

Michelle Kyle Wins District One County GOP Primary

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 for the seat.

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.

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

County Hopes to Finalize 2027 Budget Next Week

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

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KHS Band Camp



BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

Kingman High School marching band members practice the National Anthem during Tuesday's session of the summer band camp at Kingman Middle-High School. Band members also practiced the fight song and learned the numbers they will perform during the halftime shows at football games later this season. This is the fourth year that Avila has held the band camp.

Members Prepare for Upcoming Halftime Shows

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

For the fourth straight year, Kingman Middle-High School music teacher and band director Robbie Avila held a camp for the high school marching band.

The camp gives Avila a chance to work with the band members on halftime shows planned for the upcoming season. Last year, the KHS band performed a 1990s show and a Halloween show. This year, Avila said, the plan is to do a 1980s show and a Halloween show with different numbers.

"We're playing Jump by Van Halen," Avila said about the 1980s show. "We're playing Don't Stop Believin' by Journey, Funky Town, and then Separate Ways is another Journey tune, and then for the Halloween show we'll be doing music from Nightmare Before Christmas, Ghostbusters, and then we'll be ending with Michael Jackson's Thriller, so lots of good stuff."

He said that the camp is about making sure the band is good to go with those numbers. Because band is an academic class with set class periods, there's only so much time available then to prepare for those performances.

"We do extra evening rehearsals, game day rehearsals, and whenever we can squeeze in some extra time, and I've got enough band nerds here

that they like to work together outside of school and get things ready on their own too," Avila said.

He currently has 16 students officially signed up for high school band, but expects to have around 20 this year once all students have enrolled.

Avila teaches band in fifth through 12th grades, so he has had the chance to work with kids of all ages and build the program since he started with the district back in 2021.

"I think that it's come a long way with the sense of camaraderie between the students, the ownership that they take, and the agency that they have," Avila said.

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USD 331 Students Start School Aug. 18

STAFF REPORT

School will start for USD 331 students on Tuesday, Aug. 18 with a half day, then the first full day for students will be Wednesday, Aug. 19.

Enrollment for all new students took place this week, before teachers are set to report.

The new teacher academy will take place this Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 11-12, followed by an all-staff inservice at all schools on Thursday, Aug. 13. There will be a professional learning day on Friday, Aug. 14, then Monday, Aug. 17 will be a teacher work day.

At Kingman Elementary School, kindergarten students are invited to the playground for a popsicle meet and greet with the kindergarten teachers on Friday, Aug. 14 at 6 p.m.

KES will hold its open house Monday, Aug. 17 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and a Title parent meeting from 5:30 to 6 p.m. in the library.

At Kingman Middle-High School, the high school student council will have a fall kick-off meeting at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 8.

Norwich School will host its open house Monday, Aug. 17 from 6 to 7 p.m.

The first day of practice for all fall sports will be Monday, Aug. 17. Athletes are reminded to have a current physical on file.

Jessica Dittmer Receives 2026 Wyatt Oakman 4-Her of Year Award



BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

Jessica Dittmer, R, was named the Wyatt Oakman 4-Her of the Year during the 4-H livestock auction held July 25. Dittmer, pictured with Kingman County Extension Agent Melissa Thimesch, said she was surprised by the honor.

BY STEPHANIE JUMP
Staff Writer

Jessica Dittmer, a member of the Cunningham 4-H Club, has been named the Wyatt Oakman 4-H Member of the Year. Dittmer said she was surprised to get the award.

"I had no idea I was getting this award," said Dittmer.

Dittmer is 13 years old and has been active in 4-H for six years. She is the club historian and says she hopes to get to hold onto the office for the upcoming year as well.

"I would like to be the historian

again," she said. "I really enjoyed making the scrapbook for the club."

Dittmer said her favorite project she takes to the fair is visual arts.

"I have recently got into painting. I like to paint with my mom. I also like to do fun crafty things," she said.

She said the hardest part about judging is remembering things when the judges ask questions.

"Like in the fashion revue, the judge will ask you stuff like 'what's the cost per wear for your outfit' or in sewing the judge may ask you 'what kind of scissors you used to cut out the pattern,'" she said.

Dittmer said her favorite part of the Kingman County and 4-H Fair is the carnival and getting to see everyone's projects.

Dittmer said she might like to try a woodworking project to bring to the fair next year.

"I think it's neat all the projects I have seen made," she said.

Dittmer said her parents and club leaders have been really helpful in helping her be successful each year at the fair.

"My parents encouraged me to get

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NEWS

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BUDGET

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talk about that before he was appointed to the District One seat.

“You haven’t started anything 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 al-

ready,” 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 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.

AWARD

• From Page 1

my projects done and not wait until the last minute even though I usually do,” she said. “Our leaders also encouraged us to do great things. Don’t be afraid to help someone or ask for help.”

Dittmer will be an eighth grader at Cunningham Middle School next year and is using what she learns in 4-H to help her in all areas outside of the club.

“This award reminds me to keep working hard towards my goals and don’t give up,” said Dittmer.

OBITUARY

JUDITH (JUDY) LYNN UTZ

Judith (Judy) Lynn Utz, 83, of Idalia, Colo., and most recently, Parker, Colo., passed away on July 18, 2026, at her son’s home surrounded by her family.

Born on March 27, 1943, in Anthony, Judy was the oldest of three siblings, five half siblings, and the daughter of William Donald Garvin and Merle Winifred Newsum (maiden name Mock), both deceased.

After graduating from Kingman High School on May 25, 1961, Judy married Edward “Scott” Utz just three days later, on May 28, and went on to have an amazing and adventurous life. In addition to being the backbone of all of Scott’s businesses, travels and the kids’ endeavors, Judy had a rewarding career with the United States Postal Service as a rural mail carrier in both Colorado and Montana. Judy received an award in March 2005 for her years of dedicated service to the post office but much more meaningful to her were all the notes, letters and special tokens she received from the customers on her route(s). Prior to joining the postal service, Judy got her real estate and broker’s license and started her own real estate firm, High Country Realty.



Judy could truly do anything and had many passions, but nothing was more important to her than her family. She loved to garden, sew, quilt, cook, play cards, read, RV to Arizona, golf, work crosswords, watch baseball (especially spring training games and the Colorado Rockies) and travel but what she loved most of all was fishing! Over the years Judy and Scott took numerous fishing trips and some of her favorites were to Alaska, Canada, Minnesota and Jackson Lake in the Tetons. No matter the location or the company, Judy always caught the most fish and the biggest fish and never looked happier than when she had a fish on the line!

Judy kept up on current events, was naturally curious and could navigate any topic with interest. She was a masterful conversationalist and was universally loved and adored.

Judy will be missed beyond measure and is survived by her husband of 65 years, Edward “Scott” Utz, her son Scott (Sandy) Utz, daughter Shannon (Rich) Harris, six grandchildren, five great grandchildren, two brothers Bill (Pam) Garvin and Albert (Kathy) Garvin, and four half siblings, Mike (Luann) Newsum, Barbara (Paul) Thompson, Phillip (Renee) Garvin and Patty Karpowicz.

The Utz family would like to extend heartfelt gratitude to the staff at Berkley Hospice for guiding us through a difficult journey with compassion, caring, and kindness.

To honor Judy, the Family is planning a celebration of life event at the end of August near Parker.

