



Serving Coldwater, Protection, Wilmore and Comanche County for more than 140 years!

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July 9, 2026

Comanche County 4-H Fair Ready to Kick Off Next Week

PRESS RELEASE

The excitement is building as preparations for this year's 4-H Fair, with several events and important updates you won't want to miss

Saturday, July 11 – Sand Volleyball Tournament

Gather your friends and put a team together for the annual Sand Volleyball Tournament at 6 p.m. Teams are still needed, so don't miss your chance to compete. Contact Jaymi Westrup or the Extension Office to register your team.

Come hungry. Concessions will be available from Tattque'd BBQ and Lemonade Factory.

Monday, July 13 – Fashion Revue & Vendor Showcase

A Pee Wee Fashion Revue for the youngest participants has been added to the slate this year. Children ages 2 to 7 are invited to model any style of outfit – dressy, casual, western, patriotic or anything in between.

The Pop-Up Vendor Showcase will open at 4:30 p.m. at South Central High School, followed by the Pee Wee Fashion Revue and

4-H Fashion Revue beginning at 6 p.m.

Be sure to shop with the local vendors:

- Lisa Souers Designs
- The Cozy Coop
- Front Porch Sweets
- Little Fern Co.
- Boho Rodeo Boutique
- Boomhower Leather
- Jackson Welding Permanent Jewelry
- L7 Coffee Co.

Tuesday, July 14 – Horse Show

The 4-H and Open Class Horse Show will begin at 6 p.m. Every-

one is invited to come out and cheer on the exhibitors as they showcase their horsemanship skills.

Concessions begin at 6 p.m. and will be provided by Josefina Robles and Rocking B Beverage.

Wednesday, July 15 – Check-In, Community Carnival & Food Trucks

New this year. The 4-H exhibit check-in will take place from 8 to 10 a.m., followed by Open Class exhibit check-in from 10 to 11 a.m. Exhibitors are encouraged to arrive during their designat-

ed check-in times to allow for a smooth entry process.

Lunch begins at 11 a.m. in the South Central High School parking lot – Amelia's Tacos, Good Tummy's and Auntie M's Pies.

The Community Carnival will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Community organizations, businesses and individuals are invited to participate by hosting a booth or activity. Anyone interested in having a booth at the carnival should contact the Extension Office for more information.

See **FAIR** / Page 2

Registrations Open for KS Ag Growth Summit

PRESS RELEASE

The Kansas Department of Agriculture invites you to join them in Manhattan this summer as they discuss growth opportunities for agriculture at the 11th annual Kansas Governor's Summit on Agricultural Growth on Thursday, August 20, at the Hilton Garden Inn at 410 S. 3rd Street in downtown Manhattan.

Each year, the Ag Summit takes on new challenges, and that has led to different formats in the last couple of years. This Summit will again see a significant change, as the whole day will be focused on transportation in agriculture, including the infrastructure, logistics, and networks that support the movement of Kansas agricultural products from farm to market. We will examine issues related to these topics through our speakers and panels, including a look at the new commodity flow study, a discussion about state infrastructure, and an examination of what improvements are needed to expand market access for Kansas producers.

The keynote speaker, Alejandra Castillo, president and CEO of the North American Export Grain Association, will share expertise related to trade opportunities and how investments in domestic infrastructure can solidify Kansas as a consistent international trade partner in the long term.

Along with this shift to a focused topic, another change to note is that KDA

See **KANSAS** / Page 2

Celebrating Freedom at 250



DEVAN WENTHE

250th Anniversary: Fireworks Light Up Night Sky

Residents take in the splendor of the 250th July 4th celebration at Coldwater Lake this past weekend. The fireworks rounded out a day of festivities for Comanche County residents and their guests.

County Gets Look at Its 2027 Budget

STAFF REPORT

After convening for a budget hearing on July 2, the Comanche County Commission began reviewing the county's preliminary 2027 budget draft at 9:19 a.m.

The discussion was led by Scot Loyd of the Loyd Group, in Galva, the county's auditor and budget preparer, since June of last year. The discussion lasted nearly two hours.

Faced with a projected budget shortfall, commissioners discussed options for bridging the gap. County officials said an additional \$210,000 in tax revenue – requiring a 15-mill increase – would be needed to remain revenue neutral.

The county will continue budget discussions Tuesday July 14.

Commissioners approved changing the county's official newspaper designation to *The Star-Press* following the merger of *The Western Star* and *Protection Press* under the new name, which took place in June.

New Law Impacts Student/Teacher Communications

STAFF REPORT

A new Kansas law that took effect on July 1 will impact how students and teachers communicate with one another.

HB 2299 disallows all school employees from privately messaging students or directly engaging with students on personal social media platforms. Teachers

See **BAN** / Page 2

Ag Experts: Kansas Farmers Suffer From Tariffs, Strait Closure

BY MORGAN CHILSON

Kansas Reflector

TOPEKA – Trade tariffs cost the United States about \$15 billion in losses in the Chinese market alone, agriculture policy experts said Friday.

Sandro Steinbach and Shawn Arita, associate professors at North Dakota State University's Agricultural Risk Policy Center, spoke about international policies

affecting agriculture during an episode of Kansas State University's podcast Clearing the Air.

Steinbach said the policy center studied market disruption in the United States and China relationship.

He said the higher cost of exporting products to foreign markets caused a "pretty strong" diversion in China away from U.S. products, causing losses of about \$15 billion for the United States.

"Diversion means that exporters export products to other countries as well, so we have seen in certain markets significant diversion," Steinbach said. "Those states that export a lot of product to China, they saw quite significant disruptions."

In April 2026, Kansas exported \$91.3 million of products to China, the third largest country behind Mexico and Canada, according to the Observatory of Economic

Complexity, an economic data-gathering organization.

Steinbach said many corn shipments were diverted to Mexico and South America, creating large trade disruptions that were harmful for producers because the diversion depresses prices.

In assessing historical tariff effects, Steinbach said, changing access to China's market caused disruption in the economy. In the past, the move has led to overall

long economic losses and has "major implications for local economies."

"That's kind of the message out of the earlier episodes, actually, which really depressed global economic growth," he said. "So it's not just about U.S. implications, but also how the global economy is evolving. Obviously, we as exporters depend on foreign markets.

