand and seal this 16th day of June, 2026.

(SEAL)

Carol D. Noblit
Kingman County Election Officer

Church Directory

Service time and information for churches in Kingman County

CUNNINGHAM
Cunningham Christian Church
125 W. 1st St.,
620-298-3201
Church: 10:45 a.m.
Minister: Mike McGovney

Cunningham & Penalosa United Methodist Church
Sunday Services:
Cunningham-10:45 a.m.
Penalosa-9:15 a.m.
Church: 620-298-2090
Parish: 620-298-2245

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
404 E. 1st St., 620-298-2601
Saturday: 4 p.m.
Father Daryl Befort

KINGMAN
Kingman Methodist Church
133 E. D Ave., 620-532-3381
www.kingmanumc.org
Sunday Service: 10:30 am
Rev. Brad Kirk

Christ Church Episcopal
332 N. Spruce,
620-532-2488
Sunday Service: 10 a.m.
Rev. Charles Kerschen

Church of Christ
133 W. Washington,
620-532-2315
Sunday Bible Class: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Class: 7 p.m.
Minister Darrell Decker

Covenant Assembly of God
400 Coronado, 620-532-2115
Sunday: 10 a.m.
Wednesday: 7 p.m.
Pastor Raymond Baseleous

Kingman Christian Church
501 N. Main, 620-532-2331
Sunday School: 9 a.m.
Sunday Service: 10 a.m.
Pastor Kelly Jayne

First Baptist Church
200 E. C Ave., 620-532-3797
kingmanchurch.org
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Michael Stephens

Cornerstone Fellowship Church
1620 S. Main, 620-532-5990
www.kingmanmennonite.org
Sunday Service: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 11 a.m.
Youth Group: 6:30 p.m.
Pastor David Roth

First Presbyterian Church
201 E. D Ave., 620-532-2491
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.
Rev. Dawn Flippin

New Beginnings Fellowship
201 N Main
Sunday Service 10:30 am
Pastor Rick Moore

St. Patrick Catholic Church
638 W. D Ave.,
620-532-5440
www.stpatskingman.org
Saturday Mass: 5 p.m.
Sunday Masses, 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.
Father Andrew Walsh

MURDOCK
United Methodist Church
2455 SE Murdock Ave., 6
20-680-1686

Services: 9:15 a.m.
Rev. Angela DeVore

MT. VERNON
St. Rose Catholic Church
4813 NE 150th Ave.
Saturday Mass: 4:30 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.
Father Dan Duling

NASHVILLE
St. John Lutheran Church
515 S Gregory St.,
620-246-5220
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Divine Services, 8:30 a.m.

NORWICH
Norwich Christian Church
339 S. Main, 620-478-2677
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Worship 9:30 a.m.
Pastor Eric Taylor

Church of Christ
106 Fairfield, 620-478-2819
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Church: 10:30 a.m.

First Baptist Church
243 Briarwood,
620-478-2258
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Worship Service, 11 a.m.
Pastor Eric Taylor

Norwich Methodist Church
623 E. Burns, 620-478-2322
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Worship: 9:05 a.m.
Pastor Cathy Holley

PENALOSA
Church of Christ
112 S. Spruce, Penalosa
620-532-2684

Methodist Church
(620) 532-2334
Service: 9:15 a.m.

ST. LEO
St. Leo Catholic Church
8035 SW 160th Ave.,
620-246-5370
Sunday: 8:30 a.m.
Father Daryl Befort

WATERLOO
St. Louis Catholic Church
9800 NE 20 St.
Sunday Mass: 8:30 a.m.
Father Dan Duling

WILLOWDALE
St. Peter Catholic Church
P. O. Box 86 620-243-5451
Saturday: 8:30 a.m.
Father Daryl Befort

ZENDA
St. John Catholic Church
109 N. Ada, 620-243-5451
Sunday: 10 a.m.
Father Daryl Befort

Zenda Methodist Church
101 N. Main, Zenda, KS
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
Sunday School: Children:
8:30 a.m./Adult: 10 a.m.
Lay Pastor J. L. Nichols
620-243-6953

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Kingman Drug Store, 211 N. Main, 532-5113
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Mollie's Attic, 213 N. Main, 532-5561

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White's Foodliner, 858 E. D Ave., 532-3851
Jason and Stephanie Jump Family
Main Street Golf, 140 N. Main, 491-0547

KID SCOOP

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

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Kid Scoop Together
Delicious Doubles

Draw lines to connect each matching cupcake pair.



Standards Link: Reading: Follow simple, written directions.

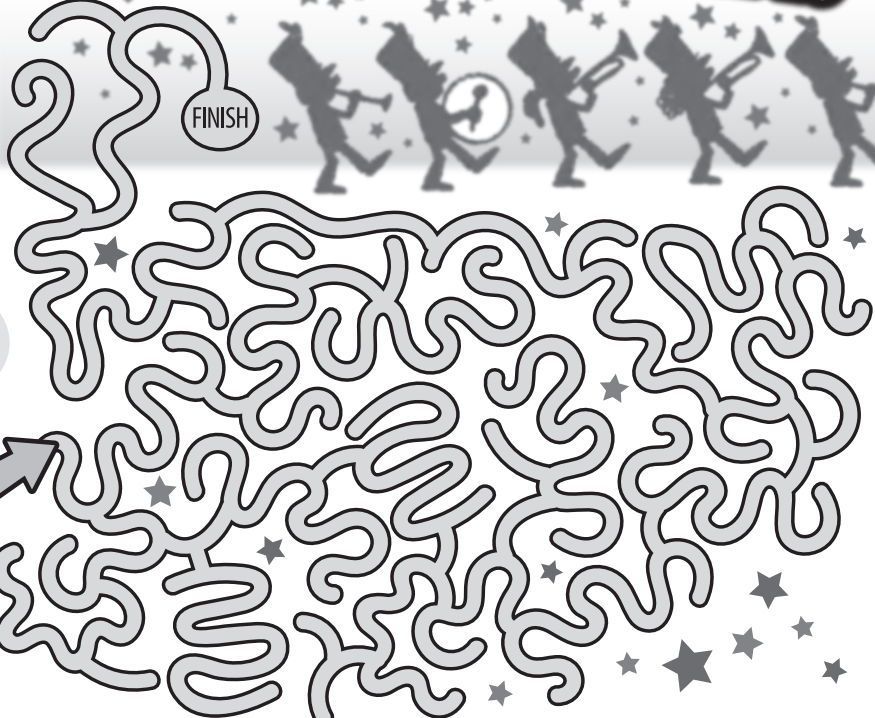
A M E R I C A 2 5 0

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!

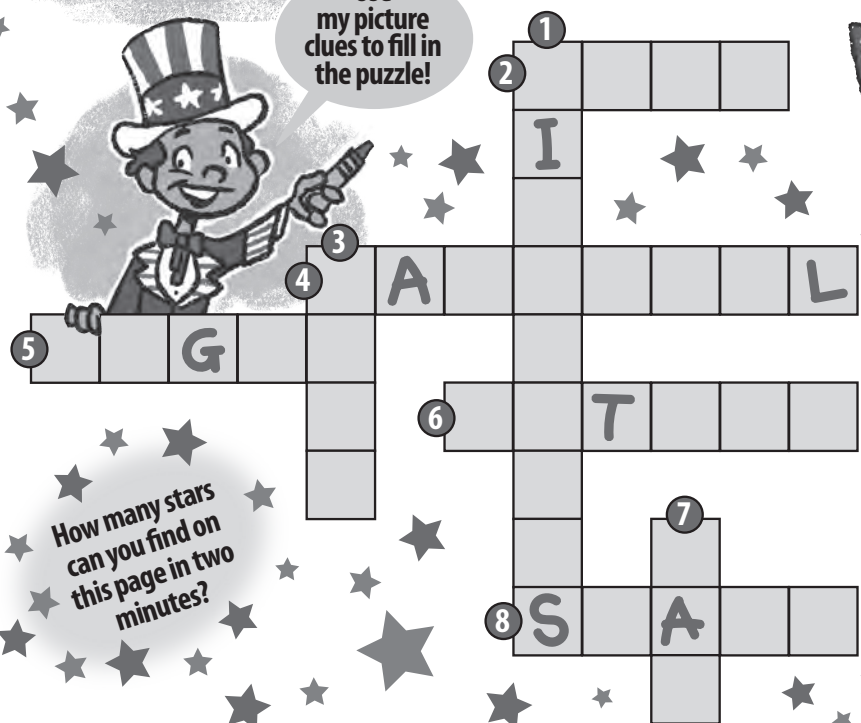


July 4, 2026, marks 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Grab your red, white and blue crayons and celebrate with today's Kid Scoop page!

Yikes! Help me catch up with the parade!



Use my picture clues to fill in the puzzle!



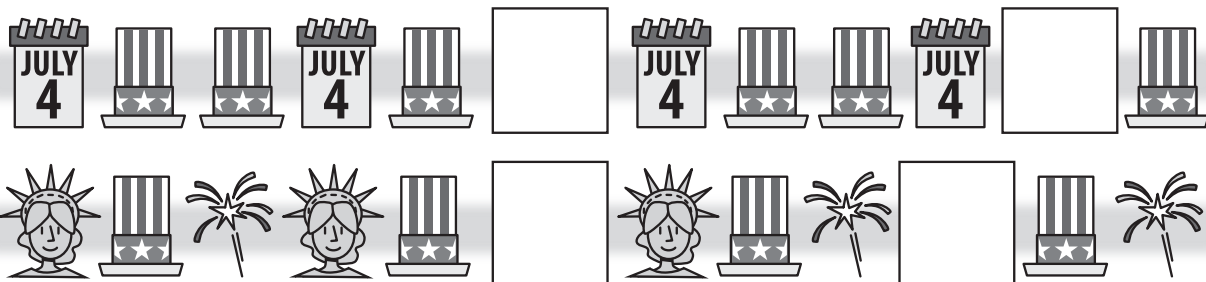
How many stars can you find on this page in two minutes?