Jones Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, August 6, 2026) 1t



City Clerk's Quarterly Financial Statement Kingman, Kansas For the Period From April 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026							
	PREVIOUS BALANCES	RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS	ADJUSTMENTS	NEW BALANCES	ENCUMBRANCES 7/1/2026 - 7/15/2026	BALANCE
General Operating	1,184,402.91	610,159.32	688,034.82		1,106,527.61	22,669.25	1,083,858.36
Water Works	863,638.78	248,825.01	213,753.43		898,710.36	8,233.53	890,476.83
Electric Lights	2,597,253.29	1,514,115.98	1,839,258.03		2,272,111.24	27,873.63	2,244,237.61
Disposal System	496,197.11	213,186.22	173,442.18	434.88	536,376.03	45,041.69	491,334.34
Employees Benefits	266,768.03	155,845.35	133,861.33		288,752.05	795.88	287,956.17
Economic Development	294,479.24	33,592.34	23,591.20		304,480.38	14,437.99	290,042.39
Special Highway	140,669.52	18,897.73	28,324.84		131,242.41		131,242.41
Bond & Interest	55,181.47	47,841.88	0.00		103,023.35		103,023.35
Economic Development Director	46,928.24	12,500.00	21,841.67		37,586.57		37,586.57
Kingman Land Bank	27,133.88	0.00	0.00		27,133.88	42.00	27,091.88
EMS Operating Fund	318,812.04	313,527.03	300,484.45	-107.11	331,747.51	12,765.53	318,981.98
Library	5,751.38	41,528.35	47,276.38		3.35		3.35
Special Park & Recreation	48,416.56	1,727.10	6,350.00		43,793.66		43,793.66
Airport	68,930.69	55,683.12	43,215.02	-48.72	81,350.07	2,743.58	78,606.49
Flood Control	187,205.13	4,062.24	0.00		191,267.37		191,267.37
Convention & Tourism	31,591.73	8,216.64	5,851.93		33,956.44	23.08	33,933.36
TIF Program	301,912.71	55,542.56	4,271.14		353,184.13	236.45	352,947.68
Sales Tax	45,010.17	118,652.84	118,256.61		45,406.40		45,406.40
Meter Deposit	61,161.48	4,000.00	0.00		65,161.48		65,161.48
Health & Life Management	1,026,073.07	175,811.50	234,692.69		967,191.88	16,775.18	950,416.70
Centennial Fund	12,251.57	0.00	3,850.00		8,401.57	2,339.00	6,062.57
Payroll	12,015.75	375,528.56	372,010.84		15,533.47		15,533.47
Cafeteria Plan - AFLAC Med Re	216.39	269.22	0.00		485.61		485.61
Municipal Equipment Reserve	107,864.13	0.00	0.00		107,864.13	12,600.00	95,264.13
Fire Reserve	21,219.89	45,642.20	0.00		66,862.09	3,660.00	63,202.09
Police Reserve	42,247.63	72.18	0.00		42,319.81		42,319.81
Ambulance Reserve	186.25	0.00	0.00		186.25		186.25
Water Surplus	2,334,359.48	12,500.00	43,750.00		2,303,109.48		2,303,109.48
Light Principal & Interest	216,468.78	66,798.92	0.00		283,267.70		283,267.70
Light Surplus	2,666,207.29	219,611.93	0.00		2,885,819.22		2,885,819.22
EcoDevo Activity Fund	13,046.06	8,610.00	5,465.61	1,000.00	17,190.45		17,190.45
Light Improvement Fund	25,591.13	0.00	0.00		25,591.13		25,591.13
Disposal Debt Service	22,670.03	7,241.58	0.00		29,911.61		29,911.61
Disposal Plant Replacement	1,211,112.59	18,750.00	18,750.00		1,211,112.59		1,211,112.59
Bonds	3,035,544.86	0.00	461,877.08		2,573,667.78	569,780.61	2,003,887.17
Street Improvement	276,915.09	55,847.78	0.00		332,762.87		332,762.87
Collaborative Grant Fund	51,519.80	35,047.54	34,342.14		52,225.20		52,225.20
Grants Fund	7,500.00	25,000.00	25,000.00		7,500.00		7,500.00
Cemetery Endowment Fund	140,140.28	350.00	14,850.00		125,640.28		125,640.28
Cemetery Capital Improve fund	26,276.88	175.00	0.00		26,451.88		26,451.88
Opioid Settlement Fund	18,754.88	647.46	0.00		19,402.34		19,402.34
State forfeiture Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
Airport Improvement	47,580.84	17,009.00	25,069.50		39,520.34		39,520.34
EMS Training	49,370.86	2,675.00	3,139.04		48,906.82	449.10	48,457.72
Bowron Interest	4,247.51	0.00	55.00		4,192.51		4,192.51
Keyes Estate	1,328.68	0.00	55.00		1,273.68		1,273.68
Law Enforcement Trust	9,725.29	2,240.00	339.95		11,625.34	200.00	11,425.34
City Safety Fund	332.39	50.00	0.00		382.39		382.39
TIF Improvements	423.91	0.00	42.98		380.93		380.93
TIF Debt	46,077.56	0.00	0.00		46,077.56		46,077.56
Insurance Proceeds	0.33	0.00	0.00		0.33		0.33
Fire Dept Trust Fund	109,298.19	0.00	5,306.75		103,991.44		103,991.44
Capital Improvement Fund	1,015,849.66	1,500.00	32,940.24		984,409.42		984,409.42
Progress Kingman	7,077.15	985.00	0.00		8,062.15		8,062.15
TOTALS	19,600,938.56	4,530,266.58	4,929,349.65		19,203,134.54	740,666.50	18,462,468.04

LIABILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS

General Obligations	4,630,000.00
TIF	173,000.00
EI Utility Revenue Bonds	2,000,000.00
Lease Purchase	358,450.39
	7,161,450.39



Zachary Blythe, City Clerk



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OPINION

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

Who You Are

By Bernie Sheahan

I tried to go all day without seeing a single soul, just to see if I could do it. Uh-oh. I'm typing this on Sunday, and this is therefore an impromptu public confession, because how could I have gone all day without seeing anyone if I'd been to church, huh? Huh?

I have it on good theological authority (not really) that making a public declaration of one's transgression is as good as a private one. And so a newspaper column becomes a confessional.

I overslept, you see, and decided to worship creation instead. No, I didn't. Worship is for the Creator. But creation can be mighty fine, especially around here. Especially today. Warm, not hot breezes...or maybe it's been so hot lately that I thought a 90-degree breeze was just "warm." A breeze of any temperature is nice. We have lots of wind here on the prairie but when it's not blowing your cat off the porch it can be just lovely.

I needed to go outside. But I was getting a lot done so I tried to squash my extroversion and stay home, alone. Then I heard a little voice. It might have been an angel ("Why weren't ya at church, ya slacker?") but it was probably me saying, "Sure, your extrovert battery is still at 50%, not a dangerous 3%, so maybe you don't need to go out and be social, but that's you! Go be

you, where there are people."

So on I went, to the movies, and missed seeing the usual crowd in the lobby because I was ten minutes late. Got my popcorn and sat down and it was so dark I could see no one. So far, so not social. That's OK. I settled in. Can't tell you much about the superhero plot, but there were some emotional scenes that made me get out my pocket notebook. Two quotes, two scenes, two human characters, talking to Spider-Man:

"Who are you? and "Remember who you are."

By the time you're, say, 35, you have a pretty good grip on your identity: a daughter, a son, a farmer, a teacher, a mom, a dad, a good friend. You might not ponder your place in the world when you're working two jobs, raising toddlers or teenagers (God help you in either case), doing laundry and paying the bills, you hope. Who has time to ponder?

Me. I'm a ponderer. It's kind of my job, really. After the movie, it was still light, so I wandered down Main Street and West A and gazed up at the buildings, as I often do. When it's quiet, and sometimes when it's not, I think about my great-grandparents, Patrick and Bridget. It thrills me no end to imagine them right there, where I'm walking.

Their son, my Grandpa Billy and his bride, Mabel, my dad and his siblings, my aunts, uncles, and cousins walking in and out and past some of these same buildings, for so many years.

Even my Portuguese mama, the Massachusetts city girl, who took me to Calvert's so she could buy dress shields to protect her pretty clothes in the heat of a Kansas July. I just caught that memory again, and I'm glad. I always think of the local Sheahans on Main Street, but Helen was a Sheahan, too, and loved our big, laughing Irish family. She knew who she was, and she was part of them.

