

The Cunningham Courier

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August 6, 2026

County Commissioners Set to Decide Budget

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

The Kingman County commissioners are expected to decide between one of two options for the 2027 county budget at their Aug. 10 meeting.

During this past Monday's meeting, the commissioners reviewed two different

options, one in which the county would utilize money currently set aside in a "rainy day" fund and money set aside for a potential courthouse remodel to go toward paying almost all of a bond issued in 2016. The other did not have that option.

County Commissioner Jack Thimesch indicated he

would like to go with the option to pay off the bond.

"We have an option here now of paying off the debt and putting the county back in a better, I feel, a lot better situation," Thimesch said. "And if something comes up, like the remodel, put it to a vote. Ask the county if they want to remodel the courthouse."

County Commissioner Jeff Young said he understood that sentiment but wondered if it was a good idea to take money that was being put toward courthouse renovations, particularly after there had been plenty of talk about that before he was appointed to the District One seat.

"You haven't started any-

thing other than saving money," Young said. "But when I came in, this was a very important thing and I should get to Great Bend and we need to get moving."

County Commission Chairwoman Julie Lyon said she would be more inclined to go with the option in which those funds are left alone.

"I think we've spent a lot of money on lining up, like doing the engineering for the courthouse and stuff already," Lyon said. "And if they wait six years, they're going to start over."

Young indicated he would like to think some more about the decision, so the

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Dept. of Insurance Accepting Requests for Reimbursement

PRESS RELEASE

TOPEKA – Kansas Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt announced that the Kansas Department of Insurance is now accepting reimbursement requests for the HERO Act. The Helping First Responders Overcoming Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, or HERO Act, is a pilot program to help emergency responders by providing reimbursement for assessment and treatment of certain psychological conditions resulting from duty-related trauma.

"Our first responders put their lives on the line for us every day, and we owe them in return the same support when they need help," said Schmidt. "The HERO Act will help remove a financial barrier for first responders who need vital mental health treatment they may not have been able to receive otherwise."

The HERO Act was established this year by a proviso to the state budget, establishing a fund to be administered by the Department. First responders who meet the requirements may be eligible to receive reimbursement for the diagnosis and treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), acute stress disorder (ASD), or subclinical syndromes of either disorder as a direct result of a duty-related traumatic event. A million dollars is set aside to be administered through the pilot program to eligible first responders.

"Kansas law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency medical responders regularly step into situations involving traumatic scenes of human destruction brought about by criminal acts, natural disasters, or accidents," said Ed Klumpp of the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, the Kansas Sheriffs Association, and the Kansas Peace Officers Association. "The HERO act will assist these first responders by providing financial support for professional evaluation and treatment of post-

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Tasty Lessons



CUNNINGHAM LIBRARY

Cunningham Library: Schultz Shares Knowledge

Cunningham High School alumni Taylor Schultz brought her knowledge of healthy eating habits to the Cunningham Library recently to share lessons on food choices to some of the library's youngest patrons.

The Cunningham Courier Reminds Readers to Check Labels

STAFF REPORT

The Cunningham Courier reminds readers to check labels for a highlighted mark to remind readers that their subscription is

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Michelle Kyle Wins District 1 County Race

STAFF REPORT

Michelle Kyle was the winner of Tuesday's Republican primary election for District One Kingman County commissioner, based on unofficial results.

Kyle received 319 votes, while Renee Elpers received 191 votes and Bonnie Kopper received 119 votes. Kyle will be unopposed in November's general election.

There was one candidate running for each party for the District 1114 State House of Representatives. In the Republican primary, Kevin Schwertfeger received 1,400 votes and, in the Democrat primary, Alan Albers received 279 votes.

Candidates also filed to run for township clerk positions. Results for those races were:

Allen: Theodore Hall, 36 votes.

Bennett: K. Todd Turner, 134 votes.

Canton: Tim Allender, 25 votes.

Chikaskia: Kevin Miller, 14 votes.

Dale: John E. Pearson IV, 29 votes, Jamie Flusche, eight votes.

Eagle: James F. Coon, 22 votes.

Evan: Matthew Haukap, 113 votes.

Galesburg: David Lampe.

Ninnescah: Mike Rowley, 62 votes.

Richland: Ryan Miller, 13 votes.

Rural: Bob Renner, 46 votes.

The townships of Belmont, Dresden, Eureka, Hoosier, Kingman, Liberty, Peters, Rochester, Union, Valley, Vinita and White had nobody file to run back in June. There were votes for write-in candidates but the breakdown wasn't available as of Wednesday morning.

In the governor's race, Kingman County voters in the Republican party favored Ty Masterson and county Democrat voters favored Cindy Hoschler, who both won statewide.

All vote tallies are unofficial until the Kingman County commissioners meet this Monday to canvass the votes.

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NEWS

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After the Wizard Marks 15th Anniversary

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

Hugh Gross, the man who produced and directed *After the Wizard*, an independent film that had many scenes filmed in Kingman, was featured at the Oz-Stravaganza, a festival that celebrates all things related to *The Wizard of Oz*.