Extra! Extra! Freedom Finder

Set a timer for four minutes. Circle all the words or pictures in the newspaper that describe what you like about the United States. Reset the timer and have a friend or parent look for more. Who found the most words?

Standards Link: Reading: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Patriotic Pattern Draw the missing symbol in each row to continue the pattern. Have a friend check your work.



Standards Link: Math: Recognize continuous repeating patterns.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

There were 13 stars on the first American flag. Can you find 13 stars here?



Standards Link: Reading: Follow simple, written instructions.

Double Double Word Search

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

AMERICA
BIRTHDAY
BLUE
EAGLE
FOUR
FREEDOM
FRIEND
JULY
LIKE
PAGE
PARADE
RED
ROW
SYMBOL
WHITE
WHO

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

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

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kidscoop.com/activity-pages/

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: PATRIOTIC
 The adjective **patriotic** means showing pride or respect for your country.

Our high school band played **patriotic** music before the big fireworks show.

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

American Celebration

Look through the newspaper for articles and pictures about the different ways people are celebrating America's 250th birthday. Clip the articles and photos and save them to look at again on America's 275th birthday!

Standards Link: Reading: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Which U.S. state has the best grades?

ANSWER: Alabama. It has four four A's and one B.

Write On! Freedom

What does freedom mean to you? Write about it. Share what you write with your family members.

You juggle a lot in your world.

I know life can be a balancing act.
 That's why I'm here to help you protect what matters most, your todays and tomorrows. **Contact me today.**

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DOCKET

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

KINGMAN CITY POLICE BLOTTER *By Officer Kyle Mandeville*

Sunday, June 21

Traffic Stops 1
 Burglary 300 Blk N Main St
 Suspicious Person 700 Blk W Sherman Ave
 Suspicious Person 300 Blk W C Ave
 Agency Assist (Theft) 15500 NE 50 St, Cheney
 Agency Assist 100 Blk N Spruce St
 Traffic Accident E Hwy 42 and S Robbins Rd
 Medical Assist 1100 Blk E Hwy 54
 Disturbance 200 Blk E F Ave

Monday, June 22

Traffic Stops 2
 Suspicious Person 100 Blk S Main St
 Suspicious Person N Main St and E D Ave
 Suspicious Person 300 Blk E A Ave
 Traffic Accident N Cedar and W Sherman
 Vehicle Unlock 300 Blk E D Ave
 Found Property 400 Blk E D Ave
 Domestic Disturbance 100 Blk N Spruce St

Theft 1100 Blk N Main St
 Return Property 300 Blk E B Ave

Tuesday, June 23

Traffic Stops 1
 Suspicious Person 200 Blk W G Ave
 911 Hang-Up 1100 Blk E D Ave
 911 Hang-Up 400 Blk N Coronado St
 Animal Complaint 2000 Blk N Koch Industrial
 Animal Complaint 300 Blk W Sherman Ave

Wednesday, June 24

Traffic Stops 3
 Disabled Vehicle 1200 Blk E Hwy 54
 Suspicious Person 600 Blk E D Ave
 Medical Assist 300 Blk E D Ave
 Animal Complaint Riverside Park
 911 Hang-Up 300 Blk W C Ave

Thursday, June 25

Traffic Stops 2
 Suicidal Subject 200 Blk W B Ave

Friday, June 26

Traffic Stops 6
 Harassment 200 Blk E Fourth Ave
 Harassment 200 Blk E D Ave
 Domestic Disturbance 1000 Blk N Spruce St
 Assault 1200 Blk E Hwy 54
 Animal Complaint N Broadway and W A Ave
 Animal Complaint W A Ave and N Main St
 Bar Check Taphouse 54

Saturday, June 27

Traffic Stops 1
 Suspicious Person 200 Blk W E Ave
 Disturbance 200 Blk W Copeland Ave
 Disturbance 200 Blk N Main St
 Warrant Service 200 Blk E F Ave
 Bar Check Taphouse 54

KINGMAN COUNTY SHERIFF BLOTTER

Sunday, June 21

Animal Complaint 14000 Blk NE 10 St, Cheney
 Traffic Complaint N Hwy 11 & NW 50, Kingman
 Theft/Recovered 15000 Blk BE 50 St, Cheney
 Injury Accident E Hwy 42 & S Robbins, Norwich
 Disabled Vehicle 15000 Blk NE 10 St, Cheney

Monday, June 22

Miscellaneous 120 N Spruce St, Kingman
 Agency Assist/KMPD N Cedar & W Sherman, Kingman
 Check Vehicle NW 50 & W Hwy 54, Kingman
 Warrant Service 120 N Spruce St, Kingman

Tuesday, June 23

Traffic Stops 1
 Civil Paper Service 4
 Traffic Complaint E Bluff St & NE 80, Kingman
 Accidental 911 Dial 500 Blk SW 150 St, Spivey
 Non-Injury Accident 300 W Central Ave, Nashville
 Weather Watch SW 170 & SW 80 St, Nashville

Animal Complaint NW 170 & NW 20, Cunningham

Wednesday, June 24

Traffic Stops 6
 Civil Paper Service 10
 Theft 120 N Spruce Street, Kingman
 Disabled Vehicle 5000 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
 Transport Inmate 120 N Spruce Street, Kingman
 Disabled Vehicle 3000 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman
 Animal Complaint SE 10 St & SE 60 Ave, Murdock

Thursday, June 25

Traffic Stops 2
 Court/Inmate 130 North Spruce St, Kingman
 Injury Accident 4000 Blk S Hwy 14, Kingman
 Fire/Residential 200 Blk E 1st St, Cunningham
 Non-Injury Accident 4500 SW 170 Ave, Cunningham
 Miscellaneous 5800 Blk NE 140 Ave, Cheney
 Agency Assist/KHP 16000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney

Friday, June 26

Traffic Stops 1
 Disabled Vehicle 11000 Blk SE 60 St, Murdock
 Suspicious Vehicle NE 35 St & NE 40, Kingman
 Animal Complaint 210 S Main St, Spivey
 Miscellaneous 1200 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
 Recovered Property 120 N Spruce St, Kingman

Saturday, June 27

Traffic Stops 3
 Traffic Complaint NE 30 St & NE 150 Ave, Cheney
 Fraud 12000 Blk SE 40 St, Murdock
 Follow Up 1100 Blk E Hwy 42, Rago
 Traffic Complaint 12000 Blk S Hwy 14, Rago
 Agency Assist/KMPD 200 Blk W Copeland, Kingman
 Warrant Service/Arrest 200 Blk E F Ave, Kingman
 Traffic Complaint 6000 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
 Miscellaneous 400 Blk E Leiter, Cunningham
 Miscellaneous 100 Blk E Sherman, Kingman

KINGMAN COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

Judge Roseanna Mathis

Thursday, June 2

2026: State of Kansas vs. Mitchell D. Bowen, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Marilynn S. Thiel, first appearance.

2025: State of Kansas vs. Jacob William Gillespie III, hearing.

2025: State of Kansas vs. Jacob William Gillespie III, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Casey Jordan Williams, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. John D. Smalling, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. John D. Smalling, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. John D. Smalling, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Terry Lee Headgepath, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Joseph R. I. Greathouse, arraignment.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Joseph R. I. Greathouse, arraignment.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Hailey Rose Evans, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Paul Wesley Stranger II, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Steele Kinte Blackmon, diversion.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Robert Lee Barajas, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Oscar Albertio Valdez Rodriguez, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Ezekiel E. Childers, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Ashley Daniela Hayes Vargas, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Keaton Michael Lee Clark, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Anthony G. Marino, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Samuel Rivera Hernandez, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Michael L. Rice, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Joel Dean Eilert, bench trial.

KINGMAN COUNTY ACCIDENTS

May 15: The Kingman County sheriff's department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which Megan Elizabeth Ann Green, 27, of Murdock was driving a 2014 Ford Explorer eastbound on SE 20th Street when, about half a mile south of SE 150th Avenue, she struck a deer that came out of the ditch. Green was not injured.

May 17: The Kingman County sheriff's department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which Ismael Jose Carrasco, 19, of Pratt was driving a 2015 Toyota Avalon eastbound on U.S. Highway 54/400 when, about one mile west of NE 150th Avenue, she struck a deer that came out of the ditch. Carrasco was not injured.

June 10: The Kingman County sheriff's department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which Carol Faye Voran, 71, of Kingman was driving a 2023 Chevy Blazer eastbound on SE 70th Street when, about two-tenths of a mile east of SE 50th Avenue, she struck a deer that came out of the south ditch. Voran was not injured.

June 15: The Kingman County sheriff's department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which Mariah Michelle Klusener, 33, of Manhattan was driving a 2014 Subaru Legacy westbound on U.S. Highway 54/400 when, about half a mile east of SW 90th Avenue, she struck a deer that ran into the roadway. Klusener was not injured.

June 20: The Kingman County sheriff's department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which Sarah Nicole Mack, 43, of Cunningham was driving a 2024 Nissan Altima eastbound on NW 50th Street when, just west of NW 90th Avenue, she struck a deer that came from the north ditch. Mack was not injured.

