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NEWS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email jasonjump@thestarpress.news

OBITUARIES

MICHELLE DEANN HAHN

Michelle Deann (Fry) Hahn, 44, passed away Tuesday, June 9, 2026. She was born in Greensburg on Nov. 28, 1981, to John and Brenda (Salisbury) Fry of Coldwater.

She was the fourth child of Brenda and John.

She grew up in Coldwater and attended Coldwater High School for three years and South Central High School her senior year, graduating in 2000.

Michelle attended Fort Hays State University and graduated with a general studies program in 2004.

After college, Michelle was actively involved in a leadership role for Christian Challenge for college students.

In 2007, she started teaching oral English at SIAS University in China. Later she was the liaison for Sias University and FHSU. She met her future husband, Tom, at SIAS.

Tom and Michelle were married in January 2017 and had their first son Carter, who was born in December of 2017.

They moved to Hong Kong in 2018 where Tom was a golf instructor and Michelle was the homemaker and caregiver for Carter.

Their second son Mateo was born in January of 2021.

Later in 2021, they moved to Alameda, Calif. so Tom could run the family business and be closer to family.

Michelle led a full and loving life and is survived by her husband, Tom Hahn and two sons, Carter and Mateo, of Alameda, Calif.; parents, John and Brenda Fry, of Coldwater; brothers Jonathan (Greta) Fry, of Hays, Brent (Amy) Fry, of Salina and Doug Fry San, of Leandro Calif.; nephews Dylan (Kelee) Fry, Connor Fry, Eric Fry and Braden Fry; niece Alexa (Fry) Gardener (Jacob); grandfather Charles Salisbury; father-in-law, Phillip Hahn; mother-in-law, Sophia Hahn; brother-in-law James (Stephanie) Hahn and their daughter, Kailee; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents Lester Fry Sr., Clarice (McMillen) Fry and June (Killgore) Salisbury and several aunts and uncles.

Funeral service and burial were conducted on Thursday, June 18, by Cypress Lawn Funeral Home Colma, Calif.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, Aug. 1, at 10:30 a.m., at the First Baptist Church, Protection.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the Michelle (Fry) Hahn Education Fund to go to her son's education fund, Michelle (Fry) Hahn Scholarship Fund, or First Baptist Church, Protection Special Missions Fund — please note on memo line which fund you are donating to. All fund sent in care of John and Brenda Fry, PO Box 273, Coldwater KS 67029.



MARGARET JO PATEE

Margaret Jo (Frazier) Patee, 89, passed away Monday, July 6, 2026 at Beaver County Nursing Home in Beaver, Okla.

Born Nov. 27, 1936, in Coldwater, she was the daughter of Carlyle and Lucille (Fish) Frazier.

Margaret Jo grew up in Coldwater and graduated from Coldwater High School in 1955. After graduation, she worked as a telephone operator in Pratt. On Oct. 13, 1956, she married Billy Keith Patee in Greensburg. They lived in Greensburg, prior to moving to Elmwood, Okla. in 1961, and then to Beaver, Okla., where she was an active member of the community for the rest of her life, serving as a Boy Scout Den Mother, Girl Scout Troop Leader and Sunday School and Bible School Teacher, among many other things.

Her family was her greatest joy in life. She was a very involved stay-at-home mom, making sack lunches, sewing costumes, attending concerts and ballgames, and providing her children and grandchildren with love and support in everything they did. She was always proud of her Kansas roots and returned to visit friends and family every chance she could. She was content to have a normal, ordinary life, but she was a solid rock to her family and community. She often said, and it truly fits her time on this earth: "This was fun — I'm glad we did this."

She is survived by son, Billy Patee (Cherri) of Mustang, Okla.; daughters Kelie Grounds (Chris) of Beaver, Okla. and Cara McDonald (Mark) of Beaver, Okla.; 10 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; son-in-law: Larrie Knowles of Lawton, Okla.; sister-in-law, Pat Frazier of Wichita; and numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her husband on Dec. 5, 2009. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents; daughter Dee Ann Knowles; grandson: Landon Knowles; son-in-law Tracy Rutledge; sister, Sue Schultz; and brothers: Denton, Fred and Don Frazier.

Funeral service was held on Monday, July 13, at Hatfield-Prusa Funeral Home, in Coldwater. Burial followed at Crown Hill Cemetery, in Coldwater.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Kids Korral: The Toby Keith Foundation, 818 NE 8th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73104.



PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in The Western Star & Protection Press on Thursday, July 9, 2026) 3t

SCR 1611 Constitutional Amendment

A PROPOSITION to amend sections 5, 8 and 15 of article 3 of the constitution of the state of Kansas; relating to the supreme court; providing for direct election of justices; abolishing the supreme court nominating commission; permitting justices to make contributions to and hold office in a political party or organization and take part in political campaigns.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives concurring therein:

Section 1. The following proposition to amend the constitution of the state of Kansas shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the state for their approval or rejection: Sections 5, 8 and 15 of article 3 of the constitution of the state of Kansas are hereby amended to read as follows:

“§ 5. Selection of justices of the supreme court. The citizens of Kansas who are qualified electors shall elect the justices of the supreme court. The rules applicable for such elections and the designation of position numbers shall be provided by law. Justice positions 1, 2 and 3 shall be elected at the general election in November of 2028, justice positions 4 and 5 in November of 2030 and justice positions 6 and 7 in November of 2032, and every six years thereafter, respectively. Any vacancy occurring on the supreme court for an unexpired term shall be filled by election as provided by law.

(a) Any vacancy occurring in the office of any justice of the supreme court and any position to be open thereon as a result of enlargement of the court, or the retirement or failure of an incumbent to file his declaration of candidacy to succeed himself as hereinafter required, or failure of a justice to be elected to succeed himself, shall be filled by appointment by the governor of one of three persons possessing the qualifications of office who shall be nominated and whose names shall be submitted to the governor by the supreme court nominating commission established as hereinafter provided. (b) In event of the failure of the governor to make the appointment within sixty days from the time the names of the nominees are submitted to him, the chief justice of the supreme court shall make the appointment from such nominees. (c) Each justice of the supreme court appointed pursuant to provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall hold office for an initial term ending on the second Monday in January following the first general election that occurs after the expiration of twelve months in office. Not less than sixty days prior to the holding of the general election next preceding the expiration of his term of office, any justice of the supreme court may file in the office of the secretary of state a declaration of candidacy for election to succeed himself. If a declaration is not so filed, the position held by such justice shall be open from the expiration of his term of office. If such declaration is filed, his name shall be submitted at the next general election to the electors of the state on a separate judicial ballot, without party designation, reading substantially as follows:

—“Shall

(Here insert name of justice.)

(Here insert the title of the court.)

—be retained in office.”

—If a majority of those voting on the question vote against retaining him in office, the position or office which he holds shall be open upon the expiration of his term of office; otherwise he shall, unless removed for cause, remain in office for the regular term of six years from the second Monday in January following such election. At the expiration of each term he shall, unless by law he is compelled to retire, be eligible for retention in office by election in the manner prescribed in this section. (d) A nonpartisan nominating commission whose duty it shall be to nominate and submit to the governor the names of persons for appointment to fill vacancies in the office of any justice of the supreme court is hereby established, and shall be known as the “supreme court nominating commission.” Said commission shall be organized as hereinafter provided. (e) The supreme court nominating commission shall be composed as follows: One member, who shall be chairman, chosen from among their number by the members of the bar who are residents of and licensed in Kansas; one member from each congressional district chosen from among their number by the resident members of the bar in each such district; and one member, who is not a lawyer, from each congressional district, appointed by the governor from among the residents of each such district. (f) The terms of office, the procedure for selection and certification of the members of the commission and provision for their compensation or expenses shall be as provided by the legislature. (g) No member of the supreme court nominating commission shall, while he is a member, hold any other public office by appointment or any official position in a political party or for six months thereafter be eligible for nomination for the office of justice of the supreme court. The commission may act only by the concurrence of a majority of its members.”

“§ 8. Prohibition of political activity by justices and certain judges. No justice of the supreme court who is appointed or retained under the procedure of section 5 of this article, nor any judge of the district court holding office under a nonpartisan method authorized in subsection (a) of section 6 of this article shall directly or indirectly make any contribution to or hold any office in a political party or organization or take part in any political campaign, except when such judge is a candidate for election to a position on an appellate court.”