Gross previously had presented the film at the Oz-Stravaganza, but this marked the 15th anniversary of the film's release back in 2011.

"The people who run that festival and attend the festival, as you can imagine, *Wizard of Oz*, they're a very nice group," Gross said. "And so it was kind of a treat.

"And then this year, I was pleasantly surprised and I felt it was fortuitous timing because the movie has led

to a graphic novel that I'm working on."

The graphic novel, Gross said, is not based on the movie nor is it a sequel, but it involves the *Oz* characters "in a less focused or less central way."

"And it absolutely would not have happened without the movie, because one of the actors in the movie had started to produce and he wanted to make a television series out of it and kind of talked me into writing it," Gross said. "But then once I started writing it, it really went into a different direction. I would say kind of an animated film-like direction."

After things fell through with the TV series idea, Gross said he decided that a graphic novel would be the way to go. He found a team of illustrators who are now working on the project.

Gross said it's easier to work on a graphic novel than an independent film — and that takes him back to Kingman, in which he filmed many of the scenes.

"That was a miracle that was made possible by the heroic and selfless contribution of many people, including many people in Kingman," Gross said.

He said that Wanda Kelsey and the Kingman Area Chamber of Commerce played a big role, as he had a "loose list" of items he wanted to include if he was to shoot scenes in Kansas. That included a historic theater and a local chamber of commerce to get local people involved. He said the Kingman chamber was crucial to the film's production.

"I won't call it a cast of thousands, but maybe a cast of a hundred and something



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Local extras pose with members of the cast of *After the Wizard* at the Kingman County Courthouse.

people who participated from Kingman and also people who participated behind the scenes," Gross said.

"And Kingman also really, the city manager and the elected officials made

it easy. They were behind the film. So if we needed, I mean, we were above board, but if we needed a permit or permission, they helped."

He added that scenes were filmed in Pretty Prairie

and Hutchinson, but when it came to Kingman, Gross said he made as many as 12 trips between scouting and filming.

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BUDGET

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commissioners didn't take any action. However, they are expected to take action next week, so they can get the budget published and schedule the public hearing before the end of August.

During budget discussions, County Financial Officer LaDawn Stegman reviewed the status of the 2016 bond. The county had already budgeted \$312,000 of PILOT money to go toward a 2027 bond payment.

Stegman noted that, assuming the county used no other money toward the

bond, that there would be a \$1.375 million balance on the bond.

Meanwhile, the "rainy day" fund and the money for a potential courthouse remodel totaled about \$1.36 million. That means, if those are used to go toward the bond, the county would have almost paid off the balance in full, Stegman said.

Thimesch brought up his previous comments about the county courthouse remodel, saying he didn't want to stick a future commission with plans that future commissioners might not want to pursue.

"If we would just get out

and use this money to pay this bond down, that would free them up in the future that if they want to remodel this, they don't have this bond to pay for anymore," Thimesch said.

Stegman noted that, if the commissioners decided to go that route, once any money is deposited into the bond fund, it cannot be transferred out until the county is "debt free."

In other words, once the commissioners make the decision to move that money into debt services, it may not be moved back out.

"You'd be committing yourself," Stegman said.

She added that, depending on which option the commissioners chose, the amount of ad valorem tax raise would be the same, but the difference would be in where PILOT money would go.

If the commissioners wanted to pay down the bond, then all PILOT money would go there, but if not, some PILOT money would go toward the "rainy day" reserve and some would go toward the courthouse remodel.

Otherwise, Stegman said, there was no difference between the two budget options.

INSURANCE

• From Page 1

traumatic stress. It is the result of a coordinated response by the legislature, the Kansas Department of Insurance, the Fraternal Order of Police, our associations and other first responder associations to provide positive support for our first responders to manage the emotional challenges they face in serving and protecting their communities."

Information on the eligibility requirements of the program and the reimbursement request forms questions can be found at <https://www.insurance.kansas.gov/consumers/hero-act>.

NEWS BRIEFS

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OBITUARIES

JACKIE LEE BAILEY

HUTCHINSON – Jackie Lee Bailey, 86, died Sunday Aug. 2, 2026, at Hospice House of Reno County.

He was born Sept. 22, 1939, in Ashland, the son of Charles Oscar and Alice S. (Hinkle) Bailey. He was raised on the Briggs Ranch 11 miles south of Mullinville. He graduated from Mullinville High School in 1957.

A long-time resident of Great Bend, he retired from Williams Natural Gas Company. He belonged to Heartland Community Church in Great Bend and served in numerous ways.

He served in the U.S. Air Force as an Engine Mechanic, First Class. He was stationed in Bangor, Maine for two years and at Yokota Air Force Base in Japan for two years. After returning from the service, he barbered for seven years in Kansas City and Greensburg.