June 23: The Kingman County sheriff's department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which John Wesley Poindexter, 77, of Nashville was driving a 2016 Hyundai Sonata eastbound on Kansas Highway 42 when, about two-tenths of a mile west of SW 180th Avenue, he struck a deer that came from the north ditch. Poindexter was not injured.

KINGMAN COUNTY JAIL BOOKINGS

June 23: Edgar Cesar Meza Lopez, 45, housed for Kiowa County, served five days, released to Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

June 23: James Colton Perkins, 24, housed for Kiowa County, served five days.

June 24: Jared Cole Griffin, 38, housed for Kiowa County, released to

Kiowa County deputies.

June 24: Jonathan Michael Ford, 41, criminal trespass and violation of protection order, \$15,000 OR bond.

June 24: Clinton Harold Davis, 43, failure to appear, bond reinstated and court-ordered release.

June 26: Kenedy Mugisha, 27, served last 60 hours of five-day sanc-

tion.

June 26: John Allen Grey, 51, housed for Kiowa County.

June 27: Kaydence Olivia Dent, 22, violation of protection order, released on OR bond.

June 27: William Austin Horn, 31, failure to appear (Harvey County warrant), \$500 bond.

PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, June 18, 2026) 3t

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-R-18

A RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO K.S.A. 19-3602, PROPOSING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FIRE DISTRICT WITHIN KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS HEREIN REFERRED TO AS THE "RURAL FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1."

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners has received a request from (the 4 townships) to establish a fire district pursuant to K.S.A. 19-3601, et. al.

WHEREAS, the city of Spivey, Kansas, an incorporated City of the Third Class, has requested to disband a City owned fire depaiiment and join a proposed Rural Fire District No. 1.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the powers established in K.S.A. 19-3602, the Board desires to establish a fire district encompassing the following areas:

Richland Township, Kingman County, KS Chikaskia Township, Kingman County, KS Valley Township, Kingman County, KS Belmont Township, Kingman County, KS City of Spivey, KS

WHEREAS, a request for inclusion into a new fire district was approved by Richland Township on April 24, 2026;

WHEREAS, a request for inclusion into a new fire district was approved by Chikaskia Township on April 27, 2026;

WHEREAS, a request for inclusion into a new fire district was approved by Valley Township on April 22, 2026;

WHEREAS, a request for inclusion into a new fire district was approved by Belmont Township on April 21, 2026;

WHEREAS, a request for inclusion into a new fire district was approved by the City of Spivey, Kansas on June 12, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD

OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS that:

1) The Board proposes a fire district be established encompassing the townships of Richland, Chikaskia, Valley, Belmont and the City of Spivey, all in Kingman County, Kansas.

2) The fire district shall be known as the Rural Fire District No. 1 and the Board of County Commissioners shall initially be the governing body of the fire district, pending frnther action.

3) This Resolution shall be published once a week, for three (3) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the area of the proposed district or official county newspaper. A map of the proposed district is incorporated into this resolution by reference and is available for public viewing at the Kingman County Clerk's Office. final publication.

4) There shall be a public hearing on the proposed Rural Fire District No. 1, on,13 July, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. This hearing will be at least 10 days after the final publication paper. Adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Kingman County, Kansas this 15th day of June 2026.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
 KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

Julie Lyon, Chairperson and Commissioner

Jack Thimesch, Commissioner

Jeff Young, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Carol D. Noblit,
 County Clerk

New Traffic Law Takes Effect

PRESS RELEASE

Construction season is in full swing, and there are some new changes that the Kansas Department of Transportation wants drivers to be aware of on Kansas roads this summer.

Senate Bill 366, which Governor Laura Kelly signed into law this spring, will go into effect on July 1. This law prohibits handheld mobile device use in active construction and school zones.

"Active" means in school zones when a reduced speed limit is enforced, and in construction zones while workers are present and signs are posted at the beginning of the road construction zone alerting drivers to such workers. Devices are still allowed to be used in hands-free mode.

Removing the distraction of handheld devices in school and construction zones is an effort to improve safety in locations where vehicles and pedestrians or construction workers are brought into close contact with one another.

Law enforcement officers shall issue warning citations to anyone violating this law beginning July 1 and continuing until June 30, 2027, after which time traffic citations will be issued with a fine of \$60.

SPORTS

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



BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

Top Eagles: Andersen, Helm Named Senior Athletes of Year

Gabe Andersen and Taylor Helm were named the Kingman senior athletes of the year for the Kingman High School Class of 2026. Andersen played football and track for four years, receiving all-league and all-district honors as a junior and senior in football. He also played basketball this past season and was in wrestling for one year. Andersen will attend Sterling College and play for the football team there. Helm was a four-year starter on the Kingman softball team, received multiple all-league and all-state honors and set school records in softball for career wins, strikeouts and RBIs. She also played volleyball and basketball for four years, receiving all-league and all-state honors in basketball as a senior. Helm will attend Barton County Community College and will play for that college's softball team. LEFT: Andersen is pictured with Kingman head football coach Tanner Hageman. RIGHT: Helm is pictured with Kingman head softball coach Ashley Podschun.

KHS Tennis Camp Draws Many Children of All Ages

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

New Kingman head girl's tennis coach Hannah Pearce had between 40 and 45 kids who attended a tennis camp last week — a number Pearce was thrilled to see.

"It was incredibly exciting," Pearce said "I was surprised by how many kids attended, and it was encouraging to see so much enthusiasm and interest in tennis."

The campers ranged from those in kindergarten to those who will be a senior in high school. Pearce said it was good to make connections in particular with those she worked with in past camps. She had previously helped out at camps that past tennis coaches held.

"Many of the younger campers started with little to no experience, and it was so much fun watching them

grow and improve every day," Pearce said.

Pearce got help from her mother Amy, her sister Mary and fellow KMHS teacher Micah Dehning, because so many kids came out for this year's camp.

"It was amazing, and I'm so thankful to have such a supportive group as I step into leading the high school girls' tennis program," Pearce said.

She added that she hopes the kids get out and play as much tennis as they can, plus that they will continue to grow as players both in the summer camps and the KHS tennis program itself.

"I'm excited for the upcoming season," Pearce said. "I believe all of our returning players attended tennis camp, and I think this team has a lot of potential. I'm looking forward to seeing what we can accomplish together."



BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

Kingman head girl's tennis coach Hannah Pearce shows participants in last week's tennis camp the proper techniques for playing the sport. She had at least 40 kids of all ages who attended the camp, which the head coach said surprised her but found it encouraging to see so much interest in tennis.



BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

The Kingman tennis camp held last week at the high school drew a lot of participants, who all got to learn about the sport and what's involved.

Kingman Islanders Drop Three Games Entering Final Month of Play

STAFF REPORT

The Kingman Islanders enter July with a 2-16 record, having lost a doubleheader at Hutchinson last Saturday and a single game against the Performance Factory Phenoms of Wichita Monday.

In the first game against the Hutchinson Monarchs, the Islanders lost 12-6. The Islanders had seven hits and four errors while the Monarchs had 15 hits and one error.

It was a scoreless game through three innings before the Monarchs scored four runs in the fourth. Kingman came back to tie the game 6-6 in the sixth inning, before

Hutchinson pulled away for good in the seventh with six runs.

Ramon Corona was 3-for-4 with two runs batted in and a solo home run to lead off the fourth inning. Zack Moore had a solo home run in the bottom of the sixth. Jack Jewell had a double in the third inning.

Lane Bledsoe gave up four runs off seven hits in four inning with four walks and four strikeouts. Jake Bumgardner pitched two-and-two-thirds innings and gave up eight runs, seven earned, off eight hits with three walks and two strikeouts. Julian Morrison got the final out in the seventh inning.

In the second game against the

Monarchs, the Islanders lost 8-1. Kingman fell behind 4-0 in the first inning and was unable to get back into the game. The Islanders scored their lone run in the second inning.

Kingman had six hits while the Monarchs had seven but it was the Monarchs who got more hits with runners on base.

Owen Schmidt was 2-for-3 and Jesus Yanez, Mak Lerma, Zack Moore and Mitchel McDaniel each went 1-for-3.

Ethan Reese gave up six runs off four hits in three innings with three walks and four strikeouts. Logan Snyder gave up two runs off

three hits in three innings with four walks.

Against the Phenoms, the Islanders lost 11-7. Kingman had 11 hits while the Phenoms had six but four errors didn't help the Islanders. The Phenoms had three but the Islanders couldn't capitalize when they had runners on base.

Jack Jewell was 2-for-3 with a double and two RBIs, Karston Wall was 2-for-3, Owen Schmidt was 3-for-4 with one RBI and Mak Lerma was 2-for-6 with two RBIs.

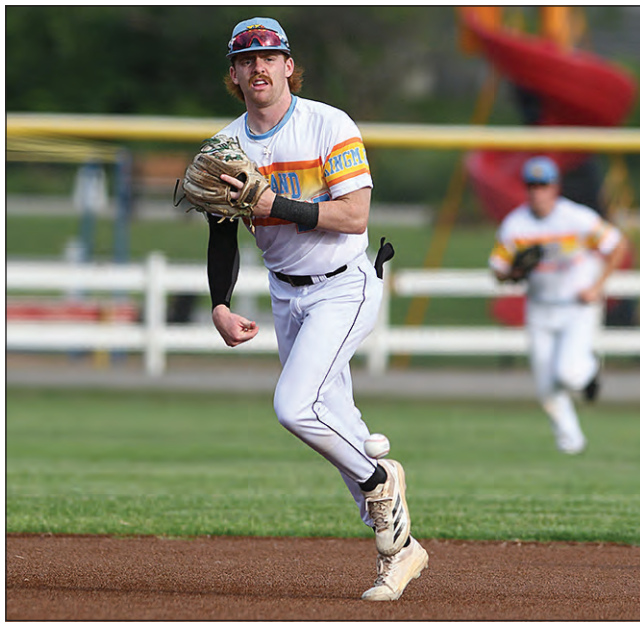
Julian Morrison pitched four-and-two-third innings and gave up four runs, three earned, off two hits with four walks and two strikeouts.