I think that's what I've been about for the last three years, out here on the prairie. I came here for them. They're the reason I will likely live out all my days in this sweet old town, and get buried next to her and Daddy, near Billy and Mabel and Patrick and Bridget.

Who are you? It took Spider-Man the whole movie to remember who he was. But I know. I'm a daughter of the prairie, of the wheat fields, of Kingman, Kansas — though most of my life I was elsewhere. I'm home now, with scads of kinfolk and friends and neighbors who feel like family. And, as it turns out, I can't go a day without them. Without you.

That's who I am.

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 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.

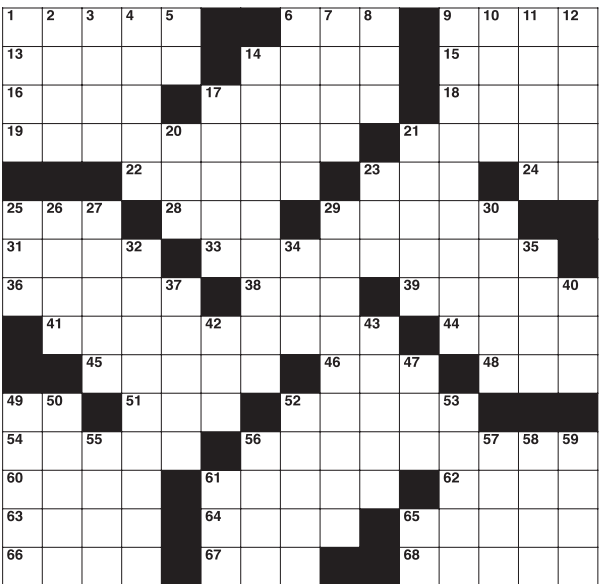
PUZZLE ANSWERS



Chris Huhman
Financial Advisor

240 N Main St
Kingman, KS 67068
620-532-1190

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

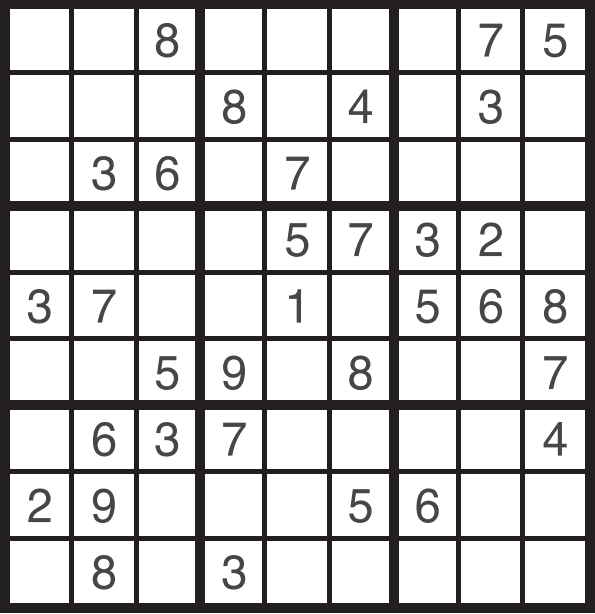


CLUES ACROSS

- Bleated
- Snakelike fish
- Database management system
- Social evolution anthropologist Service
- American rocker Grohl
- Greek personification of compassion
- Negatives
- Rescued
- Self-immolation by fire ritual
- Assigns tasks
- Popular type of cigar
- Discounts
- The whole quantity
- New York Giants legend
- Indicates before
- Lentils
- Extremely angry
- Body part
- "North Star State"
- David __, US playwright
- Lower and raise one's head
- Private rendezvous
- In a way, improved
- A place to play
- Astronomical period of 18 years
- Automobile
- Something you can take
- A radio band
- Jaws of a voracious animal
- Short-billed rails
- Chinese province
- Shameless
- Horizontal passage from the surface into a mine
- Indian respectful titles
- Fail to entertain
- Dried-up
- Central Utah city
- Southern U.S.
- German river
- Necessary for breathing
- Put into play

CLUES DOWN

- Curved segment
- Wings
- Yellowish volatile liquid
- Makes less severe
- Debit note
- Overhang
- The nights before
- Type of light
- Lacking enthusiasm
- Tattle
- Some is "heavy"
- One who is canonized
- Indicates date and place of writing
- "Peace" in Arabic
- "Olaf" actor Josh
- Fragmented rock
- They __
- Advanced degree
- Backside
- Influential architect and design couple
- An act of undue intimacy
- Words from which later words are derived
- 10 meters
- Neither
- Fungal sacs
- The law of God revealed to Moses
- A woolen cap of Scottish origin
- A promise
- Challenges
- British Air Aces
- Large bank
- Served as an omen
- Cavalry sword
- Vaccine developer
- Belgian WW2 resistance leader Jules
- Italian Seaport
- Hip joint
- __ Clapton, musician
- Insect repellent
- Constrictor snake
- "The First State" (abbr.)



EYE HEALTH WORD SEARCH

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Summertime is the perfect time to invite a group of friends over for

A GREAT SLEEPOVER!

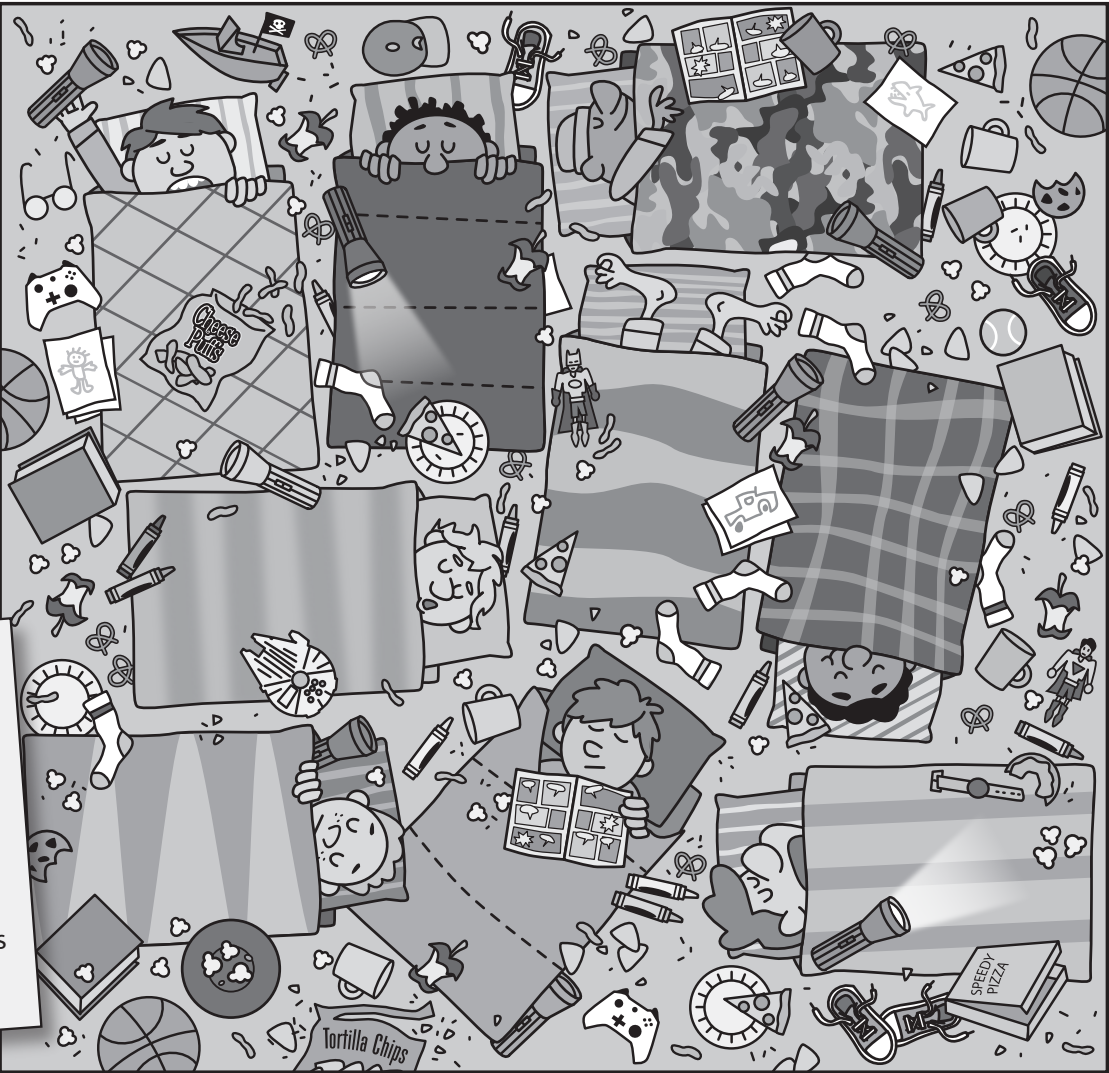
Here are a few tips for planning the perfect slumber party:

- ☆ Create some colorful cards to invite your friends. Be sure to tell the start time and end time for the party.
- ☆ Have a plan for things your guests will enjoy, such as playing games, watching a movie, working on a craft, etc.
- ☆ Have yummy snacks such as s'mores, popcorn or fresh fruit.
- ☆ Encourage **everyone** to help clean up any mess the next morning! It's not fair to leave it for your parents to do.

Sloppy Slumber Party

Wow! The boys at Noah's slumber party had a lot of fun, but they sure made a really big mess. Can you find these items among the clutter?

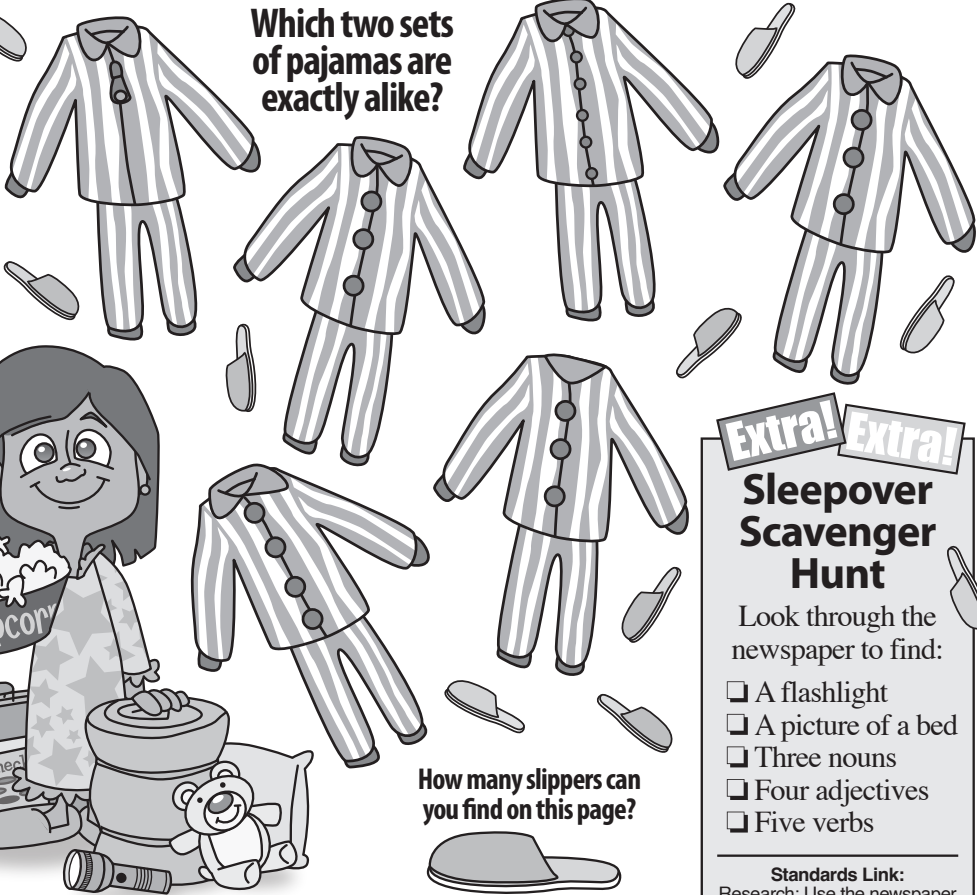
- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ 11 pretzels | ☐ 3 books |
| ☐ 11 crayons | ☐ 8 flashlights |
| ☐ 7 socks | ☐ 5 pizza slices |
| ☐ 6 cups | ☐ 2 action figures |
| ☐ 4 plates | ☐ 3 basketballs |
| ☐ 6 apple cores | ☐ 4 sneakers |



Silly Sleepover Sentence

Write a sentence about a silly sleep over. Use one noun, one verb and three adjectives!

Which two sets of pajamas are exactly alike?



How many differences can you find between these two pictures?



How many slippers can you find on this page?

Extra! Extra! Sleepover Scavenger Hunt

Look through the newspaper to find:

- ☐ A flashlight
- ☐ A picture of a bed
- ☐ Three nouns
- ☐ Four adjectives
- ☐ Five verbs

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

Standards Link: Visual Discrimination.

Kid Scoop Puzzler



Sleepovers are fun, but you'll need to catch up on your sleep. Why does sleep matter? Replace the missing words.

SKIN LEARN IDEAS
ATTENTION HEALTHY INJURIES

Your brain needs sleep, so you can:

- Remember what you _____
- Pay _____ and concentrate
- Solve problems and think of new _____

Your body needs sleep, so your:

- Muscles, bones, and _____ can grow
- Muscles, skin and other parts can fix _____
- Body can stay _____ and fight sickness

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

SLEEPOVER
SENTENCE
PAJAMAS
HEALTHY
PILLOW
SPEECH
FIGHT
BRAIN
SOLVE
BONES
VERBS
GHOST
SKIN
GROW
BED

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

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

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

Kid Scoop Together:

A Goofy Ghost Story

Telling ghost stories at a slumber party is fun. But not all ghost stories are scary. Ask a parent for each type of word to fill in the blanks. Then, dim the lights and read it aloud tonight!

THE STRANGE VISITOR

Boris had fallen asleep in his _____ reading one night.
NOUN
Around 2:00 a.m., a loud _____ startled him awake.
NOUN
The room was completely dark. "Who's there?" cried Boris. A deep voice in the shadows replied, "It is I, a _____ ADJECTIVE _____ And there is no NOUN escaping my _____ PLURAL NOUN !"
Boris ran across the dark room and began to _____ the stairs. But he felt a cold _____ grip his ankle.
NOUN
He couldn't _____ at all!

"Wait!" shouted Boris. "If I give you my collection of _____ ADJECTIVE _____, will you leave?"
PLURAL NOUN

"You collect those, too?" said the voice. "That's amazing! Do you also like to eat _____ ADJECTIVE _____ on toast?"
PLURAL NOUN

"My favorite!" said Boris. He turned on the overhead _____ and the two hairy NOUN monsters shook _____ PLURAL NOUN. "Nice to meet you! I'm Boris!"

"My name is Edgar," said the other monster. "I know it's late, but I think we can still catch a few _____ ADJECTIVE _____ PLURAL NOUN before the sun comes up."

With that, the two monsters friends stepped out into the dark _____ night.
ADJECTIVE

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **SLUMBER**
The verb **slumber** means to sleep, usually lightly.

Grandpa **slumbered** through most of the boring movie.