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NEWS

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

BAN

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will also no longer be able to use social media for assignments.

The limit is also placed on social media communication for extracurricular activities.

Kansas students will no longer be able utilize cell phones or personal electronic devices during the school day.

“In our rapidly changing world, technology dominates our lives, and that’s why it’s essential that we reduce distractions in the classroom,” Democratic Gov. Laura Kelly said in a statement in March. “We must have one uniform standard across the state to tackle this issue and set our students up for success. By banning cell phone use during the school day, we’re taking a common-sense approach to address

the impact smartphones and social media have on Kansas children’s academic performance, learning environments, and mental health.”

The bill requires Kansas public schools and accredited private schools to prohibit the use of personal electronic devices during the school day on school premises. These devices include, but are not limited to, cell phones, tablets, computers, watches, wireless headphones or earbuds, text messaging devices, and personal digital assistants. Students’ personal devices must be turned off and securely stored during the school day.

HB 2299 includes exceptions if a device is needed for the implementation of a student’s individualized education program or 504 plan, or if approved by a physician as a medical necessity.

KANSAS

• From Page 1

will not be hosting the annual social this year, but instead will be encouraging attendees to attend the K-State College of Agriculture’s ribbon cutting for the new agronomy innovation complex, which will be taking place shortly after the end of the Summit.

Due to the generosity of the sponsors, there is no cost to attend the Ag Growth Summit events, but it is important that attendees register by Aug. 5 to guarantee a meal. After that date, walk-

ins will be accepted as space allows. Registration can be found at www.agriculture.ks.gov/Summit.

All farmers, ranchers, agribusiness owners and industry professionals are welcome at the 2026 Ag Growth Summit — if you’re committed to working for agricultural growth in Kansas, please join KDA in this effort.

If you have questions about the 2026 Kansas Governor’s Summit on Agricultural Growth, please contact Naomi Hawkinson at Naomi.Hawkinson@ks.gov or (785) 564-6799.

FAIR

• From Page 1

Also, during the carnival, Farm Bureau will sponsor the Annual Pedal Tractor Pull, beginning at 6 p.m., giving young participants the opportunity to join in this favorite fair tradition.

Concessions during the carnival will be provided by The Blonde Grill.

Thursday, July 16 – Pancake Feed & Livestock Shows

Start your day with the Fair Board Pancake Feed from 7-9 a.m. at the Hangar. The breakfast is a free-will donation, and everyone is invited to enjoy pancakes, sausage and fellowship while supporting the fair.

The Swine, Goat and Sheep Show will begin at a new, earlier start time of 6 p.m.

The evening meal will be sponsored by Alliance Ag & Grain starting at 5:30 p.m.

Friday, July 17 – Beef Show, Awards & Grand Drive

The Bucket Calf and Beef Show will begin at 9 a.m., immediately followed by the Pet Show and Round Robin Showmanship.

In the evening the Public Fashion Review and Awards Ceremony will take place followed by the Grand Drive and Add-On Auction, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Come celebrate the accomplishments of the local 4-H members and support local the youth during the auction.

The evening meal will be sponsored by Peoples Bank, a Branch of Stockgrowers State Bank and the watermelon feed is sponsored by Comanche County Farm Bureau, starting at 6 p.m.

Saturday, July 18 – Ranch Rodeo

Wrap up fair week by attending the Ranch Rodeo, showcasing ranch skills, teamwork and friendly competition for all ages. The Ranch Rodeo starts at 7 p.m.

The evening meal will be held from 5:30-7:30 p.m., sponsored by the Iroquois Center.

The 4-H Fair offers something for everyone, with opportunities to showcase talents, learn new skills and celebrate the hard work of area youth and community members. Everyone is encouraged to come out, support the exhibitors, participate in the activities and enjoy all the fair has to offer.

OBITUARIES

MAXINE WAITE RUSK

Maxine (Waite) Rusk passed away on July 5, 2026 in Kearney, Neb. She lived most of her married life west of Medicine Lodge on the Rusk Ranch.

Maxine was born Oct. 4, 1935 in Winfield. Services include an honor gathering visitation with immediate family present, on Friday, July 10 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church in Medicine Lodge. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, July 12 at 10:30 a.m. at the church, followed by a 12 p.m. graveside with lunch following at the church.

STEPHANIE DAWN (BEAN) MUSSER

Stephanie Dawn (Bean) Musser crossed over to her Heavenly home on July 3, 2026, where a homecoming awaited.

Stephanie was born in Liberal, on July 7, 1964. She grew up in Liberal and graduated from Liberal High School in 1982. From an early age, Stephanie had a love of music. The passion for music only grew and remained within her spirit and soul throughout her life.

Stephanie graduated from Oklahoma City University in 1986 with a bachelor of arts in music. She musically performed and wrote music for many venues and remained living in Oklahoma City throughout her life.

She married Sid Musser in 1995 and later divorced.

She is survived by her father, Richard “Dick” Bean and step-mother, Betty Bean of Liberal; sisters Stacy Scott, of Edmond, Okla. and Shelli Bean of Lawrence; son, Samuel Musser and wife, Brittany, of Englewood, Colo.; nieces McKenzie Long, of Yukon, Okla. and Madison Scott, of Denver; great-niece, Madelyn Jarrett, of Yukon, Okla.

Stephanie was preceded in death by her mother, Deana Bean, infant siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Per Stephanie’s wishes, cremation has taken place. There will be no services. Private burial will take place at a later date at Crown Hill Cemetery, Coldwater.

“See you in the Morning, Stephanie Dawn!”



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.

Play BINGO!
Saturday, July 11
CANCELED!
St. Joseph's - Ashland
Minimum prize \$10
Games start at 7 pm
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

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

Colorado Peaches
Grower: Sowell Orchards
Seller: Greg Grahn
Thursday, July 16 / Noon
Friday, July 17 / 8 a.m.
Alliance Gas Pumps / Coldwater
\$45 per box

FUN FEST BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER
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July 18 • 8 am until sold out!
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NEWS

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

Past Paragraphs

Protection news from earlier times

Compiled by Dave Webb

125 YEARS AGO Western Star July 12, 1901

Protection paragraphs

Hot. Very hot and dry weather. D.B. Denney, of Lexington, was in town Monday. G.W. Reed is drilling a well for a Mr. Kuhn, of Clark County. J.R. Williams is drilling a well for J.N. King, of Valley Township. H.B. Bratcher is erecting a windmill of the latest pattern.