Drew Stanton pitched two-and-one-third innings and gave up two runs off one hit with two walks. Caydon Holly pitched one inning and gave up five runs off one hit with six walks. Jack Schreiner pitched one inning and gave up two hits with one strikeout.

The Islanders were scheduled to face the Phenoms in Wichita Wednesday. They were then set to head to Great Bend Thursday to play the Bat Cats, who then came to Kingman on Friday for a game. This Monday, the Islanders host the Junction City Brigade, then head to Junction City to play the Brigade again this Tuesday.

KINGMAN ISLANDERS

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



NEWS

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

Grant Sought for Fire Department Air Packs

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

Kingman Fire Chief Shae Brooks updated the Kingman County commissioners Monday about a grant application for funding toward the purchase of air packs for all fire departments in the county.

Brooks is applying for an Assistant to Firefighters Grant through the Federal Emergency Management Agency, with assistance from Hometown Grants.

The grant would be for 49 SCBA air packs, six three-section cylinder racks, one cascade system, 143 cylinders and 65 SCBA face masks.

Brooks explained that, when applying for the grant, FEMA will automatically add an airpack mask and two tanks, but she asked for additional equipment so all firefighters will have their own air pack. She added that a couple of departments were concerned about running out of cylinders while on scene, so she added extra.

Brooks said there won't be any costs for training because she will find some people to help her with that.

The total amount of the equipment is estimated to cost \$727,463.12, with \$692,822.02 sought in grant money and the county putting up a match of \$34,641.10.

County Commissioner Jack Thimesch said he appreciated Brooks putting so much time into this, along with Christy Crews of Hometown Grants. He noted that this will benefit all fire departments in the county.



STEPHANIE JUMP / Leader-Courier

Local Training: Kingman Firefighters Work on Extrication

Kingman fire department members gathered at Drosselmeyer Towing Saturday morning for extrication training. Extrication is a process that fire and rescue crews complete if people are involved in a vehicle crash and are trapped in the vehicle as a result. Girls who attended the Future Female Firefighter Camp this past weekend got to observe and they received training from Derby firefighters.

State Department of Agriculture Accepting Photo Contest Entries

PRESS RELEASE

MANHATTAN — The beauty of Kansas agriculture can't be captured by a camera, but people are encouraged to try in the annual Kansas Department of Agriculture Photo Contest. KDA is now accepting photo entries, and will continue accepting entries through Aug. 16.

This year's KDA Photo Contest categories were selected to celebrate the hard work that happens all year

long in Kansas agriculture by recognizing the seasons: Spring into the Fields, Life in the Summer, Fall on the Farm, and Winter at Work. These categories allow people to showcase Kansas agriculture in many ways — from spring planting through fall harvest, from the intense heat of summer to the bitter cold of winter.

As always, there is a separate Youth division, for young

See **PHOTO** / Page 9

PARK

• From Page 1

park risk management plan. He said it would be similar to a foul ball hit during a baseball game and hitting a car, but the odds of damage to a car from a disc would be "probably pretty low."

City commissioner Mark Arensdorf said that the park board had a special meeting Tuesday to consider the proposal and was in favor of it.

In other business, the commissioners discussed Champlin Park, for which previous discussion had been to possibly turn it into an "art park," to include moving the airplane sculpture and locating the Glenn Stark statues to Champlin Park.

City Manager Dan Knoell said that the proposal had been presented to the park board but the board didn't take any action. However, he said, from the discus-

sion the park board had, it seemed like it was a "no go" from them.

Arensdorf clarified that the park board is more concerned with Main Street Park and Riverside Park at this point, so at the time the Champlin Park proposal came up, there wasn't much support.

Also at the meeting, city resident Dale Enyart discuss the proposed visitors center during public comment. He said that technology would provide a better way to give visitors information.

Enyart said that the city website could be updated to make sure information about lodging, dining and attractions is current, that the city could promote its app and that signage throughout town would help.

"The things that aren't necessarily going to cost us a lot of money, I think we ought to be looking at those too," Enyart said.

LEGAL NOTICE

(First published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, June 25, 2026) 3t

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
CARSON T. WILLISIE,

Case No. KM 2026 PR 17

Deceased.
(Petition Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

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 Martha Janette Kitchens Willisie, an heir of Carson T. Willisie, deceased, praying:

Descent be determined of the following described real estate, situated in Kingman County, Kansas:

Lots 238, 240, 242 and 244 on Main Street North, in North Addition to the City of Kingman, Kingman County, Kansas AND

All that part of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter (NW/4 SW/4) of Section Thirty-two (32), Township Twenty-seven (27) South, Range Seven (7) West of the 6th P.M., Kingman County, Kansas, that lies and is situated East of Main Street North, in the City of Kingman, Kansas, as shown by the recorded plat thereof, and West of Lots 238, 240, 242 and 244 on Main Street North, North Addition to the City of Kingman, Kansas, as shown by the recorded plat thereof and more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest corner of Lot 238, Main

Street North, in North Addition to the City of Kingman, Kansas; thence West on the extended South line of Lot 238 Main Street in North Addition to the City of Kingman to the East line of Main Street, as condemned and laid out by Ordinance No. 125 of the City of Kingman, Kansas; thence North adjacent to the East side of Main Street as aforesaid to the extended North line of Lot 244, Main Street in North Addition to the City of Kingman, Kansas; thence East to Northwest corner of Lot 244 Main Street in North Addition to Kingman, Kansas, as shown by the recorded plat thereof; thence South on the West line of said Lots 244, 242, 240 and 238 to the place of beginning.

and all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by decedent at the time of death. And that such property and all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by the decedent at the time of death be assigned pursuant to the laws of intestate succession.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before July 20, 2026 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. in the city of Kingman, in Kingman County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Martha Janette Kitchens Willisie
Petitioner

BY: Matthew W. Ricke
349 N. Main, PO Box 113
Kingman, KS 67068
(620) 532-3103
Attorney for Petitioner

PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, June 18, 2026) 3t

Millsap & Singer, LLC
8900 Indian Creek Parkway, Suite 180
Overland Park, KS 66210
(913) 339-9132
(913) 339-9045 (fax)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF Kingman County, KANSAS CIVIL DEPARTMENT

Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Plaintiff,

vs.
Cynthia Lea Ann Miller, Isaac Miller, Jane Doe, John Doe, and Kansas Housing Resources Corporation, et al.,
Defendants

Case No. KM-2026-CV-000017

Court No.
Title to Real Estate Involved
Pursuant to K.S.A. §60

NOTICE OF SUIT

STATE OF KANSAS to the above named Defendants and The Unknown Heirs, executors, devisees, trustees, creditors, and assigns of any deceased defendants; the unknown spouses of any defendants; the unknown officers, successors, trustees, creditors and assigns of any defendants that are existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; the unknown executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns of any defendants that are or were partners or in partnership; and the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendants that are minors or are under any legal disability and all other

person who are or may be concerned:

You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in the District Court of Kingman County, Kansas by Freedom Mortgage Corporation, praying to foreclose a mortgage on the following described real estate:

LOT THIRTY-ONE (31) EXCEPTING THE EAST TEN FEET (E10') THEREOF; ALL OF LOT THIRTY-THREE (33) AND LOT THIRTY-FIVE (35) EXCEPTING THE WEST TWELVE AND ONE-HALF FEET (W12 1/2') THEREOF, ALL ON AVENUE "B" WEST IN THE ORIGINAL TOWN OF KINGMAN, KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS. Parcel ID No. 048-103-05-0-20-17-009-00-0. Commonly known as 245 W B Ave, Kingman, KS 67068 ("the Property") MS 225389

and all those defendants who have not otherwise been served are required to plead to the Petition on or before July 29, 2026 in the District Court of Kingman County, Kansas. If you fail to plead, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the request of plaintiff.

MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC

By:
Dwayne A. Duncan, #27533
dduncan@msfirm.com
612 Spirit Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63005
(636) 537-0110
(636) 537-0067 (fax)

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF
MS 225389.452750 KJFC

MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

LEGAL NOTICE

(First published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, July 2, 2026) 3t

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
SANDRA K. CUTLER, Deceased.

CASE NO. KM-2026-PR-18
Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:
You are hereby notified that on June 29, 2026, a Petition for Issuance of Letters of Administration was filed in this Court by Mike Cutler.

All creditors of the decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within the latter of four months from the date of first publication of notice under K.S.A. 59-2236 and amendments thereto, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, 30 days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Mike Cutler, Petitioner

Matthew W. Ricke
Ricke & Ritcha Law Office
349 N. Main, PO Box 113
Kingman, KS 67068
Attorney for Petitioner

THANK YOU TO OUR WEEKLY ADVERTISERS, SUBSCRIBERS AND PATRONS FOR MAKING LOCAL NEWS POSSIBLE.

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

PHOTO

• From Page 8

photographers age 18 and under. A video category will welcome drone footage, harvest videos or other short clips of under 30 seconds that showcase Kansas

agriculture. Prizes will be awarded to the top two winners in each of the six categories.