On Oct. 25, 1961, he married Sue LaDean Cooley in Cunningham. Together in their 64 years of marriage, Jack and LaDean traveled to all 50 states.

LaDean and her three children survive, listing youngest to oldest: Wendy Howe (Michael) Ozark, Mo., Aleisha Bragg (Tom) Rapid City, S.D., Ron Bailey (Nancy) Franklin, Ind. There are eight grandchildren: Anna Howe, Amelia (Trevor) Whittington, Beth (Brody) Weavill, Thomas (Reagan) Bragg, Jessica (Brice) Harkless, Elizabeth (Tony) Branstutter, Alyssa (Dan) Montgomery, Amanda (Nick) Hines, and nine great-grandchildren

He was preceded in death by his parents, Sister Nita (Bob) Kilgore, and granddaughter Angeline Aurora Bragg.

Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 6 at the Heartland Community Church, Great Bend. The family received friends on Wednesday, Aug. 5 at the Heartland Community Church. Graveside services with military honors will be at 2:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 6 at the Maud Cemetery, Cunningham, Kansas.

Memorials may be sent to Heartland Community Church, 4907th Street, Great Bend, KS 67530 and may be mailed in care of Livingston Funeral Home, 1830 N. Main, Kingman KS 67068.

JOHN D. WILLIAMS III

John D. Williams III was born on March 7, 1945, in Charlotte, N.C., to John "Jack" D. Williams II and Gretchen Carriker Williams. He passed away peacefully surrounded by his family.

John earned his engineering degrees from North Carolina State University. After graduation, he worked on pipeline projects in Tulsa, Okla., before beginning military service at

Yuma Proving Ground in Arizona. While in Yuma, he met Judith Huffman, whom he married on Dec. 30, 1972, in Atlanta, following NC State's appearance in the Peach Bowl.

In the 1980s, John and Judy adopted their two children, Erica and Alan, from Korea. John's career in engineering education included teaching at the University of Maryland and the University of Illinois. After retiring, John and Judy moved to Wichita to be closer to Judith's mother and their extended family.

John enjoyed square dancing and ballroom dancing with Judy. He also enjoyed spending time with his family, especially attending his children's and grandchildren's athletic games and ice-skating and dance activities.

John was preceded in death by his parents, his brothers, Jerry and Tim, and his infant daughter, Angela.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Judith, his children, Erica and Alan, and his grandchildren, Carson, Reagan, Raven, and Jordan.

Celebration of life services will be held Thursday, Aug. 6, at Cunningham UMC at 10:30 a.m.

Memorials may be made to WKCEF or Cunningham Library.



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OPINION

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

Tallgrass and Tumbleweeds

By Gaille Pike

Dear Readers,

Do you know what Batman’s Aunt Harriet has in common with Gunsmoke’s Doc? I didn’t know, nor would I have guessed before this week, that these actors were connected at all, let alone in *two* ways.

Both Madge Cummings Blake and Hugh Milburn Stone are from Kansas and, get this—they are also *cousins*! In fact, they’re first cousins. Blake’s mother (Alice Francis Stone) and Stone’s father (Herbert Macklin Stone) were siblings, born in Iowa and Kansas, respectively.

Born in 1904 in the south-central Kansas town of Burrton, Hugh Milburn Stone graduated from Burrton High School, where he was active in the school’s drama club. He is said to have debuted on stage in a Kansas Tent Show in 1919 before venturing into

vaudeville and appearing on Broadway. In the 1930s, he moved to California. His list of film and tv credits stretches as long as my legs. In 1955 he landed the role for which he is most remembered: Doc Adams on Gunsmoke. In interviews, Stone has said he modeled his performance of Doc on Joseph Wakefield Myers, M.D., Burton’s country doctor from 1913 to 1918.

Stone’s cousin, Madge Cummings was born in 1899 in Kinsley. Her father was a Methodist circuit-rider until he accepted a position as pastor in southern California. The year her family moved is unknown. It’s assumed they migrated west well before Madge turned twenty and married James Blake in Riverside, Calif. Verifiable information about her next thirty years is scarce other than that she and her husband worked

on the Manhattan Project equipment in Utah. Blake was 50 years old when she began studying acting in 1949 at the Pasadena Playhouse. In a 1961 interview, Blake said she started acting so late because her strict father thought theater was morally corrupting.

I have spent way too much time “researching” these cousins. It started with Wikipedia and some misleading information and from there I went tumbling down one online rabbit hole after another.

Everybody says her famous cousin is the reason Blake, a 50-year-old woman just starting out in the biz, got a whole slew of movie and tv roles, including a part in “Singing In the Rain” in 1952. Then in 1957, she would be cast in a recurring role on “The Real McCoys” as Flora MacMichael, Amos’ love interest. In the

early 1960s, she accepted another recurring role as Larry Mundello’s mother on “Leave It To Beaver.” Blake appeared in 96 episodes of Batman (Seasons 1 and 2) as Aunt Harriet. While these are the roles for which Blake is most remembered, she worked constantly, often uncredited, in film and television until her death in 1969.