Henry Beltzer, the jeweler, is at Protection and will remain for a few days. C.C. Towner got a new water tank at Protection and is starting out with a threshing crew.

The Fourth of July celebration at Protection was a success. The speech of Senator Young, of Missouri, was good, and the music led by Mrs. Meisinger was excellent. The wind was annoying, but all appeared to be enjoying themselves.—[Correspondent] "RALEIGH."

Protection prattle

George Thomas and Merritt Cosby are putting a bridge east of town this week.

We now have two grocery stores in Protection. We look for some more trade.

C.O. Wuchter is clerking in Way & Meisinger's store. A number of harvest hands have come home. They report wages very good.

In 1901 a Kansas farm-hand might earn between \$1 and \$1.50 per day, or just over \$39 to about \$59 in today's dollars. During wheat harvest, however, that amount might increase to \$2 up to \$4 daily. Taking inflation into account, that range today might be worth between \$79 to over \$157.

A number of Avilla people were with us on the Fourth. The dance at the Fourth was a very enjoyable affair. Those present report an enjoyable time.—[Correspondent] "JUNIPER."

Protection and vicinity

John Webb is improving from the injury he had from the result of a horse falling on him last week.

H.V. Snell and Mit Poe returned Sunday from the

beautiful harvest fields of the east. Abraham VanWey also returned.

Lawrence Bratcher, H.E. Moore, Rufus King and Charles Moore left Wednesday for Lexington to thresh wheat. They seem to hate to leave our lively town. They expect to be gone some time. Wonder who will take care of the girls for them while they are gone?

Fourth of July fun

Did you ever before see as many people in Protection as on the evening of the Fourth?

The Fourth was spent one mile north of Protection in the Holbert grove. The crowd gathered about under the nice cotton[wood] trees about 9 a.m. and all seemed to enjoy themselves. There was a large crowd from Lexington* and Coldwater, considering the sad news of C.T. Avery's death.

At the noon hour you could see families joining together and eating their abundance which the sunny Kansas soil produces.

After dinner the Protection Glee Club produced some nice music and Mr. Young, of Kansas City, gave us a short but patriotic talk.

Then the racing commenced. In the boys' sack race Ben Tade took the purse, 50 cents, by a close race. In the foot race we failed to see the champion. There wasn't enough to make a purse. The horse race was won by John Morton, Jr.

The next thing was the baseball game. The first team of Lexington played the first team of Protection, except Lawrence Bratcher of the second team, who played with the first team. Lexington lost the game in the first inning. After a while, Lexington ran in Richey, Myers and J.N. King, but with Richey's curves over the indicator, Protection batted them just the same. The result was 45 to 18 in Protection's favor.—[Correspondent] "AMATEUR."

*Lexington was a small town northwest of Protection, a few miles inside Clark County. It was established in 1885 and had a community post office from 1886 until 1927. After its

founding, it was home to several merchants, a doctor, blacksmith and newspaper. It may have had about 50 buildings and homes.

When the Chicago, Kansas & Western Railroad built through Protection and Ashland in 1887, Lexington hoped for its own rail connection—the Denver, Memphis & Atlantic. That fell through, however, and the small Clark County town's population declined. By 1900 most of the property in the community was forfeited for taxes.

The town's cemetery is a short distance north of the original townsite.

On the railroad

A.T. Rodgers, of Protection Township, went to Kansas City Monday with two carloads of three-year-old steers. He says that his cattle have been shrinking in weight during the past two or three weeks on account of the shortage of grass and he thought best to get some of his stock to market before the prices go still lower.

On Monday morning of this week the eastbound train carried a flatcar loaded with a good-sized water tank. Many were the inquiries as to the use to which it would be put.

We have it upon reliable authority that the Santa Fe company, wishing to make the ride between here and Wichita as pleasant as possible, carries this tank full of water with which to sprinkle the roadbed to keep the dust from flying when the train runs at a high rate of speed.

Tuesday morning's train carried a carload of hogs which were loaded at Ashland. In the car were four dead hogs tied up by their hind feet, they having been overcome by the heat.

This and that

Report comes almost every day of large fields of wheat being burned by accidental fires started from railroad or threshing engines. The loss in many instances amounts to thousands of bushels.

Musical entertainment at Protection Wednesday evening, July 17.

W.T. Holland [of Coldwater] has about completed the organization of a Modern Tontine council at Protection.

Willis Bratcher arrived in Coldwater Tuesday morning from Harper County, where he had been working in the harvest fields. He says that the wheat in that county will run from 20 to 35 bushels per acre. Tuesday afternoon he drove on to his home in Protection Township.

100 YEARS AGO Protection Post July 1, 1926

Wheat movement

While the market has been heading for the cellar, because of the market congestion, the movement of wheat onto the local Protection market has been heavy all week, and during the past week the movement increased materially.

Last week 103 [railroad] cars of wheat were billed from Protection onto the grain centers, an average of about 20 cars a day.

On Monday of this week the largest number, 38, for any one day, was loaded by the local elevators.

Wheat is still moving

rapidly on the local markets. Thousands of bushels are being stored upon the ground as haulers cannot truck the wheat to the market as fast as the combines and machines are threshing it.

Much wheat is going into storage in elevators and on the farms.

Several wheat trains have originated in [the] Protection yards, and Tuesday a train of 127 empty wheat cars went through Protection for points west.

The Santa Fe [railroad] has used in the wheat movement this year the utmost endeavors to supply the wheat cars and has used the large Mallet type engines to move the loaded cars to the markets.

Don't miss it

The Wheat Festival Special, operated by the Santa Fe Railway, cooperating with the Kansas State Agricultural College, will arrive in Protection, Friday, July 23, at 12:30 p.m. for a public meeting to be held near the Santa Fe station.