“§ 15. Removal of justices and judges. Justices of the supreme court may be removed from office by impeachment and conviction as prescribed in article 2 of this constitution. In addition to removal by impeachment and conviction, justices may be retired after appropriate hearing, upon certification to the governor, by the supreme court nominating commission that such justice is so incapacitated as to be unable to perform adequately his duties. Other judges shall be subject to retirement for incapacity, and to discipline, suspension and removal for cause by the supreme court after appropriate hearing.”

Sec. 2. The following statement shall be printed on the ballot with the amendment as a whole:

Explanatory statement. This amendment gives the voters the right to elect the justices of the Kansas supreme court. The justices shall serve terms of six years, with the elections of justice positions 1, 2 and 3 to occur in 2028, positions 4 and 5 to occur in 2030 and positions 6 and 7 to occur in 2032, and every six years thereafter. The rules applicable for such elections and the designation of position numbers shall be provided by law. Any vacancy on the court for an unexpired term shall be filled at an election as provided by law. "A vote for this proposition would give Kansas citizens the right to elect Kansas supreme court justices as provided by law. Justices will hold office for terms of six years. The Kansas supreme court nominating commission, whose membership consists of a majority of lawyers, would be abolished.

"A vote against this proposition would continue the current system in which the Kansas supreme court nominating commission, whose membership consists of a majority of lawyers, provides the governor a list of three individuals to choose from for vacancies on the Kansas supreme court. Justices hold office for a term of six years and retain their offices if they win a retention election in which they do not face an opponent.

Sec. 3. This resolution, if approved by two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives, shall be entered on the journals, together with the yeas and nays. The secretary of state shall cause this resolution to be published as provided by law and shall cause the proposed amendment to be submitted to the electors of the state at a special election, which is hereby called on August 4, 2026, pursuant to section 1 of article 14 of the constitution of the state of Kansas, to be held in conjunction with the primary election held on such date.

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LEGAL NOTICE

(First published in The Western Star & Protection Press on Thursday, July 9, 2026) 3t

In the Sixteenth Judicial District

District Court, Comanche County, Kansas

Probate Department

In the Matter of the Estate of John D. Willbanks, Deceased.

Case No. CM-2026-PR-8

Notice of Hearing

The State of Kansas to All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that on the 26th day of June, 2026, a Petition has been filed in said Court by Betty Jean Willbanks praying for admission of foreign Will to probate and record without administration; and you are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 4th day of August, 2026, at 1:30 o'clock p.m. of said day, in said Court, in the City of Coldwater, in Comanche County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said Petition.

Betty Jean Willbanks, Petitioner

Megan L. McCann

Davis & McCann, P.A.

2300 1st Avenue

Dodge City, KS 67801

Phone: (620) 225-1674

Fax: (620) 227-2770

e-mail: mmccann@dclawfirm.net

Attorneys for Petitioner

Western Star & Protection

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jasonjump@thestarpress.news

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Past Paragraphs

Protection news from earlier times

Compiled by Dave Webb

125 YEARS AGO

Western Star
July 19, 1901

Voices from Valley Twp

J.E. Harbaugh is having an addition built to his house.

J.W. Bratcher and A.C. Ezell were among the many salt haulers Friday.

Mrs. Bud King is wearing a broad smile, all because she has a new well with an abundant supply of good water.

On Thursday of last week while trying to catch a horse, Miss Eva Bratcher had the misfortune to get her wrist burned. She says that she can now sympathize with the cowboys who get their hands burned with a rope. —[Correspondent] “BUTTERFLY.”

Musical treat

The [Methodist] church in Protection was taxed to its utmost seating capacity on last Wednesday evening, the occasion being a musical entertainment given under the direction of Mrs. Maud Meisinger, of that city.

The program was an interesting one from beginning to end. It may be said that every number was a classic, and the excellent manner in which every part was rendered showed that Protection and vicinity have some splendid musical talent.

Furthermore, it was a high tribute to the ability and the skill of Mrs. Meisinger as a singer and as a teacher of vocal music. . . . Everybody conceded that Mrs. Meisinger’s first musical program at Protection was a success.

Mrs. Meisinger expects to organize a class in vocal music at Protection and to continue the vocal musical training of all those who may desire to avail themselves of the opportunity. . . .

Oklahoma land lottery**

Comanche County is furnishing its quota of home seekers in the Kiowa-Comanche [Indian] Reservation. The thought of the possibility—even one chance in ten—of securing a quarter-section of land for about \$214* is an alluring one to many people.

**It’s difficult to know what The Western Star editor meant by this \$214 amount. Articles written later about*

the land lottery said the only fees winners had to pay were filing and commission charges ranging from \$10 to \$25 per quarter-section homestead, that would’ve equaled about \$395 to \$985 today. There was no charge for the land itself.

***The 1901 Kiowa-Comanche Reservation land lottery was a federal land drawing held in July and August 1901 to distribute surplus reservation and tribal lands in southwestern Oklahoma to non-Indian settlers.*

To avoid the violence and chaos of previous Oklahoma “land runs,” the government instituted the lottery system at two designated land offices: El Reno and Lawton.

Then the anticipation of sharing in the novelty and the excitement of another “opening” and of taking some part in the sudden springing into existence, as if by magic, of flourishing towns and populous communities, has an attraction which is hard to resist.

During the past week the following named Comanche County people have joined the procession bound either for El Reno or for Lawton:

H.O. Holderby, Miss Mae Holderby and Jim Holderby started last Friday. The trip was made in a good surrey, and for comfort and convenience of travel they will be in the lead. On the same day H.W., Charley and Miss Flo Chapman started, also by way of the “overland” route.

On Saturday morning, Harve Bratcher, Uncle Peter Wuchter, A.J. Cantrell and Bob Chrisman, of Protection Township, formed a happy and hopeful party of southwardbound travelers.

Likewise, J.G. Leonard, J.H. Wilson and Rice Price, of [Coldwater] left, and Mr. and Mrs. Karl Schwader and Will Schwader, who live southeast of [there]. Mrs. Schwader will visit in Woods County, Oklahoma.

Dr. J.E. Sombart, of Powell Township, and Dan Galloway, of Coldwater Township, also started on Saturday, the former going by rail to El Reno and the latter by the wagon route.

On Sunday a party of Coldwater people pulled anchor and started south

in a well-arranged covered wagon. The party consisted of Albert Huffmaster, John Botts and Misses Anna Huffmaster and Tena Rogers. J.E. Smith and John McCune followed soon after in a buggy.

William Taylor, Dave Taylor and Milo Wright started from Protection Township on Monday. On Wednesday Mr. and Mrs. Burge Harris and Miss Margaret Darroch made the start, and Fred and John Behler and J.M. Bird planned to start. A few more will go next week. J.G. Doig and the Sewell brothers are planning to start next Tuesday, as [railroad] excursion tickets will be on sale at that time.

Up to Tuesday evening 55,128 persons had registered at the El Reno and Lawton [land] offices. It is thought that the total registration will reach 120,000.

In the end, more than 165,000 people registered, flocking to “tent cities” near the registration sites for a chance at 13,000 quarter-section homesteads.

Beginning on July 29, 1901, names were drawn from large, glass-fronted mixing wheels at the El Reno and Lawton land offices.

The lottery ended the era of huge homestead openings in Oklahoma Territory. It also broke agreements signed years earlier by representatives of the Comanche, Kiowa and Plains Apache tribes.

After the lottery, the land left for those tribes had been drastically reduced. Their opposition led to a landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision in 1903: Lone Wolf v. Hitchcock.

Not surprisingly, the tribes lost the case.

100 YEARS AGO

Protection Post
July 15, 1926

4-H Girls’ Sewing Club

The Lower Bluff Creek community organized a Girls’ 4-H Sewing Club, June 25. The members are Marjorie Bonham, Thelma Riney, Faye Bonham, Eleanor Bearly, June Bearly, Velma Teter, Glenda Teter, Cleo Daugherty, Eleanor Baxter, Carrie Schumacher, Imalie and Veryl Shane.

The officers are: president, Marjorie Bonham; vice-president, June Bearly; secretary-treasurer, Thelma Riney; club reporter, Faye Bonham.

Turns truck over

Mr. Damon (“Red”) turned his truck over on the hill west of the Denney schoolhouse last Thursday morning. He is driver for the Williams Oil Company, and was returning from delivering a load of gasoline through his territory.

On the hill, he met a large tourist car traveling at a rapid clip. To avoid a collision, Mr. Damon had to take the side of the road, and because of the slippery road, he slid into the ditch, the truck overturning.