KDA serves to advocate for agriculture, the state's largest industry and economic driver. Photos which best capture the categories

will be used throughout the year as we tell the story of Kansas agriculture. After submission, KDA is granted permission to use any photograph for publications, social media, websites, displays, etc. without payment or other consideration from

the photographer.

Photo entries should be sent in .jpg format to KDA. PhotoContest@ks.gov. Videos should be sent in .mp4 or .mov format. Entries must include a title and brief description, where and when the photo/video was tak-

en, the photographer's full name and age, entry category, hometown and email address.

Guidelines for the KDA Photo Contest, including deadlines, categories and prizes, can be found at [test. Voting to select finalists will begin on KDA's social media sites in mid-August.](http://agriculture.ks.gov/PhotoCon-</p>
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For more information, contact Heather Lansdowne, KDA director of communications, at Heather.Lansdowne@ks.gov or (785) 564-6706.

PUBLIC NOTICE - PRIMARY ELECTION NOTICE

(First published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, June 18, 2026) 3t

PRIMARY ELECTION NOTICE STATE OF KANSAS COUNTY OF KINGMAN

I, Carol D Noblit, County Election Officer of Kingman County, Kansas, do hereby certify that in accordance with the petitions and declarations of intentions to become candidates on file in the County Clerk's Office, that the following named persons for the respective offices as indicated below are entitled to a place on the official ballot in the Primary Election to be held on the 4th day of August, 2026.

REPUBLICAN TICKET:

NATIONAL OFFICES

UNITED STATES SENATE:

ROGER MARSHALL, 1420 NW 10th Ave, ST. JOHN, 67576

POND NARAMORE, 1339 MAPLE LN, LAWRENCE, 66044

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 4TH DISTRICT:

FRANK A. MCCOLLUM, 465 W RD, FALL RIVER, 67047

RON ESTES, P.O. Box 782952, WICHITA, 67278

STATE OFFICES

FOR GOVERNOR/ LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR:

STACY L ROGERS/ MICHAEL W. SMITH, 3801 W 13th ST, WICHITA, 67203

PHILIP SARNECKI/ JOY EAKINS, PO BOX 12081, OVERLAND PARK, 66282

VICKI SCHMIDT/ JOE NEWLAND, PO BOX 3801, TOPEKA, 66604

SCOTT SCHWAB/ KEN RAHJES, PO BOX 2818, OLATHE, 66063

TY MASTERSON/ JEFFREY KLEMP, 1539 PHYLLIS LN, ANDOVER, 67002

CHARLOTTE O'HARA/ MICHELLE DOMBROSKY, 15712 WINDSOR ST, OVERLAND PARK, 66224

NICK REINECKER/ KATY REINECKER, 504 S MAPLE, INMAN, 67546

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE:

PAT PROCTOR, 624 KICKAPOO ST, LEAVENWORTH, 66048

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL:

KRIS KOBACH, P.O. Box 155, LECOMPTON, 66050

FOR STATE TREASURER:

STEVEN JOHNSON, 10197 S HOPKINS ROAD, ASSARIA, 67416

FOR COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE:

DANIEL HAWKINS, 9406 W HARVEST LN, WICHITA, 67212

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 114TH DISTRICT:

KEVIN D. SCHWERTFEGER, 34918 WEST SILVER LK RD, TURON, 67583

FOR MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, 7TH DISTRICT:

ALANA MCWILLIAMS, 601 N MAPLE ST, ABILENE, 67410

COUNTY OFFICES

FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER 1ST DISTRICT:

BONNIE KOPPER, 580 NE 120 AVE, MURDOCK, 67111

MICHELE KYLE, 136 N BRIARWOOD, NORWICH, 67118

RENEE ELPERS, 15371 NE 50TH ST, CHENEY, 67025

TOWNSHIP OFFICES:

ALLEN TOWNSHIP CLERK:

THEODORE HALL, 16155 SE 110 St., Norwich, 67118

BELMONT TOWNSHIP CLERK: NO FILINGS

BENNETT TOWNSHIP CLERK:

K. TODD TURNER, 13216 SE 160 St., Norwich 67118

CANTON TOWNSHIP CLERK:

TIM ALLENDER, 13565 SE 90th Ave, Spivey, 67142

CHIKASKIA TOWNSHIP CLERK:

KEVIN MILLER, 5896 W ST RD 42, Spivey, 67142

DALE TOWNSHIP CLERK:

JAMIE FLUSCHE, 8496 SE 20th St., Murdock, 67111

JOHN E PEARSON IV, 4516 SE 60 Ave., Murdock, 67111

DRESDEN TOWNSHIP CLERK: NO FILINGS

EAGLE TOWNSHIP CLERK:

JAMES F. COON, 6254 SE 60 Ave, Murdock, 67111

EUREKA TOWNSHIP CLERK: NO FILINGS

EVAN TOWNSHIP CLERK:

MATTHEW HAUKAP, 15242 NE 30th, Cheney, 67025

GALESBURG TOWNSHIP CLERK:

DAVID LAMPE, 7337 NE 40 St, Kingman, 67068

HOOSIER TOWNSHIP CLERK: NO FILINGS

KINGMAN TOWNSHIP CLERK: NO FILINGS

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP CLERK: NO FILINGS

NINNESCAH TOWNSHIP CLERK:

MIKE ROWLEY, 4550 SE 10 St., Kingman, 67068

PETERS TOWNSHIP CLERK: NO FILINGS

RICHLAND TOWNSHIP CLERK:

RYAN MILLER, 3749 SE 70 St., Kingman, 67068

ROCHESTER TOWNSHIP CLERK: NO FILINGS

RURAL TOWNSHIP CLERK:

BOB RENNER, 5089 SW 170 Ave., Cunningham, 67035

UNION TOWNSHIP CLERK: NO FILINGS

VALLEY TOWNSHIP CLERK: NO FILINGS

VINITA TOWNSHIP CLERK: NO FILINGS

WHITE TOWNSHIP CLERK: NO FILINGS

PRECINCT OFFICES

COMMITTEEWOMEN AND COMMITTEEMEN

ALLEN COMMITTEEMAN:

THOMAS D. KOSTNER, 11597 SE 60 St, Murdock, 67111

ALLEN COMMITTEEWOMAN:

SHARON L. KOSTNER, 11597 SE 60 St, Murdock, 67111

BELMONT COMMITTEEMAN & COMMITTEEWOMAN:

NO FILINGS

BENNETT COMMITTEEMAN:

DOUG BATES, 11710 SE 150th St, Norwich, 67118

BENNETT COMMITTEEWOMAN:

MICOLI BATES, 11710 SE 150th St, Norwich, 67118

CANTON COMMITTEEMAN & COMMITTEEWOMAN:

NO FILINGS

CHIKASKIA COMMITTEEMAN:

MATTHEW W. RICKE, 3386 SW 150 St., Spivey, 67142

CHIKASKIA COMMITTEEWOMAN: NO FILINGS

DALE COMMITTEEMAN: NO FILINGS

DALE COMMITTEEWOMAN:

JAMIE NICHOLS, 3244 SE 70 Ave., Murdock, KS 67111

DRESDEN COMMITTEEMAN:

RUSSELL SMITH, 13138 NW 20 St., Cunningham, 67035

DRESDEN COMMITTEEWOMAN: NO FILINGS

EAGLE COMMITTEEMAN NO FILINGS

EAGLE COMMITTEEWOMAN: NO FILINGS

EUREKA COMMITTEEMAN & COMMITTEEWOMAN: NO

FILINGS

EVAN COMMITTEEMAN:

CHRIS SALES, 15853 NE 50 St., Cheney, 67025

EVAN COMMITTEEWOMAN:

SARAH SALES, 15853 NE 50 St., Cheney, 67025

GALESBURG COMMITTEEMAN:

MARK BECKER, 9693 NE 10th St, Murdock, 67111

KACEY SMARSH, 8800 NE 30th St., Murdock, KS 67111

GALESBURG COMMITTEEWOMAN:

DIANA MCDANIEL, 5408 NE 50 Ave., Kingman, 67068

HOOSIER COMMITTEEMAN:

STANLEY ZIEGLER, 865 NW 10 Ave, Kingman, 67068

HOOSIER COMMITTEEWOMAN:

JULIE ZIEGLER, 865 NW 10 Ave, Kingman, 67068

TRISH DEDAMOS, 1685 NW 10 AVE, Kingman, 67068

KINGMAN COMMITTEEMAN:

BRANDEN BOCK, 14862 SW 110th St, Nashville, 67112

KINGMAN COMMITTEEWOMAN:

ABBY BOCK, 14862 SW 110th St, Nashville, 67112

LIBERTY COMMITTEEMAN & COMMITTEEWOMAN: NO

FILINGS

NINNESCAH COMMITTEEMAN:

TAD E. HACKER, 827 W A Ave, Kingman, 67068

DOUGLAS RICHARDSON, 2174 SE 40 St, Kingman,

67068

NINNESCAH COMMITTEEWOMAN:

JAMIE SMITH, 915 W A Ave., Kingman, KS 67068

PETERS COMMITTEEMAN:

GREG MOLITOR, 9517 SW 80 Ave, Spivey, 67142

PETERS COMMITTEEWOMAN: NO FILINGS

RICHLAND COMMITTEEMAN:

RYAN MILLER, 3749 SE 70 St, Kingman, 67068

RICHLAND COMMITTEEWOMAN:

HEATHER MILLER, 3749 SE 70 St, Kingman, 67068

ROCHESTER COMMITTEEMAN & COMMITTEEWOMAN: NO

FILINGS

RURAL COMMITTEEMAN:

ERIC RUCKLE, 17679 SW 10 St, Cunningham, 67035

RURAL COMMITTEEWOMAN:

JACKIE RUCKLE, 17679 SW 10 St, Cunningham, 67035

UNION COMMITTEEMAN:

DAVID HARBERT, 550 SW 90 Ave, Cunningham, 67035

UNION COMMITTEEWOMAN:

VICKI HARBERT, 550 SW 90 Ave, Cunningham, 67035

VALLEY COMMITTEEMAN:

MARK STEFFEN, 14461 SE 10 Ave, Rago, 67142

VALLEY COMMITTEEWOMAN:

DEANNA STEFFEN, 14461 SE 10 Ave, Rago, 67142

VINITA COMMITTEEMAN:

LEON SOWERS, 13103 SE 40 St, Murdock, 67111

VINITA COMMITTEEWOMAN:

CARMEN SOWERS, 13103 SE 40 St, Murdock, 67111

WHITE COMMITTEEMAN:

MIKE SWIGART, 1848 E US HWY 54, Kingman, 67068

WHITE COMMITTEEWOMAN: NO FILINGS

1ST WARD COMMITTEEMAN: NO FILINGS

1st WARD COMMITTEEWOMAN:

TERI SCHMITZ, 411 East Grant, Kingman, 67068

2ND WARD COMMITTEEMAN:

IRA M. HART, 241 W F Ave, Kingman, 67068

2ND WARD COMMITTEEWOMAN:

JOYCE HART, 241 W F Ave, Kingman, 67068

3RD WARD COMMITTEEMAN:

ERIC ANDERSEN, 343 E C Ave, Kingman, 67068

3RD WARD COMMITTEEWOMAN:

CONNIE S. BESTE, 730 S Main St., Kingman, 67068

4TH WARD COMMITTEEMAN:

TIMOTHY ELLIOTT, 329 N Broadway Ave., Kingman, KS

67068

4TH WARD COMMITTEEWOMAN: NO FILINGS

DEMOCRAT TICKET:

FEDERAL OFFICES

UNITED STATES SENATE:

KEVIN LATZ, 6341 BELINDER AVE, MISSION HILLS, 66208

ERIK MURRAY, P.O. BOX 3032, KANSAS CITY, 66103

SANDY SPIDEL NEUMANN, PO BOX 2159, MISSION, 66201

ANNE PARELKA, PO BOX 25174, OVERLAND PARK, 66225

PATRICK C. SCHMIDT, 303 SW WOODLAWN, TOPEKA, 66606

MICHAEL "MIKE" SOETAERT, 815 N WOODLAWN AVE, APT 127, WELLINGTON, 67152-2837

NOAH TAYLOR, 7130 W MAPLE ST., SUITE 230, BOX 329, WICHITA, 67209

DAMON ANDERSON, P.O. BOX 860010, SHAWNEE, 66226

CHRISTY DAVIS, 715 1st ST, COTTONWOOD FALLS, 66845

ADAM HAMILTON, PO BOX 6, STILWELL, 66208

JASON HART, 302 N PERSHING, WICHITA, 67208

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 4th

DISTRICT:

CHRIS CARMICHAEL, 2634 N BLUESTONE CT, ANDOVER, 67002

COLE EPLEY, 5711 E 45th ST N, BEL AIRE, 67220

RYAN GILBERT, 946 LONG PATH CIR, GODDARD, 67052

KATY TYNDELL, PO BOX 781004, WICHITA, 67207

STATE OFFICES

FOR GOVERNOR/ LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR:

CINDY HOLSCHER/ KC OHAEBOSIM, P.O. BOX 2903, OLATHE, 66063

CURT SKOOG/ JENNIFER BACANI MCKENNEY, P.O. BOX 7053, OVERLAND PARK, 66207

ETHAN CORSON/ RENEE DUXLER, P.O. BOX 4513, OVERLAND PARK, 66204

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE:

JENNIFER DAY, P.O. BOX 104, MISSION, 66202-9810

SAMUEL LANE, 6302 HALLET ST, SHAWNEE, 66216

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL:

CHRIS MANN, 3514 Clinton Pkwy Ste 108, Lawrence, KS 66047

FOR STATE TREASURER:

JUAN C. LUENGO, 14904 S SUMMIT ST, OLATHE, 66062

FOR COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE:

DINAH SYKES, 10227 THEDEN CIR, LENEXA, 66220

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 114th DISTRICT:

ALAN ALBERS, 606 E 1ST ST, CUNNINGHAM, 67035

FOR MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, 7TH

DISTRICT:

NEWS

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

BUDGET

• From Page 1

workbook as that it would allow her to calculate ad valorem (property) taxes and things like that.

The payroll budget included in the sample didn't include overtime. Thimesch said that is an area that the commissioners need to examine closely and get explanations from departments as to why overtime is utilized.

He noted that the sheriff's department accounted for a lot of overtime and it would help to know what the reasons are for so much overtime.

Thimesch also mentioned the sheriff department's previous proposal to add two more deputies and to have

shifts so that a deputy would be on the clock at all times. He said he didn't think the county could afford that expense.

County Commissioner Jeff Young agreed that he didn't see how that could be done. He noted that if the county started down that road, "you can't back up."

Thimesch added that he joined Stegman in going through the pay matrix to come up with numbers that should be fairer to employees, so that everyone gets a similar increase.

Stegman explained that the pay matrix would call for moving the dollar stipend for employee benefits into the payroll and giving a 60 cent an hour raise.

As for department re-

quests, Stegman said she asked each department what it wanted and then examined the requests to see if any capital equipment requests were included.

She noted that some requests departments put in will be covered by money that won't come out of ad valorem taxes. One example was a drug scanner for the sheriff's department, which Stegman said the department intended to use the county's share of money received from the opioid settlement.

But as for other capital requests, Stegman said those might not be paid out of ad valorem taxes, but the county could either use the capital outlay reserves or PILOT money for such requests.

As for outside entities,

Stegman said the county is still waiting to hear from the city of Kingman about the EMS budget, but noted the city is still putting together its budget.

In other cases, Stegman said she looked at what an outside entity requested and then asked them for either their financials or audited figures, so she could see what reserves the entity had.

As an example, Stegman said, Arrowhead West got \$62,350 for the 2026 budget and requested the same amount. Arrowhead West contracts with the county to provide services for adults with developmental disabilities.

Stegman said Arrowhead West had \$4.5 million in cash reserves in 2025 but had \$19

million in expenditures. That meant their reserves over their expenditures came to 21 percent, which means Arrowhead West doesn't have much room to draw into its reserves.

Meanwhile, the Kingman County Council on Aging asked for \$130,000 this year after getting \$100,000 last year, but Stegman said the council has a healthier reserve.

The county also has debt service of about \$4 million but Stegman noted that is going to "walk out the door just in one pen stroke" as the county is paying off in 2027 a bond originally issued for road and bridge work.

In her example, Stegman gave the budgetary authority to spend the "rainy day

reserve" because the county would need to budget that in order to have the authority to spend it. But Stegman said that wasn't something the county had to do.

One thing Stegman noted was that, for the long term, it may be harder to stay within the revenue neutral rate, because that is based on the dollar amount raised. That, in turn, may make it more difficult to do things like raises or cover increasing costs for insurance.

County Clerk Carol Noblit agreed, adding that more property tax exemptions and more mandated expenses will make it harder to budget.

The county commissioners will continue budget discussions at its next meeting this Monday, July 6.

KINGMAN CITY COMMISSION MINUTES June 11 Meeting

Attendance:

Present: Mayor Winsor, Vice Mayor Kaufman, Commissioners Wollen, and Arensdorf were

present. Commissioner McFarland was absent. City Staff consisted of City Manager Knoell, Clerk Bieghler, Attorney Graffman, Chief Lux, Chief Brooks, and Manager Streach.

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

Agenda: The Commission considered the amended agenda. Manager Knoell requested to add a second executive session for non-elected personnel.

•Motion made by Kaufman, seconded by Arensdorf, to approve the amended agenda with the additions. Motion carried 4-0.

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

- 1.Minutes: 5/28/2026
- 2.Bills Payable: \$283,952.67
- 3.May 2026 Financial Statement

•Motion made by Arensdorf, seconded by Kaufman, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Comment: There was no public comment made.

Discussion of Fire-Police Station: Chief Brooks spoke about the location of the 54 & Broadway lot for a fire station and was opposed to the location because there is not any room for expansion or training, no fire hydrant, there are overhead power lines, and she said that the location was in the new proposed flood zone. Chief Brooks would prefer the station to be on one property and stated that not having a training facility negatively impacts the City's ISO rating.

Vice Mayor Kaufman shared that he had the opportunity to attend a fire meeting and spoke with several firefighters who are opposed to the idea of splitting the department between downtown and the Koch Building and, with their input, agrees that the Koch Building is not an ideal location. Mr. Kaufman feels that the City should find a location that can

accommodate both the needs of the fire department and the City and suggested a formal fire station study to determine what those needs are and to search for grant options.

Chief Lux, whose police department is currently located in the Koch Building, shared that the department is happy with the Koch Building, but when they moved in the arrangement was meant to be temporary and no permanent modifications have been made to meet all of the demands of the department. Chief Lux also shared that the department would be happy downtown in the current fire station as well, if there is a solid plan to meet the demands of the department and that the facility would not be worse than the facility that they occupy now. No actions were taken.

Discussion of Chip-Seal Project: Mayor Winsor asked that this item be discussed following the acceptance of a bid for Chip-Seal of Riverside Park and the Cemetery, which took place at the April 23rd meeting. Mayor Winsor lives on a street that was chip sealed last year and is unhappy with the result, sharing that there are copious amounts of loose gravel and is worried that the result would be the same in the park, which could prohibit some play activities like skating.