There will be four carloads of exhibits from the Agricultural College, J.F. Jarrel, Santa Fe official, said. Electrically operated loudspeakers will be installed on the lecture car, so that persons a block away will be able to hear the lectures as well as those 20 feet away.

At the conclusion of the speaking program the audience will be invited to go through the exhibit cars. The train will be here two and one-half hours....

Protection Post July 8, 1926

On the go

The Fourth of July, or rather Monday, as the Fourth was on Sunday and the general celebration of the day was Monday, was very quietly observed in Protection.

However, a few took the occasion to motor to Dodge City and some to Elm Mills near Sawyer where celebrations were held.

Flags were set along [Broadway] by the business houses and most of the business places closed from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. during Monday.

Harvest 1926 update

An exceptional wheat yield for 1926, and by the way, the first one reported to the POST, was given this week by Mrs. Lynn Richardson. Mr. Richardson and "Bud" Bonham, who are farming as partners, just finished harvesting a 140-acre field that averaged 26 bushels per acre with a 30 percent hail loss on 75 acres of the field. They had 30 acres of wheat that averaged 40½ bushels per acre.

A general rain visited most of this section of the country Monday night. Some wind accompanying the rainfall in sections did some damage.

The moisture will put the soil in the best of condition for fall plowing as well as be a boon to the spring crops which had begun to need rain quite badly and the general run of harvest was over to that extent that no serious damage will accrue to the wheat crop. However, threshing will be held up for a few days.

The wheat movement has shown a very perceptible decline during the last week. Many, in fact most, of the wheat raisers have finished the harvest and wheat is moving onto the markets at a normal rate now.

75 YEARS AGO Protection Post July 6, 1951

Slow-going harvest

A two-inch downpour Friday night is the extent of moisture in the community the past week.

Harvest resumed slowly Monday and by Wednesday, trucks were forming a three-block line to the Co-op. Thursday, the line had shortened to 10, 15 or 20 trucks but cutting was still spotted north of the six-mile corner.

Weeds and mud holes are still the harvest bugaboo. Many acres are being abandoned or cut for hog feed....

The three Protection elevators took in about 200,000 bushels of grain the first four cutting days this week.

Reported yields are making 10 to 31 bushels an acre....

Several farmers estimated the harvest was 50 percent complete Thursday evening.

Former editor ill

W. Clyde Pile, veteran Kansas and Texas newspaperman, underwent a surgical operation at Wesley Hospital [in Wichita], Tuesday. Pile, 72, was editor of the Protection POST for 31 years. For the past 10 years he has been working on a Dalhart, Texas, newspaper.

Renew license at home

Licenses for all Kansas drivers expired July 1. The state has allowed a grace period of 31 days in which all licenses must be renewed.

In order to save a trip to the county seat to obtain a new license, Edgar Deck is handling applications at the Farmers State Bank in Protection. Frank Weber at Coldwater and the Wilmore State Bank at Wilmore are other county representatives.

Drivers must bring their old license with them when they make application for their new license.

55 YEARS AGO Protection Post July 9, 1971

Community leader gone

Ben Filson, 59, died Tuesday night. The community is shocked and saddened at Ben's death and deepest sympathy is extended to his sorrowing family.

If a decision had to be made to choose who had done the most for Protection over the years, beyond a doubt the honor would go to Ben Filson. For more than 25 years he had kept a good payroll in town with his manufacturing plant, he had had many nice residences built in southwest Protection, he was always among the front runners to contribute to community betterment, and above all, he and his fine wife Rema raised a fine family—assets to this and other communities....

Young folks reunite

The Class of 1961 of Protection High School held their 10th-year reunion last Saturday night. They met at Sam's Cafe for a steak supper and card party, then resumed their visiting at the Larry DePriest home.

Present were Don and Patty (Maris) Winton of Wichita; Royce and Martha (Wymer) Richardson of Grand Prairie, Texas; Roscoe and Margaret

(Jellison) Williams of Hutchinson; Danny and Pat Rich of Ashland; Roy and Margaret Smith of Garden City; Kerry and Phyllis Herd of Overland Park; and Myron and Susan Edmonston, Charles and Penny Peterson, Gerald and Billie Holler, Dennis and Cathy Brown, Gary and Charlotte Girk, Orlin and Dora Loucks and Larry and Mable (Young) DePriest, all of Protection.

Congratulations, Pat!

Waldo and Florence Riner of Protection announce the engagement of their daughter Pat to Mr. Steve Mitchell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Mitchell of Wichita. Pat has been teaching drama in the Hutchinson school system and Mr. Mitchell is employed by Powers Electric Company. The wedding date has been set for July 31 at the Protection Baptist Church.

35 YEARS AGO Protection Press July 11, 1991

City hall on the move By Bob Greer

If matters go right, Protection's new city hall location could be in operation by the end of the current week.

That was the word during the weekend from Mayor Sally Selzer. She said members of the city council plan to help move city hall to its new location.

The city hall was previously about a block and a half east, on the south side of Walnut Street, at the corner of East Walnut and North Washington Avenue. That building was originally Protection's first church, constructed in 1901 by the Methodists.

The new office will be in the Filson Building, just one door east of the post office. Attorney Gerald Woolwine and accountant Curtis Slaton [both from Ashland] have had their [local] offices in that building previously....

15 YEARS AGO Protection Press July 7, 2011

Below-average moisture By Bob Greer

June was downright dry in this immediate area.

The region has been plagued by a continuing drought. During June Protection received just .50 of an inch of rain.

Bucklin gauged only 1.15 of moisture. Ashland had only .35 of an inch. And Coldwater recorded 2.54 inches of moisture.

As a result, all four communities are running below normal for precipitation during the first half of 2011.

According to Kenneth Webb, we had .30 of an inch on June 11, a trace on June 23, and only .20 of an inch on June 28. That brings our total for the year to only 4.42 inches.

Ashland has also been too dry. Richard Foster recorded only .35 of an inch in June. That gave the community only 3.51 inches for the first half of the year.

Bucklin's total for that same period was 5.63 inches, as recorded by Patsy Austin.

John Lehman, official National Weather Service observer in Coldwater, reports 6.36 inches of moisture so far in 2011....