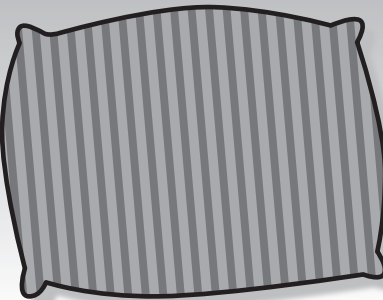
Try to use the word **slumber** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Opposite Headlines

Select five or more headlines in today's newspaper. Re-write each headline so that it says exactly the opposite of what the original headline said.

Standards Link: Vocabulary Development: Students understand and use antonyms to determine the meaning of words.



What happens when you sleep on a corduroy pillow?

ANSWER: You make headlines!

Write On!

That's Strange

What is one of the strangest things you have ever heard about? Write about it and share it with a friend or family member.



What's in your future?

Home ownership? Children? Owning a chain of car washes? Whatever may happen in your future, **we can work together to make sure you're covered.**

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Charlus J Bishop, LUTCF
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Kingman, KS
620.532.3188
CharlusBishop.com



DOCKET

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

KINGMAN CITY POLICE BLOTTER *By Officer Kyle Mandeville*

Sunday, July 26

Traffic Stops	0
Suspicious Person	200 Blk S Main St.
Animal Complaint	200 Blk E D Ave
Building Check	200 Blk W Sherman Ave
Road Hazard	Riverside Park
Found Property	200 Blk W H Ave
Found Property	500 Blk N Thompson St
911 Hang-Up	E Eighth and S Marquette St
Smoke Investigation	200 Blk N Sunflower Dr
Agency Assist	100 Blk N Spruce St
Agency Assist	100 Blk N Spruce St

Monday, July 27

Traffic Stops	0
Agency Assist	12000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
Traffic Accident	200 Blk N Sunflower Dr
Suicidal Subject	400 Blk N Lincoln St

Tuesday, July 28

Traffic Stops	5
Animal Complaint	800 Blk N Elm St
Traffic Accident	300 Blk E D Ave
Disturbance	1300 Blk N Main St
Disabled Vehicle	300 Blk E D Ave
Smoke Investigation	700 Blk E D Ave

Wednesday, July 29

Traffic Complaint	1
Vehicle Unlock	E B Ave and N Main St
Vehicle Unlock	100 Blk W C Ave
Fraud	400 Blk W Sunset Dr
Disturbance	300 Blk W A Ave
Disturbance	300 Blk W A Ave
Theft	100 Blk N Spruce St
Deceased Person	1800 Blk N Sidney St

Thursday, July 30

Traffic Stops	0
Suspicious Person	1800 Blk N Sidney St

Suspicious Person	300 Blk E D Ave
Medical Assist (Fall)	1200 Blk N Chariton St
Medical Assist	300 Blk E D Ave
Disabled Vehicle	400 Blk E D Ave

Friday, July 31

Traffic Stops	0
Disturbance	100 Blk N Spruce St
Traffic Complaint	200 Blk N Sunflower Dr
Parking Complaint	N Broadway and W C Ave
Bar Check	Taphouse 54

Saturday, Aug. 1

Traffic Stops	4
Agency Assist (Fire)	4500 Blk NE 40 Ave
Traffic Accident	400 Blk E D Ave
Found Property	E Star Ave and N Main St
Animal Complaint	500 Blk S Main St
Bar Check	Taphouse 54

KINGMAN COUNTY SHERIFF BLOTTER

Sunday, July 26

Traffic Stops	1
Miscellaneous	SE 20 St & SE 160 Ave, Cheney
Non-Injury Accident	13000 Blk SE Adams Ave, Rago
Abandoned Vehicle	2200 Blk NE 10 St, Kingman
Suspicious Person	NE 10 St & NE 140 Ave, Cheney
Miscellaneous	200 Blk W H Ave, Kingman
Follow Up	15000 Blk SE 20 St, Cheney
Animal Complaint	13000 Blk E Hwy 2, Norwich
Unlock Vehicle	400 Blk E Leiter, Cunningham
Animal Complaint	1100 Blk E Hay 42, Rago
Agency Assist/Medical	W Hwy 42 & SW 160, Nashville
Animal Complaint	NE 40 St & E Hwy 54, Kingman
Follow Up	5000 Blk E Hwy 42, Rago

Monday, July 27

Traffic Stop	1
Agency Assist/KHP	12000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
Miscellaneous	120 N Spruce St, Kingman
Miscellaneous	400 Blk N Lincoln St, Kingman
Fire/Swather/Field	15000 Blk SE 100 Ave, Norwich
Animal Complaint	N Berry & NW 50 St, Kingman

Tuesday, July 28

Traffic Stops	1
Civil Paper Service	4
Suspicious Person	400 Blk E Leiter, Cunningham
Follow Up	400 Blk S Valley, Cunningham
Animal Complaint	NW 110 & W H 54, Cunningham
Follow Up	120 N Spruce St, Kingman
Fraud	13000 Blk SW 80 St, Nashville
Check Welfare	500 Blk SW 20 Ave, Kingman
Motor Assist	16000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
Disabled Vehicle	9000 Blk E Hwy 54, Murdock

Wednesday, July 29

Traffic Stops	2
Unsecured Building	N Elm & W Sherman, Kingman
Follow Up	400 Blk E D Ave, Kingman
Follow Up	400 Blk SE 30 St, Kingman
Theft	16000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
Agency Assist/Medical	1800 Blk N Sidney St, Kingman

Thursday, July 30

Traffic Stops	1
Suspicious Person	SE 20 St & S Hwy 14, Kingman
Non-Injury Accident	SW 100 St & SW 30 Ave, Spivey
Agency Assist/Medical	300 Blk E D Ave, Kingman
Trespassing	4800 Blk NE 150 Ave, Cheney
Traffic Complaint	E Hwy 54 & NE 40, Kingman

Friday, July 31

Traffic Stops	1
Agency Assist/KHP	7000 W Hwy 54, Kingman
Identity Theft	120 N Spruce st, Kingman
Suspicious Person	SE 70 St & S Hwy 14, Kingman
Miscellaneous	200 Blk N Main St, Spivey

Saturday, Aug. 1

Traffic Stops	2
Civil Paper Service	2
Fire/Structure	4500 Blk NE 40 Ave, Kingman
Follow Up	200 N Main St, Spivey
Accidental 911 Dial	300 Blk S Somerset St, Norwich
Miscellaneous	4900 Blk NE 150 Ave, Cheney
Fire/Baler	4600 NW 30 Ave, Kingman

KINGMAN COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

Judge Roseanna Mathis	first appearance.
Thursday, Aug. 6	2026: State of Kansas
2026: State of Kansas	vs. Corbin Andrew Klein,
vs. Mitchell D. Bowen, di-	first appearance.
version.	2024: State of Kansas
2026: State of Kansas vs.	vs. James W. Woodward,
Jestina Rae Miles, hearing.	probation violation.
2026: State of Kansas	2026: State of Kansas
vs. Marilyn S. Thiel,	vs. Jason Keith Stewart,
hearing.	hearing.
2026: State of Kansas	2026: State of Kansas
vs. Ximena Maldonado,	vs. Joseph L. Keeling,

hearing.	2026: State of Kansas
2026: State of Kansas	vs. Makyla Clancey Burns,
vs. James Leroy Whit-	first appearance.
more, hearing.	2026: State of Kansas
2026: State of Kansas	vs. Tristyn Dae Farmer,
vs. Oscar Alberto Valdez	first appearance.
Rodriguez, diversion.	2026: State of Kansas
2026: State of Kansas	vs. Diego Joseph Garcia,
vs. Alma Rocio Renteria	first appearance
Urbina, diversion.	2026: State of Kansas
2026: State of Kansas vs.	vs. Renae Paige Merchant,
Rebecca L. Reid, hearing.	first appearance.

Man Arrested on Charges of Indecent Liberties With Child

STAFF REPORT

A Kingman man was arrested by the Kingman Police Department Tuesday after an investigation into allegations involving a juvenile victim.