Interestingly, Stone never said Blake used his connections and she never said that Stone launched her career. I doubt we’ll ever really know what the relationship between two talented cousins was. But I like to think that they shared some childhood Kansas memories, maybe sitting together on a porch one summer in Burton or Kinsley, laughing and eating watermelon.

Keep your eyes on the stars and your back to the wind.

Baby Brother

By Dean Marple

Everyone knows the rules. When a teenage big brother has a date, little brothers need to scram. Everyone knows that. Everyone except little brothers.

Alex saw his girlfriend, Ava, coming up the sidewalk in front of their house and was just opening the front door when a blur brushed past him yelling, “Hi, Ava,” as his baby brother, Ollie, bounced down the front steps and greeted Ava.

“We’re going to a movie this afternoon. Wanna come too?”

Smiling at Ollie’s excitement, Ava teased him, “Well, I don’t know? Can Alex come also?”

Ollie looked at Ava like that was the dumbest question he’d ever heard. “Well duh, of course he has to come. I don’t have any money, so he’ll have to buy my ticket.”

Ava laughed as she told Alex. “Well, it’s official, you have to come with us. Ollie needs your money.”

Ava might have been amused, but Alex was definitely not. “Squirt, you are not going with us. It’s just Ava and me.”

“Please, Alex! I want to go! Why can’t I go?”

“Because I said so, this is our date. Beat it, buddy.”

Being a bright seven-year-old, Ollie realized he was directing his pleas to the wrong person and changed tactics. Vigorously rubbing his knuckles in his eyes produced a moist, almost crying look which, when combined with a trembling, protruding lower lip, had

the desired effect.

“Ava, pleeeeeease, can’t I go? I’ll be so quiet you won’t know I’m there. Pretty pleeeeeease?”

Could any young lady ignore such an innocent plea? Certainly not Ava. “Alex, come on, why can’t Ollie come with us? Don’t be such a meany.”

Knowing he was beat, Alex could only grumble, “OK,” as the three of them headed to his car. At least he earned a smile from Ava as they drove to the theatre.

Parking across the street from the theatre, Alex reached for Ava’s hand as they got out of the car but wasn’t quick enough as a small mitt bumped his hand aside as an insistent voice announced, “Alex, you know what Mom said. I’m always supposed to hold an adult’s hand when I cross the street.” Ava thought it was sweet, Alex, not so much.

Once inside the theatre, if Alex thought his only expense was admission tickets, he was sadly mistaken. Walking up to the man behind the concession counter, Ollie confidently announced, “I’d like your biggest bucket of popcorn covered with extra butter to share with my friend Ava.”

With Ollie’s arms clutching the buttery popcorn bucket, they entered the theatre where Alex took a seat beside Ava with Ollie on his other side. Ava and Ollie munched popcorn all through the previews while Alex, not a big fan of buttery movie popcorn, declined. The movie screen came

to life, and Alex, under the cover of darkness, reached for Ava’s hand – a hand that at this point was covered in greasy butter.

“Yuck, your hand is gross,” was probably not the smartest thing a guy ever said to his girlfriend.

“Well, if you don’t like my hideous hand, switch seats with Ollie. He doesn’t mind my gross hand!” Little Ollie was perfectly content to switch seats with Alex because it made it easier to share the popcorn while Alex decided silence was his best option going forward.

Before they knew it, the movie credits rolled, and they were out the door, taking Ava home. Arriving at Ava’s house, they found her dad following a walk behind mower as he trimmed the front yard. Seeing them, he shut the mower off, glad to have an excuse to pause for a moment.

He asked Ava, “How was the movie?”

“It was fun,” she replied with a giggle. “It’s the first time I had a date with two guys at the same time. Ollie was with us all day.”

“All day you say? Imagine that. Well, anyway, I need to finish the backyard. You three might as well go into the house. I’ll be in shortly.”

Alex and Ava headed for the house, paying little attention to Ollie as he lagged behind. If they’d been paying attention, that would have noticed Ava’s dad slipping Ollie five dollars and whispering, “Good job, my little chaperone.”

Fresh From the Hen House

By Ashley Burkhart Walker

With the fair behind us and school approaching, we decided to squeeze in a couple of little day trips. Day trips, because milk cows and vacations really don’t mix.

If we are leaving the house for any decent amount of time, I pack snacks. Bananas, carrot sticks, rice cakes, homemade baked goods, anything quick and halfway healthy that will help us avoid convenience-store snacks. We’ve always tried to avoid convenience-store snacks because of the price. In a single-income home, they just do not fit into our budget.

We did, however, enjoy grabbing fast food while we were on the road. We considered it a treat because we rarely eat out. With the way we eat at home these days, fast food has actually become less and less desirable as time goes on. Our bodies are so used to receiving good nutrients from the food we eat that fast food has become quite unappealing, and our minds are slowly

catching on. Mostly my oldest and I have reached the point where we would be happier just bringing a hamburger patty from home to eat as a meal.