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NEWS

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



Summer Reading is just a week away. It will be held on July 13-17 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Protection Township Library. The theme is Unearth a Story with dinosaurs found everywhere. Several awards will be given for attendance, general reading and many other categories. Please bring your child and if they are under 4 years old and please plan to stay with them. There will be activities for all ages from 1-year-olds to 14-year-olds.

At the library right now, you can bring your child in to adopt a stuffed animal or

“Reading Friend.” It is free of charge, and they will receive a birth certificate with the name your child gives them, along with a sheet detailing their personality and likes.

This month, there is a featured artist in the gallery. Stop by during business hours to view the handcrafted wooden pieces by J.C. Thomas, of Ashland. The gallery is open during business hours of the library Monday-Friday noon to 6 p.m.

A few new books have come in the past couple of weeks and the collection is updated weekly. If you are looking for anything in particular remember the library can always order from other libraries. You can check out what is on the shelves by going to the library’s website at protectionlibrary.com and clicking on the card catalog. If you need any help please call me at (620) 622-4886.



Summer Reading events are over for the summer, but Summer Readers can earn a mini pizza from Sam’s Pizza Barn by reading 500 pages (at your level). Graphic Novels earn pizza at 1,000 pages due to words per page. Pick up a Summer Reading page at the library and start earning pizza!

Summer Foods continues every Monday

from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. All children from age 1 to age 18 are eligible for a food box from the Kansas Food Bank. Children must be present at the time of sharing or come in early to sign a permission sheet.

Happy 250th Anniversary America! Help Tell Ashland’s Story – For the Next 250 Years. What will Ashland be like in the year 2276? The Ashland City Library is inviting everyone in the community to help answer that question by participating in the “Our Town, Ashland 250 Years From Now” Time Capsule Project.

COLDWATER WEATHER

By Greg Vanderree

June 30 High 96 / Low 72 / Precip - Trace
July 1 High 90 / Low 72 / Precip - None
July 2 High 90 / Low 68 / Precip - .05
July 3 High 91 / Low 68 / Precip - .24
July 4 High 94 Low 67 / Precip - None
July 5 High 88 / Low 65 / Precip - None
July 6 High 90 / Low 68 / Precip - None
July 7 High 91 / Low 69 / Precip - None

WHEAT PRICES

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Protection - 620.622.4619

June 30 - \$5.45
July 1 - \$5.60
July 2 - \$5.64
July 3 - CLOSED
July 4 - CLOSED
July 5 - CLOSED
July 6 - \$5.75

CLASSIFIEDS

To place your classified ad email jasonjump@thestarpress.news.

Comanche County Road and Bridge is looking for heavy equipment operators and laborers. Pay starts at \$14, with the possibility of higher pay with experience. If you have questions, please call AJ at (620) 582-5222.

Applications are available at the Road and Bridge Office, 401 S. Philadelphia, Coldwater, or at the County Clerk’s office in Courthouse at 201 S. New York Ave., Coldwater. 51tfnc

ASHLAND HIGH SCHOOL AND SOUTH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL are now seeking applications for an assistant softball coach. Please contact Tyler Bates, South Central High School at (620) 582-2181.

SOUTH CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL is seeking a boy’s middle school basketball coach for the 2026-27 season. Please contact Michael Baldwin at (620) 582-2181.

ON-FARM TIRE REPAIR – Call Kropf Oil Company in Coldwater. 620-582-2391. 1tfnc

Pioneer Lodge is looking for a RN/LPN for the Night position. FT benefits include health insurance, vacation and sick time – Pioneer Lodge, 300 West Third Street, PO Box 487, Coldwater, KS 67029 or call (620) 582-2123.

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Melanie Dunn, APRN-C in Protection Wednesday morning
Carmen Nelson, APRN-C in Protection Wednesday afternoon
Ashley Alvarez, APRN-C in Protection Thursday morning

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Back in the Older Days

Coldwater news from earlier days
Compiled by Teresa Jones

130 YEARS AGO

From July 11, 1896 Star

Politics are warming up sure enough.

The republican convention comes off at Coldwater today, and there will be a contest for most of the offices.

A splendid good rain of a fraction less than an inch on a level, fell in this vicinity early Thursday morning. It came in good season to make crops hump. Another nice rain Thursday night.

Will and Marble Baxter were the lucky ones to draw the buggy at the raffle on the Fourth.

The tickedest boy in town on the Fourth, was our little printing office devil, Allen Cash, who scaled the greased pole, and captured the first prize.

Patriotism was displayed in great profession at Coldwater last Saturday. It was in the spirit of the people, in their words and actions, in the air, everywhere.

120 YEARS AGO

From July 6, 1906 Star

Annual school meetings in one week from next Thursday.

The county democratic convention will be held on Saturday, July 28.

Harvest is practically over and soon the song of the thresher will be heard.

H.R. Sohns resumed to work on Monday morning in the STAR office. He is perfectly at home in a printing office.

Coldwater was practically deserted on the Fourth. The people from this part of the county mostly went either to Protection or Ashland.

The Fourth was a great day this year for Comanche-co. people. The day was quite generally celebrated.

A few spent the day in the harvest field, others in the quiet and peaceful precincts of home, but a large number laid by the cares and the duties of every day home life, and spent the day mingling with their friends and neighbors at some one of the places where celebrations were held.

The day was a perfect one – just cool enough to be pleasant. In fact, there was every condition of a made-to-order day.

A good rain fell all over this part of the state on last Saturday evening. The rain was accompanied along the northern line of the county by quite an electrical storm and considerable hail.

Our flag has largely disappeared from the sea, but the other day a British steamer arrived in New York with 200,000,000 firecrackers, 20,000,000 torpedoes and 400,000 sticks of punk for the celebration of the glorious Fourth.

110 YEARS AGO

From July 7, 1916 Star

The public roads are, as a rule, in good condition, still there is now, and will continue to be, a need for considerable road work.

Coldwater was well represented at the Fourth of July celebration in Protection. During the day two games of baseball were played between the Protection and Isabel teams. The home team won each game.

Two bands furnished an abundance of good music during the day and added much to the enjoyment of the occasion. The bands were from Coldwater and from Buffalo. The display of fireworks in the evening was just a little "tame." It was

not up to what a great many people had expected.