Mr. Damon suffered several bad cuts, and one scalp wound requiring several stitches to close. The truck was badly damaged.

Coming and going

Ernest and Olive Osmon and son, George, of Englewood, visited friends in Protection Saturday evening and Sunday. They were entertained at the home of Harry and Vinna Osborne.

Paul and Alma Webb and children of Arkansas City

drove in Saturday evening, called here by the illness of Mr. Webb’s mother, Mrs. Sarah Webb.

E.G. Lawrence and family left the last of the week for Anderson, Missouri, where they will visit with Mr. Lawrence’s father and other relatives.

Otho and Ada Teter and Miss Beulah Teter made a combined business and pleasure trip to Hugoton and Liberal, Friday.

Dr. Harry E. Scott and family left by motor, Saturday, for Guymon, Oklahoma, on a week’s combined business and pleasure trip. While in the west part of the state, Dr. Scott will look after the leasing of some land he owns there for oil, as oilmen have been trying to lease his land for some time.

Bear with us

Edgar Gray, the POST’s printer, is taking a three-week vacation from his duties at the office of the POST. As he decided to begin his vacation a week earlier than planned, and as Gordon Murray had been on his vacation for the past three weeks, and add to this the fact that Alva Parkinson is vacationing at the home of relatives in Wichita from the Pastime [Theatre—owned by POST publisher W. Clyde Pile], it will easily be seen that the POST family has been a very busy one and they ask your indulgence in oversights and failures during the shortness of help.

75 YEARS AGO

Protection Post
July 13, 1951

Happy birthday

Mrs. Helen Schultz entertained with a party Tuesday in honor of her son Bobby on his 4th birthday in the city park.

Guests were Mrs. Dolores Herd, Stan and Cheryl; Mrs. Zella Shrauner, Carol and Rachel; Mrs. Frances Edmonston and Peggy Sue; Mrs. Delsie Girk and Darrel; Mrs. Leda Jellison and Byron Lee; Mrs. Geraldine Helman and Steve; Mrs. Lucille Bratcher and Stanley; Mrs. Margaret Sangster and Rodney; Mrs. Marjorie Eubank and Gail; Mrs. Fern Eubank, Carolyn and Barbara; Mrs. Mary Overocker and Janice; Mrs. Bernice Hackney and Marsha.

Mrs. Maxine Lehman and Steve; Mrs. Daisy Maris and Mike; Mrs. Doris Anne Leeper, Mac and Dana; Mrs. Vonnie Wymer, Allyn, Gayle and Lynda Faye; Mrs. Alice Baker and Murl Ray; Mrs. Judy Strobel, Susan, Sally and Nancy; Mrs. Ramona Hopkins and Ann.

Rose Marie Cagle, Diana Teter, Peggy and Bucky Morton, David McGee, Sherilyn Herd, Gail and Joan Edmonston, Karen and Carma Easterday, Anita Smith, Mrs. Schultz, and the honored guest, Bobby.

Bobby received many nice gifts. Refreshments of cupcakes, brick ice cream, suckers and Kool-Aid were served, carrying out the patriotic theme. Red, white and blue pinwheels were given as favors.

55 YEARS AGO

Protection Post
July 16, 1971

In a Capsule . . .

By Orin Strobel

This Tuesday, the POST is reviving a custom of having all the children in the area

pose for photographs.

We used to do it every year, but the studio we used went out of business several years back and we just recently made contact with another studio specializing in children’s pictures.

Our primary purpose arranging for these pictures is strictly selfish! As we print several pictures each week, adoring relatives heap much praise upon us, and we are vain enough to enjoy the nice words!

There is no obligation to order prints of the picture you choose for publication in the POST, and nobody is going to twist your arm.

In business here 27 years

Charles and Allene Jones are the owners and operators of Jones Drug Company of Protection.

The Joneses came to Protection the 23rd of July [1944] after purchasing the drugstore in a partnership with Vic Burton and Walter Ashcraft on July 20, 1944.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones then bought out the partnership and became sole owners on January 5, 1953.

[Charles] passed the state board of pharmacy on July 3, 1931, and belongs to the Kansas Pharmaceutical Association and the National Association of Retail Druggists.

Mr. Jones says there are a lot of things we don’t carry, but we feel that Protection is lucky to have a drugstore, as many, many are out of business in small towns.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones take two weeks of vacation each fall and the store must be closed due to laws stating a pharmacist must be there at all times.

Mrs. Irene Maris has worked for the Joneses for the past 12 years and was preceded by her daughters, Pat and Betty.

35 YEARS AGO

Protection Press
July 18, 1991

Good luck, Slade!

Slade Girk of Protection is plenty busy this week—in Beloit. He is working out with 45 other young men who graduated from Kansas high schools in May.

All will compete at Beloit this Saturday night (July 20) in the annual Kansas All-Star Eight-Man Football Game. The event is promoted by the Kansas Eight-Man Football Association. . . .

Slade is 6-2 and weighs 190 pounds. He was an end and a running back last fall for the PHS Panthers. . . .

Comments Kris Jarnagin, football coach of the Panthers:

“Slade was extremely coachable. He played a variety of positions.”

On fire!

About 30 to 40 acres of pastureland was burned on Wednesday evening, July 10. The wind-blown fire occurred on the east pasture of the Walt Christopher farm southeast of Protection. Lightning hit the dry pasture there. The fire started about 7 p.m.

Third annual trail ride

For the third year in succession a trail ride was held Saturday from Lake Coldwater to Protection and back. The event was promoted by the Trails & Pathfinders of Kansas.

Six wagons and 14 riders “took off” from the lake Saturday morning. The

group ate lunch in Protection. Some riders joined the group on the return trip. Many camped overnight at the lake and participated in other activities there.

Ouch!

Jason Holler had tough luck Saturday evening, suffering a painful injury.

He had finished taking part in the area trail ride and was at Lake Coldwater. Jason was tying up a horse, and he got his hand caught in the lead rope.

It resulted in a trip to the Comanche County Hospital in Coldwater. Dr. Donald Goering there referred him on to Dodge City.

The youth underwent surgery that evening to repair shredded tendons on a finger. He was able to return home from the hospital Sunday afternoon.

15 YEARS AGO

Protection Press
July 14, 2011

Susie’s Scribbles

By Susan Edmonston

The fire whistle has been going off frequently. Here’s where the fire trucks went Sunday and Monday:

Lightning struck south of Buttermilk about 5:30 a.m. Sunday on what neighbors call the “Patterson place.”

This was in the area west of K-1 Highway three to five miles south of Buttermilk and three miles west. The fire was extinguished fairly quickly.

At 11:30 a.m. that same day, the fire departments were called back as areas had rekindled. Then later that afternoon, a “dust devil” stirred embers and started more fires nearby. Because the land in that area is grass and CRP ground, the blaze spread quickly. Within eight minutes, the fire traveled a mile.

An unoccupied house and outbuildings owned by Ansel Dickinson were destroyed. Other families whose land or livestock were involved included Woolfolk, Mills, Jellison, Hubbard, Harness, Swayze, Oller, Huck and others.

Nearby neighbors and friends pitched in with water-hauling equipment and labor to assist firefighters from Coldwater, Protection, Ashland, Englewood, Kiowa County, and Freedom, Oklahoma. Barber County was called, but couldn’t send help as its crews were fighting a fire there.

Firefighters cut fences to allow livestock to leave pastures so there were no cattle lost from fire.

KDOT road graders made fire breaks around the fire. Even so, canyons in the area made the blaze hard to control.

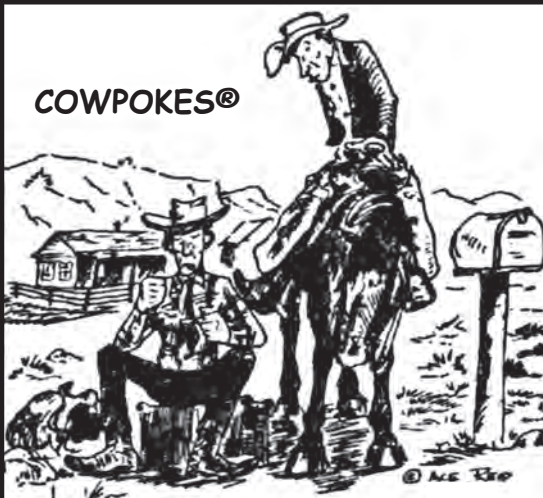
It wasn’t until 4:30 a.m. Monday that workers were able to leave the scene.