Tony R. Streight was booked into Kingman County Jail on charges of rape and indecent liberties with a child.

According to a Kingman Police Department news release, the case remains under investigation and the arrest and charges are allegations only. The suspect is presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law, the released stated.

The release also stated that no addi-

tional information will be released at this time because of the age of the alleged victim and the sensitive nature of the investigation.

Anyone with information regarding the case is asked to contact the Kingman Police Department at (620) 532-3138.

LEGAL NOTICE

(First published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, July 30, 2026) 3t

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT, KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE DEPARTMENT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
JONATHAN WAYNE CARNEY,
Deceased.

Pursuant to Chapter 59

Case No. KM-2026-PR-000019
Kansas Statutes Annotated

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 A. Carney, an heir of Jonathan Wayne Carney, deceased, requesting that the descent be determined of the decedent's interest in the following described real estate situated in Kingman County, Kansas: the Southwest Quarter of Section 16, Township 27 South, Range 9 West of the 6th P.M., Kingman County, Kansas, and that such property be assigned pursuant to the laws of intestate succession.

You are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 25th day of August, 2026, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. of such day, at the Kingman County District Court in Kingman, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Amy A. Carney, Petitioner
Tad Patton, #10879

TRIPLETT WOOLF GARRETSON, LLC
2959 N. ROCK ROAD, SUITE 300
WICHITA, KS 67226
(316) 630-8100
Attorneys for Petitioner
#2582653

LEGAL NOTICE

(First published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, August 6, 2026) 3t

Matthew W. Ricke, #20995
ATTORNEY AT LAW
349 NORTH MAIN, P. O. BOX 113
KINGMAN, KANSAS 67068
(620) 532-3103
matt@randr.lawyer

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
LINDA A. CULVER, Deceased.

CASE NO. 2026 PR 20
(Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59)

ORDER FOR HEARING

AND FOR NOTICE TO CREDITORS

On the date of the electronic file stamp above, the Court finds the Petition for Probate of Will and Issuance of Letters Testamentary filed by Tracy Lee Culver should be heard on September 1, 2026 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. in this Court; notice of the time and place of hearing be given pursuant to K.S.A. 59-2209 and 59-2210, and notice to creditors be given pursuant to K.S.A. 59-709 and 59-2236.

All instruments required by K.S.A. 59-2209 to be included with the notice shall be served on all interested parties, by First Class mail, and the Affidavit of Service shall so reflect, provided however, the petitioner shall be excused from physically attaching to the Affidavit of Service copies of all instruments other than the notice.

IT IS SO ORDERED.
/s/ Matthew W. Ricke
Matthew W. Ricke, #20995
349 North Main, P. O. Box 113
Kingman, KS 67068
(620) 532-3103
Attorney for Petitioner

KINGMAN COUNTY JAIL BOOKINGS

July 28: Corey Ryan Guy-	no proof of insurance and
ton, 32, served 48 hours.	theft of property or services,
July 29: Logan Allen	\$3,250 OR bond.
Johnson, 34, driving with	July 31: Lakshdeep
suspended license, vehi-	Singh, 26, possession of stole
cle registration violation,	len property.

KINGMAN COUNTY ACCIDENTS

June 28: The Kingman County Sheriff's Department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which Donna K. Knight, 54, of Norwich was driving a 2014 Kia Sorrento southbound on SE 100th Avenue when, about half a mile south of SE 40th Street, she struck a deer that came from the east ditch. Knight was not injured.

July 20: The Kingman County Sheriff's Department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which Robin Eric Wiebe, 37, of Kingman was driving a 2013 Ford Explorer west-bound on U.S. Highway 54/400 when, about half a mile west of NE 150th Avenue, he struck a deer that came from the north ditch. Wiebe was not injured nor were passengers Andrea Wiebe, 34, Addy Tracy, 17, Jaiden Wiebe, 14, Rhett Wiebe, 4, and Declan Wiebe, 1, all of Kingman.

LEGAL NOTICE

(First published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, July 30) 3t

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF:
Cari Winter, as Parent and Next Friend of
Levi Allan Grant Trapani, a Minor,
For Change of Name to:
Levi Grant Winter

Case No. KS-20226-CV-000016

NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

You are hereby notified that on the 19th of August, 2026 at 11 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the District Court of Kingman County, Kansas, located at 130 N. Spruce St., Kingman, KS, the undersigned will petition the Court for approval to change the name of the above named minor from Levi Allan Grant Trapani to Levi Grant Winter

Any person who may be affected by the change of name may appear at the hearing and show causw why the request-ed change should not be granted.

Dated this 30th of July, 2026
Cari Winter
237 Lincoln Street
Kingman, Kansas 67068
620-243-3933

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NEWS/SPORTS

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



BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

Livestock Contest: Profit, Loss Winners Named

The Norwich 4-H Backers recognized three 4-H members for their livestock projects in the organization's Livestock Profit and Loss Contest. The contest challenged exhibitors to track the income and expenses of their livestock projects, then summarize what they learned and identify ways they could improve their profitability for next year. Each participant earned a \$50 add-on and the top participant in each division (senior, intermediate, junior) received an additional \$250. Certificates were presented prior to the 4-H livestock auction July 25 to the top participants. Pictured (L to R) are Gabe Schlickau of Norwich 4-H Backers and contest winners Joe Thimesch (senior division), Sam Thimesch (intermediate division) and Madison Francis (junior division).

HERO Act Pilot Program Launched

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-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>.

Kansas City Chiefs Announce Start of 2026 Season Kickoff

PRESS RELEASE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – The countdown is on. Today, the Kansas City Chiefs officially announce the start of the 2026 Season Kickoff, a month-long celebration that brings together fans, players, partners, and the community as Chiefs Kingdom gears up for the return of football.

Beginning with Training Camp and culminating with the club's Monday Night Football home opener, the 2026 Season Kickoff will feature fan-favorite traditions, community initiatives, charitable events, and key milestones that celebrate the passion and pride of Chiefs Kingdom.

“The start of football season always brings a special energy to Kansas City,” said Chiefs President Mark Donovan. “From Training Camp and Red Thursday to the Kickoff Luncheon and our home opener, these events reflect the traditions, community spirit, and passion

that make Chiefs Kingdom unique. We look forward to celebrating with our fans as we begin another season together.”

Throughout Aug. and Sept., fans can take part in a variety of events and experiences leading up to kickoff and beyond.

2026 Season Kickoff Schedule
Aug. 6 – Red Thursday Flag Presale Begins: Fans can secure the limited-edition commemorative flag benefiting Ronald McDonald House Charities before it becomes available to the public. The on-line-only presale will go live on shop.chiefs.com.

Aug. 6 – Red Thursday Virtual 5K Registration Opens: Fans across Chiefs Kingdom can participate in the seventh annual Red Thursday Virtual 5K presented by G.E.H.A. This year's race is virtual, so Chiefs fans can show their pride from wherever they call home. The Red Thursday Virtual 5K race win-

dow will be open from Thursday, Sept. 10 – Sunday, Sept. 13. Look for sign-up information on chiefs.com/redthursday/run.

Aug. 15 – Chiefs Charity Game – Preseason Game Los Angeles Rams vs. Kansas City Chiefs on KSHB 41: The Chiefs continue one of the NFL's premier preseason charitable traditions as they take the field while supporting a worthy community cause. On Saturday, Aug. 15, the Chiefs will host the Los Angeles Rams for the 42nd annual Chiefs Charity Game. The matchup will directly benefit the life-changing work being done by Jackson County CASA. The game is scheduled for a 3 p.m. CT kickoff on KSHB 41 locally.

Aug. 21 – The Franchise presented by G.E.H.A: See the Chiefs like never before in the season 7 premiere of “The Franchise” presented by G.E.H.A. The new season will highlight key moments, un-

told behind-the-scenes stories, and never-before-seen footage. Watch exclusively on the Chiefs official YouTube Channel.