Now almost every country newspaper will probably contain an occasional "Letter from the Border." And they ought to prove mighty interesting reading matter, too.

The "Mexican situation" continues to divert attention from the "situation" across the Atlantic.

The *Ashland Leader* and children have accepted our invitation to come and play with us and bring their supper on Friday the 14th. We want each Coldwater child to come and help show these visitors a good time. There will be plays, games and races.

100 YEARS AGO

From July 9, 1926 Star

The rainy season seems to be here.

An interesting program for both morning and afternoon is being planned by the entertainment committee for July 23, the day the Wheat Special train will be in Coldwater. It is planned to make this a festival day, following, as it does, a bountiful harvest.

Alfred Harding and family moved to this city recently from their home near Chanute, Kans. Mr. Harding will teach during the coming school year, in the Nescatunga district southeast of this city. He is a teacher of considerable experience. A number of years ago, Mr. Harding worked on a cattle ranch near Ashland.

The Coldwater band will give a concert on Friday evening of next week, July 16, as harvest will be over by that time.

On Friday and Saturday of next week, July 16 and 17, the people of Comanche-co. will have an opportunity to see some interesting auto races, auto polo and auto push ball, besides several novelty races. The Coldwater Fair Assn. has secured this attraction from the Grand Auto Racing Circuit, and races by fast dirt track drivers in fast racing cars are promised. Do not forget the dates – July 16 and 17.

The Coldwater Fair Association desires to call to the attention of the local merchants, that if they desire to secure souvenirs for the Fair booster trip, which will be held in August, the souvenirs should be ordered soon.

The present wheat harvest in Comanche-co. has been characterized not only by unusually favorable weather conditions, but also by the absence of the usual number of harvest accidents. As far as we have heard, not even a "check artist" has made his appearance, or attempted to pass a forged check. The farmers have many reasons to be grateful.

90 YEARS AGO

From July 10, 1936 Star

H.O. Holderby, Protection pioneer, the mounted color bearer, and Earle Wright, color guard, headed the parade in Protection for the Fourth of July celebration, and were followed by the Coldwater band.

Following the buffalo barbecue at noon, the Coldwater ball team defeated Protection 8 to 6 and the whiskered Protectionites won from Anthony by a score of 8 to 1.

This Friday evening at 8:30 o'clock Protection will play the Coldwater Advertisers on the local field. Everyone is invited to attend.

Next week has been designated as Railroad Week over the nation and the time will be observed in this city. R.L. Davis, an official of the Santa Fe Railway, will be the speaker next Wednesday at the regular luncheon of the Coldwater Lions Club, it is announced.

Mr. and Mrs. George Hearldson returned on Monday from Freeport, Ill., where they had gone to drive back a new Henney ambulance and funeral coach for the Roberts-Phebus Hardware Co.

The new ambulance is powered by an eight cylinder motor, and is capable of sustained high speed with maximum comfort and safety. It carries modern equipment, including a balloon tired ambulance cot, which will enable the local undertaker to render efficient service to the public.

To the public using electrical equipment in the south end of Coldwater: We are having a lot of interference on our radios in getting the market reports. These reports are of extreme importance to us at present and are necessary in our business.

Won't you please cooperate with us and have your equipment checked? Thank you, Farmers Elevator Co., Gano Grain Corp., Morrison-Gregg Mitchell Grain Co., Larabee Elevator Co.

Hitler has decreed that only married men will hereafter be entitled to vote in Germany. "He wants voters accustomed to taking orders," "opines" Jess Napier in the *Newton Kansan*.

80 YEARS AGO

From July 12, 1946 Star

The weather in Comanche County the past ten days has been hot with temperatures in Coldwater reaching 102.5 Tuesday and two degrees lower on Wednesday.

A bit of rain Tuesday night but no relief from the hot weather which continued until the wind turned to the north Wednesday night and pushed back the heat with a wall of cooler breezes.

A good rain is needed by the spring crops and for proper plowing of wheat fields which did not get turned under right after harvest.

But the western Kansas breezes blow and our people seem to flourish under the Kansas summer weather, with the ever-present cool nights of Comanche County.

The Coldwater baseball team journeyed to Protection Wednesday of last week, and came away victorious with a score of 11 to 8.

Al Hecht hurled the game for Coldwater and struck out 18 Protection batters. Coldwater out-hit Protection 15 hits to 6 hits. In addition to doing a superb pitching job, Hecht also hit two homers.

Last Sunday afternoon Coldwater trounced Wilmore 21 to 3 in a very uninteresting game which fattened all the boys' batting averages. Coldwater and Sun City are now tied for the league lead, each having won four games with no losses.

After several weeks of investigations and following the recommendation of several architects and state health officials, the Board of Trustees of the Comanche County Hospital last Friday, voted to purchase at a nominal cost, three lots belonging to Jay T. Botts and one lot belonging to Gloyd C. Hadley, thus establishing a site for Comanche Coun-

ty's hospital, which will be built as soon as all building materials are available.

The board has already purchased about \$2,000 worth of hospital equipment at a reasonable cost, securing it from the deactivated Dodge City Air Base.

S. Frank, owner of the Chief Theatre in Coldwater, flew from Wichita to Minneapolis, Minn., and returned this week by plane going to attend a 15-state conference of representatives of Columbia Pictures. Mr. Frank has been a representative of Columbia for 21 years.

70 YEARS AGO

From July 6, 1956 Star

It is getting around to the time for primary elections. It is important to vote in the primary because everybody there has a say in the choice of candidate for public office.

August 7 is the big date for the primary and now is a good time to think over real issues so that you will be an informed voter. Mark the date on your calendar, August 7. And spend a little time encouraging young people who have just reached voting age to vote in the primary.

It is your opportunity to help them to take advantage of their opportunity. The right to vote is a right that is not allowed in all parts of the world – so it is a good idea to use that right.

Kenneth Jameson, Comanche County Agent, reports that a telegram from the United States Department of Agriculture received Monday morning of this week, brings word that the drought feed program has been extended in Comanche County from June 30 to September 30, 1956. This applies to feed grains only.