Even at the fair, we had the cooler loaded with snacks and food from home. My kids and husband would leave the house early to take care of the animals at the fairgrounds while I quickly made my rounds at home and threw together smoothies and homemade baked goods. I kind of felt like supermom bringing the kids a half-gallon jar of smoothie and homemade sourdough scones my oldest made. I do imagine supermom would have had her hair combed and her shoes manure-free. Don’t think we didn’t have a jar of raw milk in the cooler at the fair as well. It’s a yearly request from the kids.

The point is, we have reached a place where healthy food is what genuinely appeals to us because we know it will satisfy us and leave us feeling good.

It may feel like making homemade waffles for the week is out of the question, especially when you can so easily grab a box of mystery-ingredient cereal off the shelf. I was there once too, and small steps got us to where we are today: milling our own flour and using simple, healthy ingredients at home to give my kids the best nutrition I can, while also making them aware of how they feel after eating real food. They are learning something that will hopefully stick with them for life and improve the quality of their lives.

Our day trips were a nice break from home, where the to-do lists are endless. We were able to step away for a little while and enjoy time together, something that is as important as a healthy diet.

Flying Dutchman Burger
Ingredients
For the Onion Wrapped Flying Dutchman Burgers
1.5 pounds ground beef

2 large onions , cut into 1/2” thick slices
1 Tablespoon cooking oil
4-8 slices cheese, your preferred cheese
salt, to taste
black pepper, to personal taste

For the Homemade Burger Sauce
1/2 cup mayo (our homemade mayo is perfect here!)
1/4 cup ketchup
1 Tablespoon yellow mustard
2 Tablespoons minced onion
2 Tablespoons pickle relish , or minced pickles
1 Tablespoon Worcestershire, (optional)
Instructions
Make the Homemade Burger Sauce - Combine all the burger sauce ingredients. Stir until evenly combined. Taste for seasonings. If you like a more tangy sauce, add more mustard or some vinegar. For a sweeter sauce, add more ketchup.

Divide the ground beef

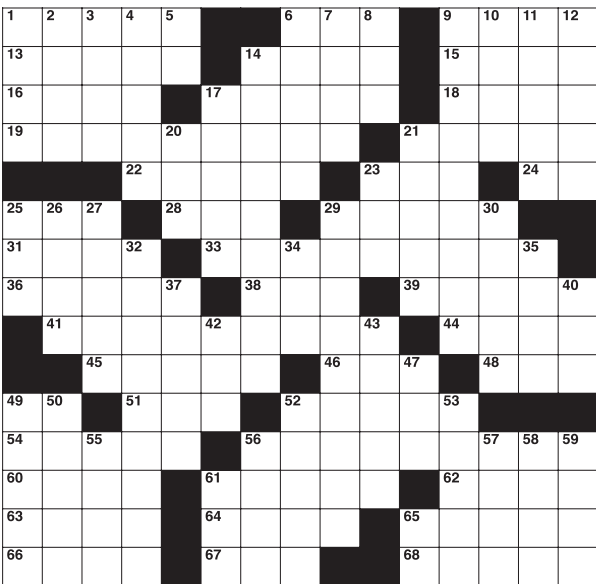
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1. Bleated

6. Snakelike fish

9. Database management system

13. Social evolution anthropologist Service

14. American rocker Grohl

15. Greek personification of compassion

16. Negatives

17. Rescued

18. Self-immolation by fire ritual

19. Assigns tasks

21. Popular type of cigar

22. Discounts

23. The whole quantity

24. New York Giants legend

25. Indicates before

28. Lentils

29. Extremely angry

31. Body part

33. “North Star State”