Manager Knoell reported that the material for the chip-seal has already been delivered and the motion was passed to accept the bid and there really was not much that could be done for this project.

Vice Mayor Kaufman suggested reviewing last year's bid to see if there was a warranty option for last year's project and suggested having the contractor assess the street to see determine if something needs to be done differently before proceeding with this year's park and cemetery project. No action was taken.

Discussion of 101 E D Ave (Miller Building): Vice Mayor Kaufman said that he has heard discussion on whether the City should move the property to the land bank or do something with the property, which is currently a proposed future visitor's

center. Mr. Kaufman would like to see this as an action item at the next meeting on June 25th.

Manager Knoell shared that the TIF Board will be meeting on the 16th to discuss the property and advised that he has spoken with a well-known investor who would like to meet with the commission but cannot make it until the first July meeting. Mr. Knoell asked if the topic can wait until July because the commission will want to hear from the investor. Mayor Winsor shared that she is unavailable for the first meeting in July and asked that the topic be added to the July 23rd meeting. No action was taken.

Airport Taxiway Extension Bid: Matt Jacobs with H.W. Lochner was present and presented bids for the taxiway extension project at the airport. Mr. Jacobs stated that they received five bids and recommend the lowest bid from Screed Tech in the amount of \$1,270,952. Mr. Jacobs shared that the City would use FAA grant funding, which would cover 95% of the cost. Furthermore, the firm would be applying for the Build Kansas Grant, which would cover 95% of the City's 5% FAA match.

• Motion made by Arensdorf, seconded by Kaufman, to approve the bid from Screed Tech in the amount of \$1,270,952 and to allow the city manager to sign and execute necessary grant documents concurrent with the FAA approval. Motion carried 4-0.

737 N Elm Property: The City acquired this lot with a vacant structure previously and Manager Knoell is requesting that the lot be transferred to the Kingman Land Bank.

• Motion made by Wollen, seconded by Arensdorf, to transfer the 737 N Elm St property to the Kingman Land Bank and to authorize the mayor to sign the deed. Motion carried 4-0.

Broadway & 54 Lot: The City acquired this lot a while back with the thought of possibly building a fire station at the location. However, it has been determined that the location may not be best for a fire station and

there was discussion at a previous meeting about moving the lot to the Land Bank if it was not suitable for a fire station.

• Motion made by Kaufman, seconded by Arensdorf, to transfer the empty lot at 54 & Broadway to the Kingman Land Bank and to authorize the mayor to sign the deed. Motion carried 4-0.

Executive Session for Non-Elected Personnel

• Motion made by Wollen, seconded by Winsor, to recess into executive session for ten minutes with the Chief of Police, the City Manager, and the City Attorney to discuss matters related to an employment position with the City pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). Motion carried 4-0.

The meeting recessed at 6:42pm and reconvened at 6:52pm with no action taken.

Executive Session for Non-Elected Personnel

• Motion made by Wollen, seconded by Arensdorf, to recess into executive session for five minutes with the City Manager and the City Attorney to discuss matters related to an employment position with the City pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). Motion carried 4-0.

The meeting recessed at 6:54pm and reconvened at 6:59pm with no action taken.

City Manager's Report: Manager Knoell provide the following updates:

• Working hard on the budget and is getting county information on June 15th. He should have a first draft to the budget committee shortly thereafter.

• Public Works has been busy for the last two weeks and there will be details in their next quarterly report.

• The line crew has been providing mutual aid to Attica and praised staff, who some donated some of their personal time to assist an elderly resident there and delivered one of their personal generators during a prolonged outage.

•The department heads met with Adams Brown, the City's managed IT provider, and we are shooting for a July 10th implementation of the Microsoft conversion and to a kingmans.gov domain.

Commissioner Comments:

Wollen

- Heard from several constituents regarding support of the 54 & Main location to be a visitor's center.

- Aric Hook is in the preliminary stages of exploring the possibility of a disc golf course at Riverside Park on the west end and would like to do some fundraising to cover the estimated cost of \$6,000.

- Shared an essay entitled "Why I Love America" by Julie Wollen.

Arensdorf

- Asked about the B Ave Culvert and whether it will be on the Main St during the July 4th festivities. Manager Knoell said that the project manager is aware of the events and has a plan to work on other areas until after July 4th.

- Looking forward to further discussions about the fire department.

Kaufman

- Despite his intention of having a heavy presence of armed forces to be at the July 4th festivities, he said some plans have fallen through and there will not be as many in attendance. The artillery cannon that was planned to shoot during the festivities has also fallen through.

- Shared that he had an interaction with police officers regarding a minor mechanical violation on his vehicle and praised the officers for their professionalism and politeness.

Winsor

- Asked about the presence of traffic cones on Kansas Ave. Manager Knoell said that there is a sewer issue at the location.

- Has seen chatter on Facebook regarding snakes on the walking path and wondered if the areas needed weeded.

Adjournment:

- Motion made by Arensdorf, seconded by Kaufman, to adjourn the meeting at 7:16pm. Motion carried 4-0.

KINGMAN COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES June 22 Meeting

Chairwoman Lyon called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. June 22, 2026, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse.

Julie Lyon, Chairwoman

Jack Thimesch, Commissioner

Jeff Young, Commissioner

Carol Noblit, County Clerk

Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor

Visitors: Dale Enyart; Bob Morris, Kingman Leader-Courier; Shae Brooks, Kingman Fire Chief; Renee Elpers; Carol Voran; Vicki Mader, Horizons Mental Health; Carrie Nation, Horizons Mental Health. Anita Drake, Council on Aging Administrator, Corey Krehbiel, Council on Aging Board, Carol Voran, Council on Aging Board, Chad Osborn, Council on Aging Board.

Online Visitors: DH; Randall Miller; Caller 1; AS

Staff: LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer; Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director.

Commissioner Young gave the invocation.

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

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

Chairwoman Lyon asked for public comments.

Shae Brooks, Kingman Fire Chief let the Commissioners know that they are submitting the AFG grant application today and would like to be on the agenda for next week for an update on it.

Dale Enyart discussed the GOP Meeting held last Thursday and that the State Board of Education Republican Candidate Alana Williams presented and if you get

a chance to talk with her she is a good candidate for State Board of Education.

8:33 a.m. Vicki Mader, Horizons Mental Health Administrator and Carrie Nation, Horizons Mental Health were in with a quarterly update.

Ms. Mader went through their current budget status for this year.

Ms. Mader and Ms. Nation left the meeting at 8:45 a.m.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk submitted the June 15, 2026, Commission meeting minutes for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to approve June 15, 2026, Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to approve paid vacation leave for a Sheriff department employee. Commissioner Thimesch

seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

8:58 a.m. Anita Drake, Council on Aging Administrator was in with an update on services provided this year.

Ms. Drake let the Commissioners know that legal services provided to individuals is held every 60 days and appointments are required.

Kingman County Council on Aging board members, Corey Krehbiel, Carol Voran and Chad Osborn were in to discuss the budget request for 2027.

Ms. Drake, Mr. Krehbiel, Ms. Voran and Mr. Osborn left the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

9:15 a.m. LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer was in to review budget numbers with the Commissioners.

Ms. Stegman left the meeting at 10:11 a.m.

10:11 a.m. Tiffany Aumiller, Benefits Administrator and

Don Hightower, Airmed were in to discuss the service that was provided this last year.

Commissioners agreed to have Airmed talk with County Employees August 6, 2026.

Mr. Aumiller and Mr. Hightower left the meeting at 10:21 a.m.

10:21 a.m. Danielle Hollingshead, AdamsBrown was in to go over the 2025 County Audit with the County Commissioners.

MOTION: Chairwoman Lyon to approve the 2025 County Audit from AdamsBrown. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Ms. Hollingshead and Ms. Stegman left the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

Commissioner Young discussed that there was a lot of water over county roads and the County put some cones out on some of the roads.

Commissioners discussed

a call and text received from an individual who hadn't paid taxes and will not be in the NRP program any longer.

10:47 a.m. Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in with the Road & Bridge May financial report for the Commissioners to review.

Commissioners discussed water over roads and thanked Charlie and his staff for the work they did closing off roads for safety.

Mr. Arensdorf gave an update to the Commissioners on the Hot Mix Overlay on NE 10th St.

Mr. Arensdorf gave an update on the Windfarm Road Repairs review of bids on July 20, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:26 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

NEWS

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

Whispering Willow Holds Meeting

ORGANIZATION REPORT

The Whispering Willow 4-H Club held our June Meeting at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Twenty-three members were present for the meeting. We are all busy getting our fair exhibits ready. Our club is also busy working out all the fair details. We formed a committee to ask volunteers for the Celebrity Milking Contest. Our club will be having a bake sale at the All-American Family Fest at the Park on July 4th. All the money we raise from the bake sale will be added to the Cookies for College Fund at the County Fair.

Sam Thimesch
Whispering Willow Club Reporter

Norwich Boosters 4-H Club Meets

ORGANIZATION REPORT

The Norwich Boosters 4-H Club had their June meeting on June 28, and it was a really fun day! Instead of meeting in one place, we went on a farm tour and visited three family farms.

First, we went to Allen Farms. Then we visited Turner Farms and Slate Creek Farm. At each farm, we learned about different animals, how they are cared for every day, and how families get them ready to show at the fair. It was fun to see all the hard work that goes into taking care of livestock.