The continued hot and dry weather which has dried up pastures all spring and early summer and has also prevented the planting of fall feed crops has resulted in a very serious situation for all growers of livestock.

Bill Proctor, Jr., and Don Parcel of Happy Valley 4-H Club have been selected as State 4-H winners in the Farm Business Activity.

Four winners are selected each year from the state. The boys were awarded an expense paid trip to St. Joseph, Mo., where they visited many interesting places. One of the places which the boys really enjoyed was the Associated Press teletype rooms where telegraphic news comes in from reporters all over the country.

Their next stop was Kansas City where they visited Kansas City Board of Trade Stockyards, Consumers Co-op Association and other points of interest. Don and Bill were awarded this trip by keeping track of the markets which affect their projects, visiting elevators with their club members and having bankers and other businessmen to talk to their club members about the use of credit, writing checks, etc.

Both boys are to be congratulated on the winning of this trip.

60 YEARS AGO

From July 6, 1966 Star

During the past 10 days the weather has continued to be increasingly hotter with practically no rain in sight. On the Fourth the temperature rose to 102 and on the following day, Tuesday, the hottest day of the year thus far, produced a high of 105,

U.S. Weather Observer, Vernon Pepper reports.

Leo Oller will represent Comanche County at the youth range camp to be held at the Rock Springs 4-H Camp. He will be sponsored by the Comanche County Soil Conservation District.

This is the fourth year the district has sponsored a youth for this camp. Dennis Swayze, Bob Huck, and Donald Lohrding attended the past three years. Leaders in the field range management give the youth some very important training.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin C. Elliott and son, Randy, a fourth grader, have moved into the residence of Mrs. Carolyn Brass at the south edge of Coldwater, where they will make their home. Another son, Phil, is a student in a dental college in Kansas City.

Mr. Elliott is the new Superintendent of Unified School District No. 300 in Comanche County. On Wednesday of this week he became a new member of the Coldwater Lions Club.

Staff members began to assemble at Camp Lark on Sunday afternoon, June 19th. They all came together to make the last-minute plans for a week of experiences that cannot be planned. For camping is always new and always the unexpected comes up to give the apt leader another point of reference.

Our campers, this year, came from 13 different towns and 15 different churches. From the open country church and the big city church they came and after a few hours, one could not tell the difference.

50 YEARS AGO

From July 8, 1976 Star

Comanche County's bi-centennial wheat harvest has been dragging on for about three weeks with most of the custom cutters moving on. Local farmers are now in the process of cutting their own.

Weeds have become an increasing problem. Joint grass, vetch, and weed seed are problems. Green berries and weeds have kept moisture content right at the borderline.

There are fields all over the county that are still uncut although estimates are that about 80 percent is cut.

Storage facilities have been nip and tuck. Railroad cars have not been able to keep up with the unusual yields which have varied from 10 to 61 bushels per acre.

The Protection Cooperative elevator began dumping wheat on the ground on Tuesday as both Protection and Coldwater's elevators are full until more cars are available, so pray for dry weather. Wednesday's market price is \$3.53 [or about \$20.50 now].

Weather continued clear, although humidity was high, the sun was shining clear. Skies were slightly overcast Wednesday with no immediate forecast for rain.

The tennis group will resume meeting at 8 o'clock in the morning Tuesday, July 13. We will meet at this time on Tuesdays for the remainder of the summer. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9 p.m. will be the meeting time of the weight lifting group. We will start again on Monday, July 12.

The coming week, July 12-17, the girls' league softball tournament will be held in Protection. Our junior high school age girls will be competing in this tourna-

ment. Ask one of these girls when their games are. I'm sure they would appreciate your going over to support them.

The following week, July 19-24, the boys' league baseball tournament will be played here in Coldwater. You might want to keep this in mind and come out and see what these boys can do.

On July 31 the Recreation Commission will take all interested persons to Wichita to ice skate at the Silver Skate ice arena. If you would like to go, please let Glenn McFall know so that enough transportation can be arranged.

Be Americans. Let there be no sectionalism, no North, South, East or West: You are all dependent one on another and should be one on union. In one word, be a nation: Be Americans and be true to yourselves. – George Washington.

They, 'the founders,' proclaimed to all the world the revolutionary doctrine of the divine rights of the common man. That doctrine has ever since been the heart of the American faith." – Dwight Eisenhower.

40 YEARS AGO

From July 10, 1986 Star

Boys and girls from throughout the area are welcome to compete Saturday here in a track and field meet. The one-day event at the local stadium is a promotion of the Coldwater Track Club.

The concession stand will be operated for the day by the Coldwater Booster Club. All net proceeds will go to upgrading the local track program and equipment.

Saturday's meet is for athletes of age 14 and under. It is not associated with the Junior Olympic program, but rules of that group will be followed.

Five age divisions are planned for both boys and girls. Those are age 6 and under, age 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, and age 13-14.

Jim Booth will be in charge, assisted by Kip Clark, Carlos Amaro and others will also help. Carl O'Hair will be meet starter. Boosters of the meet are hopeful that it will become an annual event at Coldwater, bringing area boys and girls here for track and field competition. A series of such meets in different area communities could evolve as a result of new interest and enthusiasm generated here.

American Red Cross swimming lessons are now being taught at the local swim pool. The lessons are free of charge and are being sponsored by the Coldwater Recreation Dept. They are for youngsters of preschool age all the way up to high school students and older.

The three week series of lessons will wind up on Friday, July 25. Classes are held five days weekly at the pool: from 8 a.m. through noon. Additional information on the classes can be obtained by calling Donnie Smutz at his home in Protection.

Because the Christian Church Family Vacation Bible School was such a success, it's been decided to have a picnic at the lake for all those who attended. The date is Sunday, July 20, at 12 noon. Bring your own table service and a covered dish. A limited version of "The Great Race" is being planned.

NEWS

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



SUBMITTED PHOTO

South Central's Jack Herd, left, head football coach Brett Westrup, middle, and Tyler Pauly, right, pose for a photo during the Kansas 8-Man All-Star game played recently in Beloit. The trio was part of the West All-Stars that dominated the East for the second straight year.