36. David __, US playwright
38. Lower and raise one’s head

39. Private rendezvous

41. In a way, improved

44. A place to play

45. Astronomical period of 18 years

46. Automobile

48. Something you can take

49. A radio band

51. Jaws of a voracious animal

52. Short-billed rails

54. Chinese province

56. Shameless

60. Horizontal passage from the surface into a mine

61. Indian respectful titles

62. Fail to entertain

63. Dried-up

64. Central Utah city

65. Southern U.S.

66. German river

67. Necessary for breathing

68. Put into play

CLUES DOWN

1. Curved segment

2. Wings

3. Yellowish volatile liquid

4. Makes less severe

5. Debit note

6. Overhang

7. The nights before

8. Type of light

9. Lacking enthusiasm

10. Tattle

11. Some is “heavy”

12. One who is canonized

14. Indicates date and place of writing

17. “Peace” in Arabic

20. “Olaf” actor Josh

21. Fragmented rock

23. They __

25. Advanced degree

26. Backside

27. Influential architect and design couple

29. An act of undue intimacy
30. Words from which later words are derived

32. 10 meters

34. Neither

35. Fungal sacs

37. The law of God revealed to Moses

40. A woolen cap of Scottish origin

42. A promise

43. Challenges

47. British Air Aces

49. Large bank

50. Served as an omen

52. Cavalry sword

53. Vaccine developer

55. Belgian WW2 resistance leader Jules

56. Italian Seaport

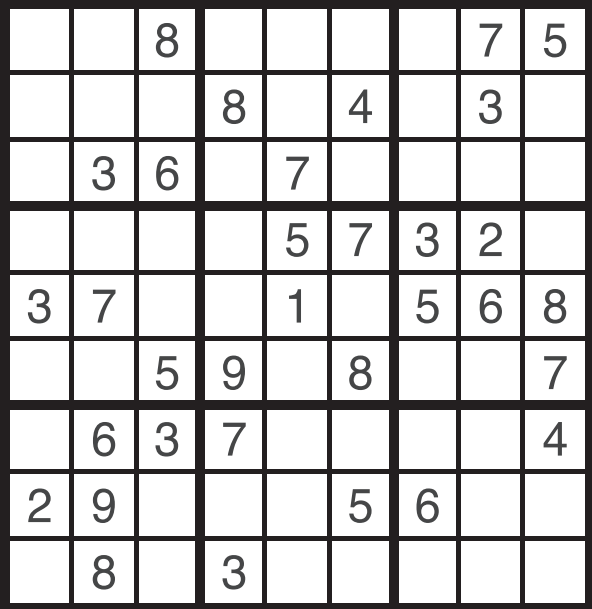
57. Hip joint

58. __ Clapton, musician

59. Insect repellent

61. Constrictor snake

65 “The First State” (abbr.)



Y E S E Y E F R P L S A C E F D O W F B
L P R Y I U E T M D C O A X C U P G X H
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EYE HEALTH WORD SEARCH

BACTERIA, BLURRY, CONTACTS, CORNEA, DISTANCE, DROPS, EXAM, EYES, GOGGLES, HEALTH, LASHES, OPTOMETRIST, PROTECT, REGARD, RETINA, SAFETY, SCRATCH, SIGHT, SOLUTION, TEARS, ULTRAVIOLET, VISION, WASH

NEWS

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

PUZZLE ANSWERS

B	A	A	E	D		E	E	L		D	B	M	S
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We now have certain online Auctions you can register to bid online. Please take a look!

CITY WIDE GARAGE SALE

The City of Turon is having a city-wide garage sale at the city park Sept. 19, 2026, from 8am-2pm, everyone is responsible for their own cleanup, sign-up is in the city office our number is 620-497-6443, and the hours are M-F 8-11 and 12-3.

FOR SALE

Available for sale - Grass Fed/Grain Finished Meat bundles and hamburger available. Call for prices. Govert Farms - 620-532-6460

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COMMUNITY

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



The Cunningham Clipper
W. A. BRADLEY, EDITOR

August 2, 1921

The City Council voted in their ordinance last week to raise the city tax from 2 ½ mills to 4 mills. The old city council left the city in debt almost \$400 and this was the only way that they had to raise the money to pay off the deficiency.

John T. Elder and family left for their home at Los Animas, Colorado, Thursday morning. Miss Vera Amick returned to Colorado with them for a short visit.

Dr. Maxson reports the birth of a nine pound baby boy at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Cooley, Wednesday, August 3rd.

The Chautauqua program the first day of the Chautauqua was fine. The talent consisted of two boys of near Cunningham and their program was excellent. They were assisted by a college boy from Winfield. The young fellow from Pratt was Forrest Erwin, the pianist, while the saxophone player was a nephew of our former townsman, J. T. Carrier. The program Wednesday was equally as good.

A nice little shower fell over town last Saturday afternoon. The shower did not do any good to speak of as it only rained south to Hageman's west to Steffen's and east to Amick's.

What we need is a good gully-washer.

DO YOU LOVE YOUR TOWN?

Do you love your town? Do you have any concern for its future? Would you like to see it grow, prosper, and extend its trade and influence? If you do, then ask yourself these questions: Do I help maintain and support its institutions? Do I encourage every movement looking to the upbuilding of the town? Do I speak a good word for the town and the people at every opportunity? Do I lend assistance to its industries? Do I patronize them? Do I fully understand the duties involving upon me in being a citizen? If you cannot answer these questions in the affirmative then you are not only a stumbling block but a detriment to any community.

Our idea of a good citizen, and we are glad there are many in this community, is one who is always ready to give, according to his means, to community enterprises. He takes stock in them all. He talks up his town at home and abroad, thinks it's the neatest place on earth, believing it to be destined to be the biggest city in its section and wants to be buried here when he dies. And he's worth a whole regiment of the luke-warm kind.

August 2, 1946

PRIMARY ELECTION

The primary election will be held Tuesday, August 6. Interest may not be strong but it's your patriotic duty to vote, so go to the polls Tuesday and cast your vote.

LOCAL SERVICE NEWS

Private Herman Park of Fort Lewis, Washington, is spending a 15-day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Park.