Aug. 22 – Preseason Game at Tampa Bay on KSHB 41: On Saturday, Aug. 22, the Chiefs will play the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in a preseason game at Raymond James Stadium. The game is scheduled for a 6:30 p.m. CT kickoff on KSHB 41.

Aug. 28 – Preseason Game Seattle Seahawks vs. Kansas City Chiefs on KSHB 41: On Friday, Aug. 28, the Chiefs will host the Seattle Seahawks for the club's preseason finale. The game is scheduled for a 7 p.m. CT kickoff on KSHB 41. Inspired by the iconic Backyard Football video game, the game will feature a pregame activation in the Ford Tailgate District, along with interactive fan experiences and themed elements woven throughout the game-day experience.

Sept. 1 – Chiefs Kickoff Luncheon, Kingdom Impact Report & Lamar Hunt Award: The annual luncheon benefitting the KC Chamber highlights the club's impact throughout Chiefs Kingdom, recognizes community leaders, and celebrates the presentation of the Lamar Hunt Award.

Sept. 10 – Red Thursday: On Thursday, Sept. 10, the Chiefs will continue their longstanding tradition where Chiefs Kingdom comes together to support local families in need at the Ronald McDonald House through flag sales throughout the Kansas City area.

Sept. 14 – Home Opener: Denver Broncos vs. Kansas City Chiefs (Monday Night Football) on ESPN and ABC: The 2026 regular season opens at home as the Chiefs host the Broncos under the lights on Monday Night Football. The game is scheduled for a 7:15 p.m. CT kickoff on ESPN and ABC.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

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PUBLIC NOTICES

(Published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, August 6, 2026) 1t

The governing body of
Norwich Hospital District No. 1
 Kingman County

will meet on August 18 at 6:30 pm at 111 S Main ST Norwich, KS 67118 for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied. Detailed budget information is available at 111 S Main St Norwich, KS 67118 and will be available at this hearing.

SUPPORTING COUNTIES
 Kingman County (home county) Harper, Sedgwick, Sumner

BUDGET SUMMARY
 Proposed Budget 2027 Expenditures and Amount of Current Year Estimate for 2026 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2027 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	Prior Year Actual 2025		Current Year Estimate for 2026		Proposed Budget Year for 2027		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	115		5,105		22,000		
Debt Service							
Totals	115	0.000	5,105	0.000	22,000	0	0.000
						Revenue Neutral Rate**	0.000
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditures	115		5,105		22,000		
Total Tax Levied	0		0		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX		
Assessed Valuation:	0		34,588,267		34,702,581		

Outstanding Indebtedness,

Jan 1,	2024	2025	2026
G.O. Bonds	0	0	0
Revenue Bonds	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Lease Pur. Princ.	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.
 **Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Christina Bartel

(Published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, August 6, 2026) 1t

State of Kansas
Township

NOTICE OF HEARING TO EXCEED REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE AND BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of
Galesburg Township
Kingman County

will meet on Tuesday, August 25, 2026 at 7:00 PM at Gary Hess Residence, 10543 NE 40th St, Murdock, KS 67111 for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds, the amount of ad valorem tax and the revenue neutral rate. Detailed budget information is available at Gary Hess Residence, 10543 NE 40th St, Murdock, KS 67111 and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2027 Expenditures and Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2027 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2025	Current Year Estimate 2026	Proposed Budget 2027				
Fund	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	13,994	3.577	22,174	2.867	18,900	8,777	2.463
Debt Service							
Library							
Road	112,810	21.130	122,433	20.713	115,300	93,780	26.319
Special Machinery							
Totals	126,804	24.707	144,607	23.580	134,200	102,557	28.782
					Revenue Neutral Rate**		22.484
Less: Transfers	27,482		0		0		
Net Expenditure	99,322		144,607		134,200		
Total Tax Levied	80,120		80,121		XXXXXXXXXXXXXX		
Assessed Valuation:							
Township	3,350,125		3,397,844		3,563,245		
Outstanding Indebtedness,							
Jan 1	2024		2025		2026		
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	0		0		0		
Lease Purchase Principal	0		0		0		
Total	0		0		0		

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.

**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Gary Hess
Treasurer

Gary Hess

Page No.

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NEWS

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



FACEBOOK PHOTOS

Cub Scouts: Pack 337 Attends Scout Camp

Members of Kingman Cub Scout Pack 337 attended Scout camp this week. On the third day, they performed the morning colors ceremony for 130 other campers. Other camp activities in which they took part included practicing their marksmanship at the firing range, hiking in the forests along Walnut River to check out the wildlife, participating in a scavenger hunt, digging up dinosaur bones and other real fossils, participating in a cannonball contest at the camp pool and learning how to create a volcano and simulate an eruption. Cub Scout Pack 337 will hold an open house on Aug. 25 at the Scout cabin in Kingman with the theme of “Floats and Boats,” in which they will race raingutter sailbots and enjoy root beer floats. Anyone who is interested in joining is welcome to attend the open house and meet fellow Cub Scouts and their Scoutmasters.

PUBLIC NOTICES

(Published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, August 6, 2026) 1t

NOTICE OF HEARING TO EXCEED REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE

2027

The governing body of
City of Kingman
will meet on September 10, 2026 at 6:00 PM at 324 N Main St Kingman KS 67068 for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to revenue neutral rate and proposed tax rate, as required by KSA 79-2988.

SUPPORTING COUNTIES

Kingman County

Revenue Neutral Rate*	66.581	Proposed Tax Rate	70.073
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Tax Rates are expressed in mills

* Revenue Netural Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

(Published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, August 6, 2026) 1t

State of Kansas
City

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

2027

The governing body of
City of Kingman
will meet on at 6:00 PM at 324 N Main St Kingman KS 67068 for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at <https://www.cityofkingman.com> and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2027 Expenditures and Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2027 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	Prior Year Actual for 2025		Current Year Estimate for 2026		Proposed Budget Year for 2027		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate *	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate *	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate *
General	2,584,832	40.862	2,416,748	28.033	2,687,264	784,137	30.010
Debt Service	140,263	0.834	137,498	0.509	137,500	30,433	1.165
Library	125,942	5.289	131,677	5.127	132,284	118,281	4.527
Employee Benefits	293,200	6.769	556,624	20.642	566,763	466,117	17.839
Airport Fund	166,867	3.175	176,103	3.026	178,000	33,430	1.279
Flood Control	19,730	1.620	130,000	0.387	80,000	15,686	0.600
EMS	981,381	15.365	1,183,418	14.727	1,267,767	382,879	14.653
Special Highway	76,667		120,000		120,700		
Special Parks	15,152		21,500		36,000		
TIF District	178,079		269,600		249,572		
Conv. & Tourism	22,606		30,000		36,000		
Econ. Development	87,528		148,000		140,000		
Eco. Devo. Director	73,649		84,929		95,140		
Kingman Land Bank	1,000		7,000		21,000		
Water Utility	649,988		807,249		806,037		
Electric Utility	6,407,870		6,986,065		7,228,205		
Waste Water Utility	627,855		699,831		722,753		
Non-Budgeted Funds-A	37,766						
Non-Budgeted Funds-B	1,042,329						
Non-Budgeted Funds-C	2,021,997						
Non-Budgeted Funds-D	678,161						
Non-Budgeted Funds-E	155,585						
Totals	16,388,447	73.914	13,906,242	72.451	14,504,985	1,830,963	70.073
Revenue Neutral Rate** 66.581							
Less: Transfers	1,582,819		1,338,100		1,407,500		
Net Expenditure	14,805,628		12,568,142		13,097,485		
Total Tax Levied	1,550,741		1,641,695		XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX		
Assessed Valuation	22,209,115		24,013,572		26,128,880		
Outstanding Indebtedness, January 1,	2024		2025		2026		
G.O. Bonds	3,964,000		3,675,000		3,393,000		
Revenue Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	500,000		0		3,410,000		
Lease Purchase Principal	245,624		180,009		423,143		
Total	4,709,624		3,855,009		7,226,143		

*Tax rates are expressed in mills

**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Zach Bieghler
City Official Title: City Clerk

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Silver Haired Legislature Decides 2027 Priorities

PRESS RELEASE

The Kansas Silver Haired Legislature (KSHL) held its delegate meeting on July 29 in Wichita, where delegates reviewed 113 priorities gathered from older Kansans across the state and voted to advance five issues to become the basis for formal resolutions.