Around 8 a.m. that morning the fire had rekindled and firefighters returned throughout Monday afternoon. At last count, an estimated 2,500 acres of land were blackened.

Currently, Protection volunteer firefighters are Brian Harris (fire chief), Mike Brosius (assistant chief), Mark Houghton, Chris McQueen, Chris Jellison, Chris Brosius, Dan Pearce and Jennifer Divoll. Pearce has been on the team the longest. EMT Donna Brosius has gone on many fire runs with her husband Mike. Ed Dowling and Donny Sawyers have served, too.

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FDIC



OPINION

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email jasonjump@thestarpress.news



For those readers who haven't seen my column *Susie's Scribbles* before, I started it in 2001 for the *Protection Press*. My mother, Judy Strobel, had a column in *The Protection Post* named *Judy's Jots* and my father, Orin Strobel, had a column, *In a Capsule*. You will occasionally see their names in Dave Webb's *Past Paragraphs* found elsewhere in this newspaper.

Although I retired from the *Press* June 1, I would like to stay involved with this new newspaper by submitting news every once in a while to the owners, Jason and Stephanie Jump. I do have a dozen feature stories on various Protection businesses and individuals that I will be sending them this summer and fall.

New Baptist Minister

Protection has four churches and three of them have been continuing without having an official pastor. Just recently, contracts were signed for Chris Johnson, of Coldwater, to pastor the Protection Methodist Church and Roddy Arnold, from the Woodward, Okla. area, who moved to pastor the First Baptist Church here.

This week I interviewed Roddy on Monday after I attended his church Sunday to hear his sermon.

Auxiliary Meeting

The Comanche County Hospital Auxiliary had its quarterly meeting on Monday. The women gathered at noon in the hospital's basement. Fifteen of the 23 members were present for the luncheon followed by the business meeting. Ellen Selzer, of Coldwater, is the president. She announced that this year our group wouldn't need to furnish baked goods for the cake walk at the county fair in Coldwater this week.

She also announced that our auxiliary gave \$500 scholarships to three of the South Central High School seniors going to college with intentions of going into the medical field. The recipients were Cami Dunn and Cassidy Lee, of Coldwater and Ana Gardea, of Protection. The auxiliary was able to give scholarships from their knife sales and donations.

Lisa Brooks, of Coldwater, the hospital administrator, updated the group on the progress of the physical therapy addition to

the hospital. She also explained the World Health Transformation's five-year program.

Sandy Dobrinski, of Coldwater, announced the next Red Cross blood drive will be held on Aug. 20, in Coldwater. The quota was made in April with one extra. In June the quota needed one more blood donor.

The Comanche County Health Department has its next lab fair in Coldwater from 7-9 a.m. on July 22. Health nurse Jerri McKnight had 103 attend the last one.

The next auxiliary meeting will be held on Oct. 12.

CMS Annual Meeting

The July 2026 Kansas Country Living magazine reported highlights from its 80th annual meeting. It was held in Protection on May 7. The meal was served to 150. Each year CMS Electric awards six \$1,000 scholarships to students in its service territory. Among them this year were Anna Dale, of Protection, Logann Patterson, of Protection and Cami Dunn, of Coldwater.

Grand prize in the many door prizes was a Blackstone Griddle. It was won by the Alliance Ag co-op in Protection. Paula Bradley, of Protection, won the \$250 energy certificate. The winner of the Kindle Fire drawing was Stetsen Baker, son of Luke and Mac-kenzie Baker, of Protection.

Merlin Moore, of Coldwater, was elected to represent District 3 following the retirement of Keith Randall, of Ashland.

Visitor From England

A pleasant surprise at church this month was the appearance of former Protection resident Julie Bell. Her son, Martyn Howard lives here. After her husband, Billy Bell, died, she returned to England where her sister lives, but she returns annually to visit family here. Julie returns to England the first week of August. Her 86th birthday is later that month.

Riner Cousins Reunion

Coming up this weekend, in Protection, is the Riner cousins reunion. Pat Riner Mitchell – Protection High School class of 1963 – from Wheatland, Wyo., and her sister, Kay Cooper – PHS class of 1957 – from Kansas City, Mo., will be arriving Friday and staying in the Ruth Bratcher townhouse. All day this Saturday is the reunion in the community room at the Protection Library. The Riner cousins plan to have Sunday breakfast and church together.

Also happening on Saturday is the Fun-Fest breakfast fundraiser in the Protection Legion Hall.

Photo Identified

The photo last week in the Star-Press masthead was of patriotic Betty Jo Maris in her late husband's 1960 red Chevy Impala parked in front of the Protection Community Venture grocery store.

Handy Man Big and small jobs welcome 720-474-5232 Coldwater	howell@unitedwireless.com H Howell Insurance Teresa Jellison Hilary Murphy Holly Fast Erin Boggs 620-622-4501 620-635-2297	Red Hills Waste Solutions Justin York, owner-operator Coldwater 316-833-2990 <i>Advertise here!</i> ON FARM TIRE REPAIR Kropf Oil Co. Coldwater 620-582-2391	Moana Rated PG / 115 minutes July 18-19 & 25-26 <i>Sponsored by</i> RED HILLS WASTE JUSTIN & NICOLE YORK Chief Theatre Showtime 8 pm BOTH Saturday and Sunday Box office opens 45 minutes prior to showtime
COMANCHE COUNTY MEDICAL CLINIC Coldwater 620-582-2136 301 South Washington Monday-Friday 9 am-noon 1:30-5 pm	Protection 620-622-4588 463 US Highway 160 Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday 9 am-noon 1-4 pm	Daniel Schowengerdt, MD in Protection Tuesday morning Melanie Dunn, APRN-C in Protection Wednesday morning	<i>Four providers serving the county</i> Carmen Nelson, APRN-C in Protection Wednesday afternoon Ashley Alvarez, APRN-C in Protection Thursday morning
SHATTUCK LAW OFFICE Offices in Ashland and Greensburg Phone 866-635-2331 Email bootes@ucom.net or shattuck@ucom.net Sally Shattuck Attorney Linda Brower Assistant	Monday-Saturday 4-12 midnight <i>Kitchen closes at 10 pm</i> My Brother's House Mark and Jeanette Houghton 311 N B'dway • Protection • 620-622-7352	Finishing Touch FAMILY HAIR CARE Debi 620-253-4396 Beverly 620-546-3204 204 East Main Coldwater Open Tuesday-Saturday	Waiting for your special message!
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Sandhills Veterinary Services Tonia Traas DVM Coldwater 620-582-5393	Peoples Insurance For all your Insurance needs call 620-582-2166 or 800-889-9887 ask for Leasa	Brooks Plumbing & HVAC Taylor Brooks Protection 620-635-5172	COMANCHE COUNTY CONSERVATION Fencing Materials Grass Seed Ordering Grass Drill Rental 201 South New York, Coldwater Mon-Thur 8 am-4 pm 620-582-2211
We're saving this spot for your ad!	COMANCHE PITSTOP Your local source for parts, repairs, and ag needs! 100 S Sherman Street Wilmore, Kansas 620-738-4419	Matt Freund FREUND FABRICATION Welding repair work, fabrication, custom projects Portable welding 316-617-1667 1 mile north of Coldwater on west side of Hwy 183	CROWDIS WATER WELL SERVICE For All Your Water Well Needs Call Tom Crowdis Pratt Office 620-886-0623 Mobile
Ample Electric EST. 2024 Free Estimates Michael Peeler 785-635-7100 Michael@ampleelectricllc.com Licensed & Insured	The Western Star Protection Press	IROQUOIS CENTER FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, INC. C. Lucas Stephens, LCP, LCAC Counselor at Coldwater Satellite Office 207 S. Washington Every Other Thursday for Appointment, call: 620-723-2272	C.S. Slaton & Company Public Accountants ASHLAND 620-635-2299
SAM MOSSHART TRUCKING Hauls CATTLE, HAY, ROCK Sam Mosshart 620-635-6512 AJ Zimmerman 620-518-3194	KAT Construction 601 East First Street PO Box 566 Coldwater KS 67029 Kelsey Thompson 620-582-5336	Bison Merc 704 Main St Ashland 620-635-4063 bisonmerc.com	Fuel Up! at King's Corner 2 Gas, Food, & Beverages Fourth & Central Coldwater
	CMS ELECTRIC <i>Your electric cooperative!</i> Meade 620-873-2184 Coldwater 620-582-2534 After hours 800-794-2353		See...You looked at this tiny type. Folks will look at your ad, too!