Corporal Max Smith, army air field control tower operator at Scott Field, Illinois, is spending a 15-day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Smith.

Captain John Raymond Fee, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Fee, arrived home last Wednesday morning after being discharged at Fort

Sheridan, Illinois, with three years of service. He recently returned from eight months overseas occupation duty in Germany.

Grass Fire

The Santa Fe train set the right-of-way afire in west Cunningham Tuesday noon. Quick action by volunteer firemen saved a barn and pasture of Raymond Zrubek.

SOCIETY NEWS

Goyen-Jacobs Nuptials Read Wednesday
Marriage vows for Mildred Elizabeth Jacobs, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Forest Jacobs of LaGrange, Georgia, and Corlis Del Goyen Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Goyen of Cunningham, were read Wednesday afternoon at four o'clock in the home of the bride's parents. Rev. Grady Bradshaw of West Point, Georgia, officiated.

Three candelabra against a background of fern and baskets of white gladioli formed the setting before which the vows were read.

Nuptial music was played by Mrs. J. W. Monens of LaGrange, at the piano, and Mrs. Monens also accompanied Hattie and Helen Halle of LaGrange, who sang preceding the ceremony.

The bride was attended by Miss Emily Smotherman of LaGrange, as maid of honor, while Mr. John Freeman of West Point served the groom as best man.

Tapers were lighted by Miss Ann Strickland of LaGrange.

The bride was attractively gowned in a gown of white eyelet embroidery, featuring a sweetheart neckline, fitted bodice and full skirt. Her corsage was of white purple-throated orchids.

Miss Smotherman wore a dress of blue eyelet and her corsage was of pink lilies.

A reception followed the ceremony, at which Ruth and Elza Jacobs presided, assisted by Doris Howard, Flennie Todd, Minnie Clair Wilshon, and Mrs. Rosewell Evans, all of LaGrange.

After a wedding trip to Niagara Falls, Mr. Goyen and his bride will spend two weeks at the Goyen home near Cunningham.

The bride is a graduate of LaGrange high school, and has been employed as secretary in a law firm.

The groom is a graduate of Pratt high school and attended Kansas State College at Manhattan before entering army service three years ago. He plans to reenter Kansas State in September.

The groom's parents were among the guests at the wedding. rom everywhere

A new drug which is said to relieve about 85 per cent of the hay fever victims will be on the market by next midsummer. Here is a discovery not to be sneezed at. —The Plain Dealer.

Winter, says Joe Van Vranken in the Pratt Union, is a time when a lot of folks keep their houses as hot as it is now, when they are complaining of the heat.

It's cruel, says E. E. Briles of the Stafford Courier, when a doctor tells a man he has reached the age where he must avoid all forms of excitement because excitement is about all there is left for him.

What you have in this world will be found on the day of your death to belong to others; what you are will be yours forever.

Friend—I got into bad company. I had a bottle of whiskey, and the three other fellows didn't drink. —Pratt Union.

There is only one place you can find success without

work—in the dictionary. —The Cheney Sentinel.

Stanton is the healthiest county in Kansas. It doesn't need a doctor because you can't die there anyway—there isn't any undertaker. —Johnson Pioneer.

When Cecil A. Sheldon, Cunningham farmer living two and one-half miles east of this city, was a big wheat grower in Stanton County, Kansas, less than a decade ago he got tired of carrying cans of gasoline from the fuel barrels to his tractor.

So he did something about it. He perfected his own portable filling station.

That inspiration has been expanded into an on-the-farm factory for the Sheldon Tractor Filler and is a unique enterprise today.

The Sheldon pump weighs seven and one-half pounds and 8,000 of them are now in service from coast to coast, Mr. Sheldon states.

The pump eliminates funnels, buckets and faucets. It is equipped with ten feet of one-inch gasoline hose, lined with duprene. It pumps 15 gallons per minute, primes itself when dry and the hose has a removable strainer.

Gasoline barrels never need be tilted and the owner operates the pump while on top of the tractor.

Perhaps the most important feature and one which was responsible for the Sheldon pump rating a special story in Popular Mechanics magazine several years ago is the fact that it all but eliminates danger of spilling gasoline on the tractor and does away with the constant fire hazard.

This portable filling station has been selling for \$21.50, but there will be a slight increase because of rising costs of the material.

Sheldon said last week that he is receiving as many as two hundred orders a week for the tractor fillers. Just before the outbreak of the war in 1941 he received inquiries from Holland but to date he hasn't exported any to foreign countries.

The Cunningham farmer has only two employees, and doesn't have to worry about overhead, since it's "all in the family."

Other members of the firm are his son, Dale, and his son-in-law, Dan Cusenbary.