During our meeting, we also talked about Summer Fun, which is coming up on July 11. The Norwich Boosters will join the Norwich 4-H Club from Harper County to have a float in the parade. Club members are asked to wear their 4-H shirts and either ride on the float or walk in the parade.

After the parade, the Norwich Boosters will host a water balloon toss at 9:30 a.m. We will also help sell raffle tickets for the Kingman County Fair Facilities Fund from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. during Summer Fun.

After the meeting was over, everyone enjoyed swimming at the Norwich City Pool and eating snacks together. It was a great way to have fun with our friends before fair time starts.

There will not be a July meeting because everyone will be busy getting ready for the fair. We can't wait to see everyone at the fair!



STEPHANIE JUMP / Leader-Courier

More Flooding: Waters Still High Across County

Rivers and creeks across Kingman County were up and over the banks after even more rainfall added to the already swollen waterways. Parts of Kingman County saw over 20 inches of rain during June, with some areas higher than others. Average rainfall for Kingman County is around four to five inches according to weatherspark.com.



11 Years Ago

Daniel Shea resigned as the executive director of the Kingman County Economic Development Council after accepting a job as the community development director for Abilene. The Kingman Police Department, Kingman County Sheriff's deputies and Kansas Highway Patrol troopers spent a day at Kingman High School running through an array of scenarios and honing their skills for handling emergencies. Two separate fires in Kingman County destroyed a rural home and many acres of unharvested wheat. Nic Lacio, outgoing president of the Kingman Rotary Club, passed the gavel to incoming president Courtney Hardgrave. 2015 Cunningham High School graduate Elijah McAdam received the Lucile Turner Asher scholarship. The Kingman football team had so many players attend a football camp hosted by Sterling College that coach Curtis Albin divided the players into three teams. Former Zenda resident Mary "Tudy" Miller was inducted into the Great Plains USBC Association's Hall of Fame.

35 Years Ago

The Kingman City Commission discussed exploring for an alternative source of drinking water south of Kingman, amid concerns with the city's water supply showing nitrate levels in excess of 10 milligrams per liter. The Rapid Fire band performed during the Fourth of July celebration. Ben and Florence Zogleman of Norwich celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Basketball Plus, a traveling basketball camp, came to Kingman and drew 31 participants. Johnna Gosch, who scored more than 1,000 points while playing for the Norwich girl's basketball team, signed to play college ball at Johnson County Community College. Ryan and Nicolas Cornelius were photographed swimming in a neighbor's backyard pool when temperatures had reached 100 degrees. District Judge Larry Solomon was appointed the Administrative Judge of the 30th Judicial District, which necessitated space for an administrative secretary, a need he discussed with Kingman County Commissioners. John Hundley won the the Kingman Country Club men's championship; it was his fourth straight tournament win.

60 Years Ago

Marshal Ralph Hooker of Carthage, Mo., camped in a grove of trees east of Kingman, heading for Dodge City on the western swing of his four-state Ozark Frontier Trail ride, in which he planned to cover 2,568 miles in two months. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lubbers were set to host David Jal, a foreign exchange student from Israel. Leighton Trickle announced his resignation as the Kingman County Undersheriff, after he took a position as a salesman for the Federal Crop Insurance. Roy Sinner purchased a home at 634 North Main Street from the school district and moved it to the corner of Avenue A and Coronado Street; the school district planned to use the vacated lot for a playground. Bill Wright was honored at a reception as he retired after working 22 years as a custodian for the school district. Member of the 130th Artillery Group attended two weeks of annual field training at Camp Ripley in Minnesota. Hartley Fish Farms was featured on the Harold Ensley Sunday evening TV show. Dr. Emmett Child was named one of two outstanding national chairmen during

the 46th national convention of the United States Jaycees in Detroit.

85 Years Ago

Marvin Wallace, president of Cragun Abstract Company in Kingman, was appointed to a one-year term to the state board of abstracters by Gov. Payne Ratner. Kingman attorney John McKenna was chosen to head the local United Services Organization campaign. Making last minute checks of the roster before bringing in the Kingman unit of the Kansas State Guards were Col. Charles E. Brown, Stanley Reynolds and Arthur Long. Jim Reid, co-owner of the Korner Garage near Basil, received serious burns on his hands, arms and shoulders when his garage was destroyed by fire. Edna Helen Hamilton resigned her position with the Cragun Abstract Company to become the private secretary to B.A. Walsh, who was recently appointed to the state bank commission. The 1941 wheat harvest took another blow after rain forced combines to a halt throughout the county. Kenneth A. Fisher announced that a new Farm Security Administration council would be established in Kingman County.

OPINION

• From Page 3

"I" successfully completed geometry quiz questions with a score of 100/100." Looks great, but even I know that's wrong. A hundred percent, yes, but my score was 10/10. Still awesome, though. I had to use ratios and everything.

It was the online rabbit hole I went down while thinking about Semiquinennial. That's 250, in Latin. That's 250 years that we're celebrating. One quarter of a millennium. A long time ago, we formed a nation. Just a drop in the math buck-

et compared to ancient civilizations, but a pretty good run, so far.

And while pondering all this, I scored 100 percent on my geometry quiz that I didn't know I was going to take. Geo: the earth. Metry: measure. Mom and Dad would be proud to see me using numbers and words at the same time, and not crying about it. Mom, Dad, our families are here because our ancestors, from Ireland and the Azores, came across the Atlantic with hope and faith in the future, in this country. So Felix natalis, America. Happy Semiquinennial to us.

SCKAA MEALS

Please call 620-553-4177 for meal reservations

Monday, July 6: Turkey and pasta ranch salad, stewed tomatoes, five cup fruit salad, milk

Tuesday, July 7: Creamed chicken over biscuit, green beans, orange, pudding, milk

Wednesday, July 8: Cranberry meatballs, garlic

mashed potatoes, corn, banana, cookie, milk

Thursday, July 9: Creamy chicken spaghetti, broccoli, pineapple, roll, cake, milk

Friday, July 10: Beef and green pepper casserole, garden salad, mandarin oranges, garlic bread, Jello, milk

KINGMAN SENIOR CENTER JULY SCHEDULE	KCCOA Board Meeting: July 28 at 1 p.m. Closed July 3 for holiday.
Friendship meals: Every weekday at noon.	
Card Group: Every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon.	
Free Coffee: Each Tuesday and Thursday from 8 to 10 a.m.	
Blood pressure check: July 8 from 11 a.m. to noon.	
Bingo: July 15 from 1 to 2:30 p.m.	
Monthly Commodities: July 14 from 8 to 9 a.m.	
Yellow card commodities: July 22 from 2 to 3 p.m.	
	JULY TRANSPORTATION
	Transportation to Wichita: July 7, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16, 20, 22, 23, 29, 30.
	Transportation to Pratt: July 6.
	Transportation to Hutchinson: July 10.
	Transportation Available: July 14, 17, 21, 24, 27, 28, 31.
	Closed July 3 for holiday.

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HARPER COUNTY'S ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY BASH 250th Celebration 1776-2026 **ANTHONY LAKE**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

★ FRIDAY, JULY 3 RD ★	
9:00am	4th of July Trap Shoot - Register at Anthony Gun Club
10:00am	4th of July Trap Shoot at Anthony Gun Club
8:00-10:00pm	Stars & Stripes Jam - Just Tori & the Rockies
★ SATURDAY, JULY 4 TH ★	
7:30-8:15am	SK Run & 2 Mile Walk - Register at the stage
8:30am	SK Run & 2 Mile Walk starts at the stage
7:30am	Co-ed Sand Volleyball - Register at volleyball pits (\$60 per 6-person team)
8:00am	Co-ed Sand Volleyball Starts at the pits
8:00am	4th of July Trap Shoot - Register at Anthony Gun Club
9:00am	4th of July Trap Shoot at Anthony Gun Club
9:30am-3:00pm	Boat Parade - Signup at the HPCO HEART tent near the stage
9:50am	Bike & Foot Parade - Line up near the stage, no motorized vehicles. Come dressed in your best Red, White and Blue!
10:00am	Stars & Stripes Jam - DJ Keenan with KC Productions will keep the energy high with music all day!
10:00am	Bike & Foot Parade around Campsite A. This is a 5-mile walk, no motorized vehicles
10:30am	Costume Contest - ALL Ages welcome! Come dressed in your best Red, White & Blue!
11:00am	Mindy's Dance Center performance at the stage
12:00pm	Cornhole - Register in Campsite A
1:00pm	Cornhole Tournament Starts
1:00-5:00pm	Bounce Houses: Northeast of the stage
1:00-3:00pm	Watermelon Feed in the stage area until gone!
4:00pm	Boat Parade along east shoreline
5:00pm	DAR Martha Vall Chapter presents The Declaration of Independence
7:30-9:30pm	Stars & Stripes Jam - The Cartunes
9:45pm	Welcome at the stage from the 4th of July Committee
9:50pm	National Anthem at the stage
10:00pm	Fireworks show provided by Victory Pyrotechnics
★ SUNDAY, JULY 5 TH ★	
10:00am	Church service at the Lake stage hosted by Harvest Bible Fellowship
11:00am	Cleanup the lake! Bring your gloves and trash bags!

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- Irvin Putter Pharmacy LLC
- Landon Ward Skidsteer Services
- Peoples Bank & Trust City of Atchica
- RD Paper Company M&S Trucks Inc.

A huge thanks to the committee members and all the volunteers that help make this event happen!

FOOD TRUCKS

- Wale Latta Bakes Honey Run
- Whalers Cookies Piggie Out
- The Squeezee Shop DZ Ice Cream
- Double Diamond Shaved Ice
- Funnel Cakes by Kim Witt

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