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email jasonjump@thestarpress.news

Back in the Older Days

Coldwater news from earlier days
Compiled by Teresa Jones

130 YEARS AGO From July 18, 1896 Star

There have been several good rains in different parts of the county this week. They have been local.

The clouds rolled up from the west Wednesday evening and gave us some more rain. The rain to this vicinity was light to what fell in the southern and western part of the county. There was also a heavier rain-fall on portions of Mule creek, than here.

Corporal punishment in school has passed under a judicial review at Chambersburg, Pa. A boy had kicked a little girl on the play grounds at recess. When the boy was called forward for punishment, he refused to go, and when force was used, he drew a knife upon the teacher.

The latter conquered, however, and gave the lad a thrashing which drew blood. The presiding judge said the boy's act was one of subordination, and that it had to be decided then and there who was the head of the school. In the opinion of the judge the whipping was not too severe. The jury agreed with him, and the cost of the prosecution was placed on the boy's father.

All who will be needing school books, should have their orders at the City Drug Store prior to the 1st of August, and save postage.

It has been rumored that the McCormick Harvester purchased by me, James M. Williams, from Mr. Von Schritztz, required 5 horses to pull it when in operation, which is not true.

I never used at any time more than 3 horses. I also cut 160 acres of heavy corn without a break and then by my own carelessness. To all contemplating buying a Harvester, I can say the machine will do all that is claimed for it. I cut altogether 250 acres of corn and kaffir corn and the machine gave satisfaction.

120 YEARS AGO From July 13, 1906 Star

Cool nights for July.

No drouth prospects now.

The storm on Monday evening put a great many of the telephones out of commission for a while. Lightning "knocked out" nearly a dozen phones and "disabled" two country lines during the rain storm early yesterday morning.

Another good rain fell early yesterday morning. It was quite general all over the county.

The vicinity of Coldwater was visited between six and seven o'clock on Monday evening by a very severe rain and hail storm. A strong wind blew from the northwest. The rainfall was quite heavy.

Hail as large as quails' eggs fell thick and fast for about 20 minutes. Considerable damage was done to the growing corn and to fruit. Trees were nearly stripped of their leaves.

Fortunately, however, but little electricity accompanied the storm and, as far as reported, there was no loss from that source.

About town many windows were broken by the hail. The worst of the hail storm was confined to a strip only a few miles wide. Protection and vicinity had a good rainfall, but no hail nor strong wind.

Plenty of moisture now and it begins to look like a bumper corn crop.

An amusement company, the same one which was in

Ashland on the Fourth, will visit Coldwater on Friday and Saturday of next week.

A balloon ascension is advertised for each day. A merry-go-round and a few other attractions will be here.

It is expected that large crowds will visit the city on those days. It will be a splendid opportunity to see a good balloon ascension. Plan to come.

The amount of work a boy puts into baseball would raise a lot of potatoes for him to eat.

110 YEARS AGO From July 14, 1916 Star

This week the STAR begins the publication of news items taken from the issue of the paper of just 25 years ago. They appear under the heading, "Twenty-five Years Ago in Comanche-co." We feel sure that these items will be read with much interest by our readers, especially those who lived here 25 years ago.

On Sunday evening, July 23, an "Anti-Cigarette" meeting will be held in the court house grove.

The meeting will be educational in nature. Addresses will be made by the local physicians, and others. Geo. S. Silsby will have charge of the singing.

The men are expected to furnish the program. Everybody is invited to attend this meeting and hear this important subject discussed.

Sunday, August 13, is the date for the opening of the Coldwater Chautauqua this year. That's four weeks from next Sunday.

A good rain would be very acceptable to the farmers just now.

Will A. Gordon arrived in this city on last Sunday and on Monday morning began work as a printer in the STAR office. Robert M. Moser, who had worked in this office for nine months, is now working in the *Talisman* office.

Seventy persons, practically all of them harvest hands, boarded the train for eastern points yesterday morning.

The Coldwater Union Gospel Team will hold a meeting at the New Home school house on Sunday, July 23, beginning at 3:30 p.m.

100 YEARS AGO From July 16, 1926 Star

The Coldwater Band will give a concert at the flag pole in this city on Friday evening this week. The concert by the senior band will be preceded by a few selections played by the junior band.

One of the pleasing features of the program which will be presented in this city next Friday, when the Wheat Special Train visits Coldwater, will be a number of specialties put on by the Happy Jack Jenks Players.

The Wheat Window Committee will call on every business man in Coldwater Monday to get the sanction of each and every business concern in Coldwater to reserve one window or more for a wheat display window, July 23, for the benefit of the Wheat Special and all concerned in the community.

Let's everyone get behind this and make it a day to be remembered in Coldwater by showing the right spirit of appreciation for what the Santa Fe [Railway], K.S.A.C. [now Kansas State University] and others are doing for the betterment of our farming communities.

When the old school

building was built [at the south edge of] Coldwater, 37 years ago, a round column of dressed stone was built in at the southwest corner of the building.

At the base of the column was placed a sealed tin box, in which had been placed a number of articles, historical and otherwise, of the school and of the town.

It has been suggested that the stone column be allowed to remain in its present position, and completed in the form of a monument of the old building. It stands about 50 feet south of the new building.

There has been no complaint about dry weather in Comanche-co. during the past ten days. Good rains have fallen at brief intervals during this week, which, following the rains of last week, have thoroughly saturated the ground.

Wheat harvest has been interfered with considerably. However, the ground has been put in fine condition for plowing, and spring crops have been greatly benefited. Everybody would now like to have a week or two of sunshine.

90 YEARS AGO From July 17, 1936 Star

Last week, four flood lights were installed at the municipal swimming pool in the interest of safety. The pool is now well illuminated. The tennis courts have been leveled and the iron supports for the backstops will be installed soon. Additional sidewalks have also been completed near the pool.

The Coldwater baseball team will play the Paruna, Okla., team here next Sunday, the 19th, at 2:30 p.m. it is announced.

It is announced that the Champlin punkin ball [softball] team will play the Coldwater Advertisers, Friday night and the Mullinville team will play the Advertisers here Monday night.

The hottest weather of the season reached this county this week. On Tuesday the temperature went to 108 degrees in the shade, and on Wednesday the torrid blast of the sun brought thermometers in Coldwater up to 110. Thursday seemed to be fully as hot.

There has not been a general rain in this county since before harvest and the spring crops are beginning to suffer. In a few fields where the crops are small, the plants have died.

The continued drouth is beginning to take on a serious aspect, as our cattlemen and the farmers will be "up against it" if they do not raise any spring crops. And there will be very little spring crops harvested unless rain falls within a few weeks in this county.

The withering heat has made practically all gardens a thing of the past. And no rain or heat relief is in sight!

80 YEARS AGO From July 19, 1946 Star

The Coldwater ball team's trip to Ashland Sunday, was not a fruitless one due to the fact that Coldwater won by a score of 9 to 4.

The Comanche County boys garnered 13 hits off Bill Grimes' pitching, three of them being good for three bases. Fraser and Wallace, who divided the hurling duties for Coldwater, kept Ashland's six hits well scattered.

Greensburg did Coldwater a good turn by knocking

Sun City out of the unbeaten column when they beat them 10 to 6 Sunday afternoon.

The local team has a home game against Protection next Sunday afternoon, July 21, at the rodeo grounds.

The Broce Construction Co. is now spreading oil on U.S. 160 from Lake City west and they advise motorists to go to Medicine Lodge via Belvidere, rather than drive through the oil.

The temperature in Coldwater last Sunday and again on Monday was 106, and on Wednesday the mercury in the government thermometer went up to 107.5.

A passing shower Monday night left .07 inch of moisture in this city, but it soon disappeared. The ground is getting very dry except in an area south of Protection, where the sub-soil is still wet. But in 60 days the summer will be over and folks will be longing for the friendly warmth of the sun.

Last Sunday was a very still day in Coldwater, that is, all except in one spot. Mr. and Mrs. Junior Cline were loafing about in their home in the southeastern part of this city last Sunday afternoon when a little breeze came into their house.

They thought nothing of it until they saw several neighbors running into their yard. To their surprise, Mr. and Mrs. Cline found that a whirlwind which came up, though the sky was clear, had sufficient force to upset a small chicken house and completely demolish an attached calf shed. It took four men to right the chicken house, but the whirlwind upset it in less than one second.