ADVERTISERS INCLUDED:

- Cunningham Theatre.
 - Friday-Saturday, "People are Funny," musical with Jack Haley, Helen Walker, Rudy Vallee, Phillip Reed, and Ozzie Nelson's Orchestra.
 - Sunday-Monday, "The Harvey Girls," musical with Judy Garland, John Hodiak, and Ray Bolger.
 - Hauser's Market.
 - Fresh Tomatoes, 2 pounds - 25c
 - Lettuce, 1 pound - 15c
 - Apples, 3 pounds - 25c
 - Purex, quart - 15c, gallon - 49c
 - Chuck Beef Roast, 1 pound - 35c
 - Foster's Café
 - Patton's Skelly Service
 - Kamplang Garage, St.Leo
 - Bowersock Elevator
 - Socony-Vacuum Service Station
 - J. F. Schump Real Estate
 - Ferd Burnett, M. D.
 - Burnett's Drug Store
 - Dr. Donald E. Thompson, Dentist
 - Fee Hardware Company
 - J. B. Houston & Son Lumber Co.
 - Grier's Orchard, Cairo
- In 1946, Subscription rates were \$1.50 per year in the State of Kansas and \$2.00 outside state. The paper was published every Friday and was eight full-size pages.



CUNNINGHAM LIBRARY

Library Fun: Youngsters Build Dinosaurs

Following the dinosaur theme for the reading program this summer, youngsters at the Cunningham Library make dinosaurs out of shape blocks after a recent story time.

WIZARD

• From Page 2

Gross would return to Kingman after the film was completed, for special screenings of the film and, one time, upon an invitation to be the grand marshal of the lighted Christmas parade.

"My memories of Kingman are really warm," he said.

As for Oz-Stravaganza, the festival gets about 15,000 visitors for the event held in Chittanooga, N.Y., in June. He had previously presented the film at the festival and was happy that the

event organizers asked him to return, particularly after everything involved with making the film and finding a distributor.

"If I had known before I started what I know now, I don't know if I would have allowed myself to proceed because it's so hard to finish a movie," Gross said. "It's hard to find distribution, it's hard to create elements related to the film that meet technical standards so that the movie can be distributed to, you know, Apple or in some foreign territories."

As far as returning to Kingman goes, Gross said

he would welcome the opportunity.

"Depending on whether something happens with the graphic novel, that would be a perfect tie-in because — and this is funny — at first I used to resent it, but I have learned whenever — I mean, you could have made the 1939 movie. you could make Gone with the Wind or whatever, but people will always ask you, 'What are you working on now?'" Gross said.

"And it's nice to have an answer. It'd be my pleasure to come back to Kansas and reconnect."

OPINION

• From Page 3

into 4-8 equal balls. Don't press or form the ground beef balls too tight. You want to have the ground beef loosely packed so the patties cook more tender and have a better texture when you smash them on the pan or griddle.

Slice the onions into intact rings about 1/2" thick.

Heat a large cast iron skillet on medium-high heat. Drizzle about 1 Tablespoon of oil on pan then lay onion slices on the hot pan. Season onions with salt and pepper.

Cook the first side of the onions for about 2-4 minutes or until the onions are caramelized. Gently turn the onions, trying to keep the onion rings all intact. Season the

remaining side with salt and pepper and cook other side until caramelized. Gently remove the cooked onion slices from the pan, still trying to keep the rings intact, and set aside.

In the same pan, lay the ground beef balls on the hot pan and press the meat with a spatula to smash and form the patties. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Cook the patties for about 2-3 minutes on each side or until it's nearly cooked to your liking.

Add cheese on top of each patty and let the cheese melt. Remove from heat.

Using the onion slices as the "bun", lay 1-2 patties on top of each onion slice. Add the burger sauce.

Top with remaining slice of onion. Eat right away and enjoy.

A Mom's Musing

By Stephanie Jump, Co-Owner, M³ Publishing LLC

My hometown paper is gone. The owner closed her doors and walked away after several years in the community. No real warning that I know of just gone. And after last week, I can understand that sentiment.

If it could go wrong, it did. If I could mess up in the most spectacular way possible, I did. I was frustrated to tears and seriously considering going back into teaching because believe it or not, teaching is much less stressful than what I do now.

I felt every kind of defeated possible to say the least. But then, I got a very sweet note in the mail encouraging me and telling me how much she enjoys her hometown paper even though she doesn't live here anymore. Then, I received grace. Grace from people that I inconvenienced (to say the least) and caused more work for. Then, family time. Time away, even for a day, to

just enjoy some time with our kids because this summer I haven't seen much of them to be honest and the mom guilt is pretty huge right now.

I feel like a duck in water, seemingly calm on top but paddling furiously underneath. I hope to bring in some help soon, we have a great candidate in mind, just haven't had a chance to finalize plans yet.

So in the meantime, I will keep paddling. And you, readers, keep that grace coming because it is the only thing keeping me grounded at the moment.

They always say you never know what someone else is going through, so if you are feeling so overwhelmed with life right now please know you are not alone. There are a bunch of us in the pond with you. Keep paddling and maybe we should all meet up sometime.

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