Herd, Pauly Wrap Up Prep Career in All-Star Events

STAFF REPORT

Recent South Central High School graduate Jack Herd was the first Timberwolves player in school history to be selected to play in the annual Kansas Shrine Bowl.

Herd donned the pads and helmet one more time as a prep star, suiting up for Mulvane High School's head coach Daniel Meyers who was tabbed to lead the West All-Star squad on Saturday, June 27 at Welch Stadium in Emporia.

It was a low-scoring affair as the East All-Star squad clipped the West 14-7. The East scored a touchdown in the first quarter to take the early 7-0 lead before the West closed the gap just before the quarter ended.

The West defense recovered a fumble in the end zone for its lone score of the game.

The East scored what proved to be

the game-winning touchdown with just over a minute left to play in the first half.

The defenses dominated the second half as each side was held scoreless. The East squad made one final defensive stand with less than a minute left to play to secure the victory.

Herd suited up for South Central head football coach Brett Westrup's West squad in the Kansas Division I 8-Man All-Star football game, which took place on June 13 in Beloit.

The West All-Stars made it two blowout wins in a row with a dominant 52-0 shutout of the East after winning last year's game 72-0.

South Central's Tyler Pauly was also selected to play in the 8-Man All-Star game. Pauly had a 10-yard touchdown pass in the win, while Herd provided a conversion run after the West's fourth

score of the day.

The 6-3, 210-pound tight end/linebacker received numerous post-season accolades after wrapping up his final season in the green and black. He was first-team All-State at linebacker for KSHSAA Covered and Sports in Kansas. Herd was also selected as a finalist for the SIK Player of the Year award in Class 1A-DI this season.

Herd's athletic prowess didn't stop on the gridiron. He was also a first-team All-State selection in basketball for several publications, including Southwest Kansas Player of the Year for Vype Magazine. He was also the Class 1A state champion in javelin this past spring.

The South Central graduate is continuing his athletic career at Friends University, in Wichita, this fall where he will compete in football and track.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Awards: Duo Wins Patriot Prize

First- and second-place winners of the Most Patriotic Dressed award at the city of Coldwater's Fourth of July Celebration pose for a photo on Saturday afternoon. Pictured are Eric Burt, left, who took first place and Hudson Underwood, right, who took second.

SUMMER 2026 LAB FAIR
Wednesday, July 22nd 2026
7am-9am

Basic Package- \$65.00
 (8 hr fast recommended)
 includes: CMP, CBC, Hemoglobin A1C, TSH,
 Lipid Panel, Magnesium, Uric Acid,
 & Vitamin D

Additional lab options include:
 PSA- \$20.00
 Fasting Insulin- \$20.00
 Testosterone Level- \$20.00
 Hepatitis C AB- \$20.00

Complimentary Blood Pressure checks
 and Refreshments

Comanche County Health Department
207 S. Washington Ave
Coldwater, KS 67029

FARMERS

• From Page 1

If everyone is doing well globally, people get richer while they're consuming more goods – just this classical mantra of economic growth leads to more demand for agricultural commodities."

Decisions to isolate the United States from certain import or export markets have a cost and benefit, Steinbach said. The country's gross domestic product – the value of finished goods produced in a country – is small compared to other countries, he said.

"While it may benefit certain groups by having closed borders and limiting access to the U.S. market, or the other way around, it might create unintended consequences, which can be large and can be harmful."

Agriculture, for instance, needs the international market because the domestic market doesn't see increased demand, Steinbach said.

"I think these fundamental factors should be always taken into account when we make dramatic decisions, or when we discuss dramatic policy shifts," he said. "Actually, there are always winners and losers, and making sure that the losers are taken care of in a transition is really important. That applies to both opening markets and closing markets."

'Balanced Trade'

The Trump administration's overall strategy has been focused on a balanced

trade strategy and addressing trade deficits, Arita said. Compared to trading partners, the United States has had low tariffs, he said.

Trump reset tariffs higher through the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, creating leverage for negotiation, Arita said. "Reciprocity is a key part of tariff negotiations," he said.

The Trump administration also has the goal of restoring the manufacturing sector, he said.

"In terms of restoring the manufacturing sector, that had left the ag sector to some degree more of collateral damage, in the sense where now we got hit by some of our other trading partners, like China," Arita said. "We have a very aggressive trade policy, and interestingly enough, only China, and to a smaller degree, Canada, have actually retaliated against our ag sector this time around."

Although some countries chose not to retaliate with tariffs, Arita said, there is a risk that if the United States is too aggressive, other trade partners will look outside the U.S. market.

"All these countries, if they do not see us as being very, very stable or a partner that they can easily negotiate with, then they're going to negotiate amongst themselves," he said. "On a global level, this is all good to have more trade agreements, but if you do have a situation in which a lot of countries are signing these pacts outside with the U.S.

not being a part of it, the U.S. does get left behind.

"Whenever you're very aggressive, there's just risk," Arita added.

Fertilizer Prices

The uncertain future of the Strait of Hormuz, the waterway between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman that is important for transportation of oil and liquified natural gas, affects multiple aspects of the agricultural sector. That includes the price of gas and fertilizer.

It's unclear how quickly

fertilizer prices will rebound, Arita and Steinbach said. An agreement reached June 18 to reopen the strait is tenuous, as three ships were bombed in the strait this week. Still, Steinbach said, he is hopeful the agreement will provide some stability in the markets.

The policy center has run simulation models to understand different scenarios and how they will affect the U.S. agriculture's input costs, Steinbach said.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Go to kansasreflector.com to read the entire article.

TAKE NOTE

As of July 1, the email address proppress@unitedwireless.com and the telephone number (620) 622-4288 are no longer active. If you would like to submit a news item, place an ad or have questions about your Star-Press subscription, please call (620) 582-2101 or email jasonjump@thestarpress.news.

PROTECTION PRECIPITATION

By Bonnie Lindsay

June 30	Precip 1.10
July 1	Precip .12
July 2	Precip Trace
July 3	Precip .34
July 4	Precip None
July 5	Precip None
July 6	Precip Trace
Total for the Month:	5.03
Total Year-to-Date:	7.64

PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in The Western 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

GOT NEWS?

We want to hear from you!
 Send news tips to:
jasonjump@thestarpress.news

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