70 YEARS AGO From July 13, 1956 Star

High winds and a lot of dust preceded .40 inch of rain last Thursday evening. Friday produced more high winds but less dust and some tornado warnings for north central Kansas. Several were sighted but none caused serious damage.

Early Tuesday morning it started raining and cleared up about noon, with a total of 1.26 inches in town but heavy rains of up to 4 inches and high water were reported south and east of town. There was some hail, too.

Total moisture recorded by weatherman Vernon Pepper totals 3.66 inches since the first of July. Many fields of feed had to be replanted the second and third time.

The Standard Oil Co. wishes to announce that Archie Shepard has replaced Vern Davis as agent for this area. Mr. Davis is now with the Feaster Trucking Service. We thank our customers for past patronage and hope to continue to serve you through our new agent, Archie Shepard.

June 17 poses a triple birthday treat in Mr. and Mrs. Chester F. Purkey's family in Wichita, since three of their four boys have birthdays that day.

Mrs. Purkey decided three cakes are just too much so she bakes only one, letting each boy place his own candles on the single cake.

Putting the candles in place are Harold Ward, to turn 9 Sunday; Chester Jr. will be 13; and James Marvin will be 15. The fourth boy, Steven Leon, is the birthday renegade of the quartet. He celebrates on March 23. He is 7.

The Purkey boys are grandsons of Marvin Downing of Wilmore.

60 YEARS AGO From July 14, 1966 Star

Ford Motor Company and their dealers throughout the United States are sponsoring a Safe Driving Incentive Program. The company's local dealer, Coldwater Motor Co., is assisting in the program. Official rules and entry blanks are available now at Coldwater Motor Co.

Top prizes are: Fifteen Mustang hardtops, 15 Mercury Caliente hardtops and 3,200 other valuable awards.

The contest is open to licensed drivers under 25 years of age. The purpose of the contest is to encourage and reward safe driving for young Americans.

At a City Council meeting, it has been decided to change the swimming pool hours. The hours will be: Tuesday – Saturday, 10 – 12 a.m.; 1:30 – 7 p.m.; Sunday, 2 – 7 p.m.; closed Monday.

The pool may be rented for private parties any evening except Monday. The rental will be \$20.00 for 40 people with general admission charges for any number over 40. Contact the pool manager, Donald G. Booth.

Farmers in this area are invited to attend a tractor demonstration near Kiowa on Tuesday, July 19, as announced by Coldwater's Massey-Ferguson dealer, B.J. Herd. The event will begin at 10 a.m. and lunch will be served on the grounds.

Barbara McKinney, daughter of Harold and Mary Alice McKinney, rural Coldwater, operates the control board for a student broadcast on KMUW-FM, the educational station of Wichita State University.

Barbara attended the high school speech institute held by WSU's speech department and received a trophy for achievement in the drama class.

Applications for deer hunting permits for the 1966 Kansas deer season will be available from county clerks, game protection, and regular license vendors July 15, according to Bonnie Parcel, County Clerk.

Bill Peabody, big game project leader for the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission, noted that the firearms deer permits will be issued on a "first come-first served basis. There will be no limit on the number of archery deer permits issued.

50 YEARS AGO From July 15, 1976 Star

Robert Klinzman, patrol operator, began work on Saturday of last week on the construction of the spillway over the center of the earthen dam at Coldwater Lake, southwest of Coldwater. It will be 100 feet wide, five feet thick and several hundred feet long.

Present area of the lake is 25 acres compared to 250 when filled. General Contractor is Maupin Construction, Inc., of Manhattan.

The contract calls for completion within 245 calendar days with time allowed for bad weather. Crews and machines are being moved in daily and work will begin in earnest by the end of this week. Spectators are not encouraged and must stay out of restricted areas. Your cooperation is earnestly requested.

Permanent black and white pictures, taken by THE WESTERN STAR, of Coldwater's Bicentennial parade, individuals, Buttermilk Saddle Club Play Day, etc., are now available at the

Western Light & Telephone office. You may place your orders there.

Subscribers may order the pictures published in THE WESTERN STAR as a complete package at the special reduced price of \$1.25 each for an order of 20 or more. Individual prints are \$1.50 each, size 4½ x 5½. Other sizes: 5½ x 7 and 8½ x 11 are also available of any print at \$2.00 or \$3.35 each.

The Girls Softball teams closed out the season Monday night with a loss in the tournament at Protection.

Chris Allen has coached the high school girls team and Cindy Turley has coached the younger girls team with assistance from Leslie Turley.

The Boys League baseball tournament will be held here from July 19 through 23. The schedule is not yet available but our younger boys teams will be playing on Monday evening.

Powell Heide received the Honorary State Farmer Degree, the highest degree Kansas can bestow on an individual. The degree was conferred upon him Thursday evening, June 10th at the 48th Annual Kansas FFA State Convention in Manhattan.

Powell Heide was born in Coldwater and graduated from Wilmore High School in the mid 1930s. He teaches Vocational Agriculture at Clifton High School.

40 YEARS AGO From July 17, 1986 Star

Writing a check as big as \$25,637.50 usually marks a special occasion. And this week as Coldwater Mayor Cleo Bliss signed a check for that amount, it marked a very special occasion. The final bond and interest payment on Lake Coldwater was paid off, clearing the city of its obligation for \$500,000 plus interest for the lake construction.

What was paid off with this week's check was actually the last of two overlapping bond issues. The first was approved in 1970 to cover the increased costs caused primarily by inflation and the extended time required to finish the lake project.

The project dates back well before 1970, with its planning roots dating back into the 1880s. In all, 14 state and federal agencies were involved in the project, and countless hours of local volunteer help went into making the lake what it has become today – completed, and now paid for.

The fifth annual Comanche County Fair will soon be here. Mark your calendar for July 28, 29 and 30 and get your exhibits ready. Fair books are available from the extension office. A point to note is the new location of the fairgrounds: the old airport facilities south and east of Coldwater High School. The school cafetorium will be used to house some of the exhibits.

Coldwater resident Mable Timmons received a birthday present Saturday that literally swept her off her feet. She was given a ride in her old 1948 Chevrolet Fleetline.

Mrs. Timmons, who just celebrated her 90th birthday, sold the car six years ago to a Hutchinson man. Her daughter, Marge Grossardt, of Hutchinson, arranged the surprise. Mrs. Timmons bought the six-cylinder Chevrolet new for about \$1,500 from the Coldwater dealer.

KID SCOOP

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email jasonjump@thestarpress.news



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Corn Seasons

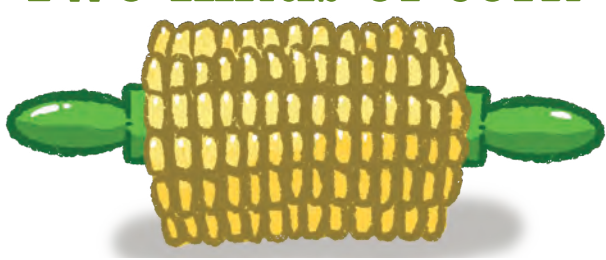
Corn is used in more than 3,500 ways. To name just a few, there is corn starch, corn syrup, corn oil, popcorn and good old eating corn. Corn is even used to make a kind of fuel called **ethanol**.

Which of these things are partly made of corn?

☐ Batteries ☐ Matches ☐ Diapers

ANSWER: All of them!

Two Kinds of Corn



Most of the corn grown is **dent corn**, also called **field corn**. Dent corn is picked dry and used mostly for livestock feed and ethanol.

Another popular corn is **sweet corn**. Sweet corn is sweeter and juicier than dent corn and is the kind we eat!

Kid Scoop Together

Corny Math

Work with a family member to use your math skills to reveal more facts about corn.

Each corn stalk usually grows _____ ear of corn.
 $12 - 11 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

The average ear of corn usually has about _____ kernels.
 $670 + 130 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

If you plant one kernel and care for it, you end up with _____ kernels!
 $400 + 400 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

If a farmer plants 30,000 kernels in one acre, how many will he plant in 100 acres?

About how many are there in two ears of corn?
 $800 + 800 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

If a giraffe is 16 feet tall, how much taller is the tallest stalk of corn ever measured?

If a corn plant grows 2 inches a day, how long until it is 12 feet tall?

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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:
STALK

The noun **stalk** means the main stem of a plant.

The corn plant has one main stem called a **stalk**.

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

Write On! Your Favorite Vegetable

Write a riddle for people to figure out your favorite vegetable.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write using descriptive details.

Spring

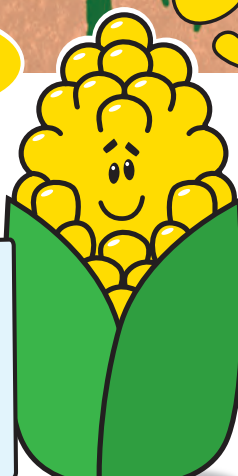
Corn seeds are planted in the spring. Corn seeds are called **kernels**.

In the spring, farmers wait until the _____ is warm before planting corn. The corn kernels need warm soil and spring _____ to start growing.

Corn was first grown in this country more than 9,000 years ago:

The letters along the correct path through the corn maze reveals the answer!

Use the code!



	= B
	= C
	= E
	= I
	= M
	= N
	= O

Summer

During the summer, farmers care for their corn plants. They make sure they get enough _____. They check for weeds, diseases and insects that could _____ the plants. It takes science to grow healthy corn crops!

With water and warmth, corn grows about 2 inches a day. Corn _____ usually grow to about 8 feet tall. The tallest stalk on record was about 45 feet tall—nearly as tall as a four-story building!

Fall

In the fall, corn plants stop _____. The plants turn brown, and the _____ point down. Farmers wait for the ears of corn to dry, and then they harvest.

Winter

Farmers ship their corn to customers. They also _____ their equipment and get ready to plant again in the spring.

Replace the missing words.

EARS SOIL GROWING STALKS
WATER HURT FIX RAINS

Maze

FINISH

Extra! Extra!

Make a Tall Corn Stalk

Roll up sheets of the newspaper to make long rolls. How long is one sheet rolled? Estimate how many more pages need to be rolled to make one long roll that is 45 feet long. Then keep rolling pages and lining them up until you make a 45-foot-long roll—the length of one of the tallest corn stalks measured.

Standards Link: Math: Estimate lengths.

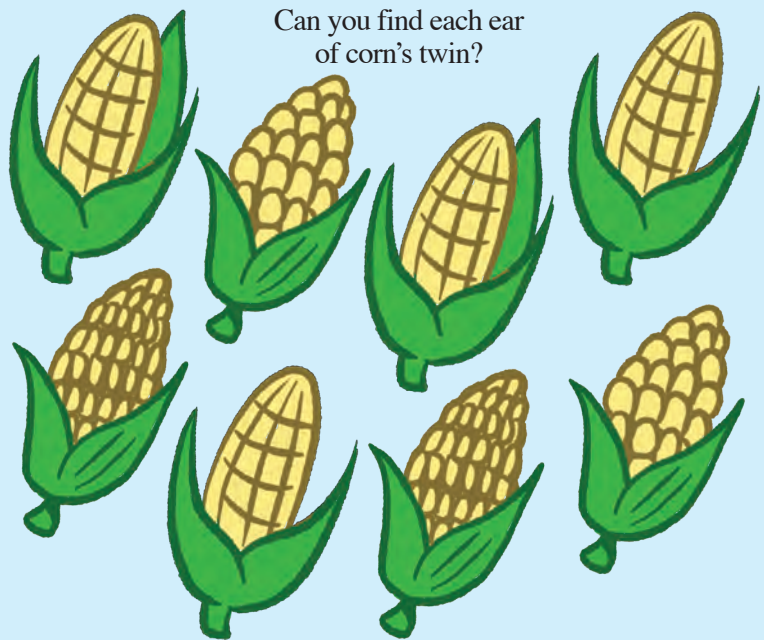
How Technology Helps Farmers

Corn for many centuries was picked by hand. But there have been many inventions that help farmers.

One machine combines several farming jobs in one machine. It cuts the corn stalks and then brings them through the machine. This machine then separates the kernels from the rest of the plant. The machine is called a:

Kid Scoop® Puzzler

Can you find each ear of corn's twin?



Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

ACRE
CARE
CORN
CROPS
DENT
EAR
FARMER
FEED
FIELD
GROWS
HARVEST
PLANT
STALK
SWEET
WATER

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

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop® LESSON LIBRARY

Life Cycle

Look through the newspaper for pictures that show people, animals or things at different stages of their lives. Cut them out to create a life cycle.

Standards Link: Life Science: Understand the natural life cycle of people and objects.



Why did all the farmer's jokes make everyone groan?

ANSWER: They were really corny jokes.

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NEWS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email jasonjump@thestarpress.news

CANDIDATES

• From Page 1

west Kansas, is a retired K-12 and University of Colorado Boulder teacher whose experience spans 30 years in multiple states and countries.

Wood, a former registered

Republican and, more recently, a former unaffiliated voter, organized the Decatur County Democratic Party in 2025. Serving as the chair led her to launch her first campaign.

"I kept getting frustrated about what I was seeing," she said. "Every recommen-

dation is to get involved locally."

Funding

The state funding formula expires in June 2027, and the Education Funding Task Force is forming a new plan.

Clifford said the state's underfunding of special edu-

cation forces districts to cut general education resources to maintain necessary programs. The state has not met its obligation to fund 92% of special education costs since 2010.

Frank Harwood, the Kansas State Department of Education deputy commis-

sioner, said the state shorted schools by \$226 million for special education in the current fiscal year.

"Most of the special education funding that goes to the early learners is really a great investment," she said.

In May, four Kansas school districts announced plans to sue the state for inadequate special education funding.

Wood said schools in western Kansas especially lack resources because rural areas generate less property tax revenue than highly populated ones.

"Our schools out here are trying to do more with less money, and it's not working," she said. "Some of the superintendents are even bus drivers."

Ancar said she believes the state does fully fund special education. She said accountability and compliance will solve resource problems.

"It's not about whether or not they should fund," she said, "it's about whether or not every recipient of those funds is able to answer and be accountable for where every one of those dollars went."

As a former regulatory consultant for healthcare

facilities, Ancar said many schools fail to comply with federal regulations. She cited the U.S. Department of Education's threat to pull funding from four eastern Kansas school districts for their gender-inclusive policies as an example.

"Compliance is always the cheaper way to go," she said.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

State lawmakers banned DEI practices in all areas of Kansas government, including public schools, in 2025.

Ancar said schools should comply.

"It is there still in some of the curriculum and embedded in the culture and in the classroom," she said. "We should leave all of those sorts of moral developments and upbringing and those sorts of issues to parents."

Clifford said schools in the 5th District are compliant but still inclusive.

"DEI has been used as a catchphrase for a lot of things that are really not going on in schools," she said. "In the schools that I have visited, every student was valued."

Wood said schools should not avoid inclusive programs. She said as someone who uses a wheelchair, inclusivity in Kansas schools needs to improve.

"Some of the schools that I've been to don't even have accessibility," she said. "If we are avoiding that issue, we can't be inclusive to people who are physically disabled."

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NEWS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email jasonjump@thestarpress.news

TIME

• From Page 1

sunrises and sunsets compared to standard time.

“Establishing permanent daylight saving time would provide families with more usable daylight hours in the evening, giving people additional opportunities to spend time outdoors,” Republican Rep. Gus M. Bilirakis of Florida said during House debates Tuesday.

Many other representatives from Florida voiced their support for the bill Tuesday, saying later daylight hours would help boost the Sunshine State’s economy.

Rep. Frank Pallone Jr., a New Jersey Democrat, agreed.

In his remarks supporting the permanent daylight saving time, he also pointed to the harmful effects that switching the clocks twice a year can have on people’s health, as well as young children and pets’ quality of sleep.

Under the bill, states that do not observe daylight saving time before enactment would have the choice to remain on permanent standard time.

The provision would only affect two states, Hawaii and Arizona outside Navajo Nation, that already do not observe daylight saving time. Those states instead go by standard time, the hours the rest of the country follows from November to March, year-round. Other

states wishing to opt out would have to enact a law one day before the federal bill becomes law.

Is Standard Time Better?

Many health experts say standard time is better for humans because it increases the amount of daylight received in the morning, which is beneficial for body rhythms and helps improve sleep, The Hill reports.

Democratic Rep. Madeleine Dean of Pennsylvania, the only representative to speak in opposition to the bill during Tuesday’s floor debate, cited the benefits tied to standard time as one of her main reasons for going against the bill.

Though she too expressed frustration with the practice

of changing clocks, she said dozens of medical associations show “if we stop the clock, permanent standard time is a healthier choice.”

Dean also pointed to events that occurred the last time the U.S. briefly attempted to follow permanent daylight saving time in 1974. Some children lost their lives while walking to school in the dark, she said.

“We aren’t voting on bills right now that would reduce the sky-high costs of food, fuel, healthcare or addressing the president’s war in Iran,” Dean said. “Instead we’re considering a bill that was deadly and dangerous in the past.”

Daylight Saving Time’s Past, Future

Daylight saving time was first introduced in the early 20th century as an energy-conserving wartime measure, according to the academic journal Science. The U.S. has observed short periods of permanent daylight saving over the years, but the federal government has each time reverted to the practice of changing clocks.

Lawmakers have also made attempts in recent years to enact permanent daylight saving time. In 2022, the U.S. Senate unanimously approved an earlier version of the bill, sponsored by Sens. Patty Murray, a Washington Democrat, and Rick Scott, a Florida Republican, only for the measure to stall in

the House.

In a statement Tuesday, Murray called on Senate Majority Leader John Thune to bring the House-passed bill for a vote in the Senate.

“My state, where it is often dark earlier than 4pm in the winter, has made it abundantly clear we want permanent Daylight Saving Time,” Murray wrote. “Americans from Seattle to Miami believe it’s way past time to lock the clock – I am calling on Leader Thune to bring this bill to a vote as soon as possible.”

If the Senate considers the bill this year, some opposition is likely to come up, including from Sen. Tom Cotton, an Arkansas Republican.

Fair Week – Good luck, 4-H’ers!



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PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in The Wester Star & Protection Press on Thursday, July 9, 2026) 2t

Bids for Bailing Airport Ground

Comanche County is now accepting bids to swath and bail the grass around the county airport. Grass can be bailed up to the runway, but the bails need to be moved and located at least 350ft away from the edge of the runway. Bids will close at 5pm on Monday July 20, 2026. Bids will be opened by the county Commissioners on Tuesday July 21, 2026, at 10:30am.

Bids can be sent to
Comanche County Clerk
PO Box 776
Coldwater, KS 67029
buhl@comanchecountyks.gov

LEGAL NOTICE

(First published in The Western Star & Protection Press on the Thursday, July 2, 2026) 3t

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estates of Case No. CM-2026-PR-000007

JACK FITZWATER and
MARY FITZWATER, both deceased.

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 Amy Baker, as an owner of an interest in and to the following described real estate, praying that descent be determined of the decedents’ interests in and to the following described real estate in Comanche County, in Kansas:

An undivided interest in and to:
The Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NE/4 NE/4) of Section 12;
North Half of the Southeast Quarter (N/2 SE/4) and the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (SE4 SE/4 of Section 1, all in Township 33 South, Range 20 West of the 6th P.M., Comanche County, Kansas and that such property be assigned pursuant to the laws of intestate succession.

You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before the 28th day of July, 2026, at 1:30 P.M. in the District Court of Comanche County, in Coldwater, Kansas, at which time and place the Petition shall be heard. If you fail to file written defenses, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Amy Baker
Petitioner

David H. Snapp, LC
100 Military Plaza,
Suite 204
Dodge City, KS 67801
Attorney for Petitioner

Good Luck
to all the Participants in the
2026

Comanche County Fair



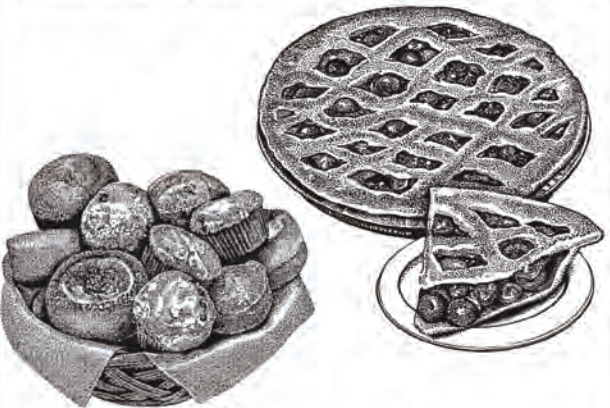
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NEWS

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email jasonjump@thestarpress.news

PASTOR

• From Page 1

tie cut and his hair cut.

Education and Ministry

It was late spring 1985 when he was thinking of a sermon that Roddy, age 20, first felt the call to go into the ministry.

Later in life he received a General Bible degree from Liberty Baptist College (founded in 1971 by televangelist Jerry Falwell Sr.)

Roddy's first church in which to preach was the Fundamental Baptist Church in Wellington, Texas. He was there a couple of years. The congregation was small, 30-35 people.

He pastored larger churches, one in Long Beach, Calif. In 2009, he received his doctoral degree in theology from Slidell Baptist Seminary, headquartered in Slidell, La. Since there was not a physical campus in nearby Los Angeles Arnold went through a correspondence-based theological

education for working pastors.

When he was between church jobs, Arnold was employed by Anderson Wholesale in Muskogee, Okla., and traveled throughout southeast Oklahoma.

This is his first time in Kansas. He is not too familiar with this state. He saw an ad that the Baptist church in Protection had placed in *The Baptist Messenger*, the third largest newspaper in Oklahoma. He met with the pulpit committee in Protection on a Tuesday night, then after considering the other resumes, the committee contacted him again to come preach. He was approved via a congregational vote and started his ministry here June 14.

The Arnold Family

Arnold is an only child, born on Feb. 1, 1965. His dad had 16 siblings and his mother had 13, so he has lots of aunts, uncles, and cousins. Jeana has a sister. Her brother passed away in 1982.

His hometown is Sherman, Tex-

as — a stand-alone city of 43,000 (in 2020) located 10 to 15 minutes from the Texas-Oklahoma border. He graduated from high school there.

He and Jeana dated for three weeks, then he asked her to marry him. She said "yes" and this year, they will celebrate their 42nd wedding anniversary on Oct. 5.

The husband and wife have three children, one boy and two girls. All are grown, married, live in the Dallas area. The Arnolds now have 10 grandchildren. Their son is a project plant engineer for Sunny Delight. The oldest daughter is vice-president of operations for Gentiva. Their youngest daughter is a registered respiratory therapist.

The first week of June the entire Arnold family takes a vacation together each year, Sunday through Thursday. The decision is made at Christmas where to go. One time it was to Gulf Shore, Ala. Another time it was to South Padre Island in south Texas. This year it was

to Lake Eufaula State Park in Oklahoma. Next year they might decide to go to Colorado or Red River, N.M.

Arnold says he is an extrovert but his wife is an introvert. He swims and taught his children and grandchildren to swim, but commented that Jeana just sinks.

They have had large gardens, mainly vegetables, when they lived in Texas, but were not very successful gardeners in Oklahoma.

Arnold likes Tex-Mex food.

And he does simple cooking.

Jeana is very good with children, sings alto, and substitutes for Sunday School teachers. She likes to read. Presently, she has an office job in Woodward with Haven Home Health & Hospice.

They seldom watch television, but Roddy does when Baker Mayfield, former quarterback for OU Sooners and now for Tampa Bay Buccaneers, has games.

Arnold is looking forward to attending South Central's home

football games.

He has a sense of humor. For example, when he was being interviewed, he was asked if he collected anything. His answer: "Well, I tried collecting \$100 bills but that didn't work."

Roddy and Jeana have taken numerous Carnival cruises, traveling to the Caribbean islands.

They have done a lot of traveling together in the states that border Texas, but most of their traveling now is with family.

Come Meet Arnold

The Protection Baptist Church has Sunday School at 9:45 and worship services at 11 a.m. The second Sunday every other month, a meal is after the worship service followed by the business meeting.

If you see a vehicle at the Baptist church during the week, Pastor Roddy is available mornings in the church office. You can also contact him by calling 903-294-8278 or through his email, roddearnold65@gmail.com.

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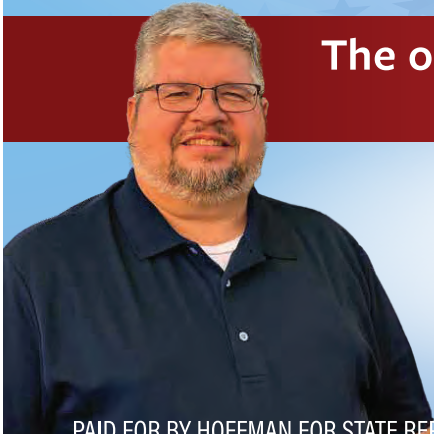
  

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