Those resolutions will be presented, debated, and voted on at KSHL’s upcoming legislative session in October. After that, those that move forward will be brought before Kansas lawmakers during the 2027 legislative session in Topeka.

Each year, KSHL delegates fan out across their communities to talk directly with Kansans age 60 and older about what matters most to them. Those conversations, gathered through Priority Statement of Aging (PSA) surveys, form the foundation for the resolutions KSHL brings to the Kansas Legislature.

This year’s outreach produced input from older adults on issues ranging from health care and housing to transportation and voting access.

“These priorities represent months of listening to older Kansans in every corner of our state. Delegates didn’t just pick issues off a list — they carried the concerns of the people they talked with into that room, and today’s vote reflects what our communities told us matters most heading into the next legislative session,” said Leroy Burton, Speaker of the House, Kansas Silver Haired Legislature.

Delegates voted to build formal resolutions around the following five priorities:

1. Transportation — Expanding funding for rural and community-based transportation systems so older Kansans aren’t cut off from medical appointments, groceries, and social connection. As Kansas’s rural population ages and fewer seniors can drive themselves, the gap between where people live and where services are will only widen without action now.

2. Senior Care Act and Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) — Preserving and expanding Senior Care Act HCBS funding so older Kansans can continue choosing to age safely in their own homes and communities. Without sustained investment now, more seniors will be pushed into costlier institutional care simply because in-home support wasn’t there when they needed it.

3. Medicaid and KanCare — Expanding Medicaid coverage in Kansas to protect and strengthen the KanCare program, including improving provider reimbursement rates and access to care, and formally designating older adults as a priority population within Kansas’s Medicaid system. As Kansas’s senior population continues to grow, this is essential to ensure older adults aren’t left with shrinking options for affordable, reliable care.

4. Medicaid Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) Increase and Application Assistance — Raising the monthly Personal Needs Allowance for Kansans in nursing facilities, which has not kept pace with rising costs, and expanding assistance for seniors navigating the complex Medicaid application process. Without action, seniors will keep falling further behind with even less left for basic personal needs. At the same time, confusing and lengthy paperwork continues to keep eligible seniors from getting help they qualify for.

5. Voting Rights and Elections — Protecting access to mail-in and early voting and opposing restrictions that make it harder for older Kansans — particularly those in rural areas or with mobility limitations — to vote. As election rules continue to evolve, safeguarding this access now ensures older Kansans keep a voice in the decisions that affect them.

In addition to these five priorities, KSHL will continue watching several other issues important to older Kansans throughout the legislative session and may act on them if they become active in the Legislature: Property Taxes, Medical Cannabis, Scams and Elder Abuse, Healthcare Access and Workforce Availability, and KPERs Cost of Living Adjustments.

The Kansas Silver Haired Legislature is a volunteer advocacy body made up of elected delegates age 60 and older from all 105 counties in Kansas. KSHL delegates gather input directly from older Kansans and bring it before the Kansas Legislature each year in the form of resolutions, giving older adults a direct voice in the policies that affect their lives.

BAND

• From Page 1

“So building a program is more than me coming in and saying what to do. It’s more the kids taking control, the more the kids have power over what they do here, so that it’s me working together with them, not over them. So I think that’s what builds a really good program, is working together with the students.”

With a smaller school comes a smaller band, but Avila said that means finding a way to work around that, with some people taking on multiple roles.

“So often what we do when we’re worried about numbers and people covering parts is we’ll move things around,” he said. “So like my baritone sax player, for example, he’ll cover the tuba part, the baritone part, whatever I need in that moment, I kind of just toss that away and they add it into the music.”

Despite the challenges that come with having a small number of band members, Avila said the kids have fun with it.

“They do a good job of not only, like, doing what I ask

if I get them new parts, but even some of them will improvise, add in things where they think that it needs to be added in and stuff like that,” he said.

Avila has recordings of his band members and their performances from past years. He said he is impressed with how far the students have come since he took over the program.

“I actually have a recording on my computer of the first time I had this band play for me, and I play it every year so they can compare like this is where we started,” Avila said. “It’s just seeing the progress, like not just with the sound, with the music, but with how they work out on the field, how visible they are, how they interact with the community.”

He said that’s a credit to not just the band members, but the parents, the volunteers who help and the community for its support.

“Everybody builds the band,” Avila said. “It’s a community event, and it’s a community activity, and it’s just really cool to see them work with the community, then do the parades, do all the homecoming, do all of this stuff.”

NEWS

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

KINGMAN COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES

July 27 Meeting

Chairwoman Lyon called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. July 27, 2026, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse.

Julie Lyon, Chairwoman
Jack Thimesch, Commissioner
Jeff Young, Commissioner
Carol Noblit, County Clerk
Visitors: Dale Enyart; Bob Morris, Kingman Leader-Courier; Tad Hacker; Renee Elpers; Josh Beckman, Kirkham Michael; Josh Dlabal, Kirkham Michael.

Online Visitors: DH; Caller 1; Caller 01; AS; DH
Staff: Jamie Smith, County Treasurer; Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse; LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer; Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director.

Tad Hacker gave the invocation. Chairwoman Lyon asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Chairwoman Lyon added Tiffany Aumiller, Benefits Administrator to the agenda at 9:15 a.m.

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

Chairwoman Lyon asked for

public comments.

Tad Hacker was in to ask Commissioners to make September 17-23 to be Constitution Week.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve a Proclamation to have September 17-23 as Constitution Week. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

8:41 a.m. Jamie Smith, County Treasurer, was in to discuss active shooter training and invite local businesses, schools, and cities to attend.

Commissioners agreed to the training and to invite local businesses, schools and cities to attend. Ms. Smith left the meeting at 8:45 a.m.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk submitted the July 20, 2026, Commission meeting minutes for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve July 20, 2026, Commission meeting minutes with one change. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

8:56 a.m. Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse was in with a department update for June and until July 24, 2026.

Ms. Schwartz let the Commissioners know that she had 20 people attend the QPR training put on by the Kingman County Health Coalition June 11.

Ms. Schwartz discussed that she has taken Early Detection Works training to be able to intake new EDW clients.

Ms. Schwartz discussed the Cyclospora outbreak and said to make sure to wash your fruits and vegetables.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Young moved to go into executive session at 9:11 a.m. with Mary Schwartz, Health Nurse to discuss an individual employee's evaluation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act for discussion of non-elected personnel matters of nonelected personnel in order to protect the privacy interests of the individual to be discussed, and they will return to open session in the Board meeting room at 9:16 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 9:16 a.m. with no action taken.

9:21 a.m. Amanda Stucky, Field Appraiser/Planning/Zoning Di-

rector was in to discuss the State would like to hold Flood planning from 2-6:30 p.m. August 26 and 27, 2026.

9:23 a.m. Tiffany Aumiller, Benefits Administrator, was in with documents for the Commissioners to sign terminating the Health Insurance.

MOTION: Chairwoman Lyon moved to terminate services as of September 1, 2026, with Crumdale. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

MOTION: Chairwoman Lyon moved to terminate services with Blue Cross/Blue Shield Dental as of September 1, 2026. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Ms. Aumiller left the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

9:32 a.m. LaDawn Stegman, Financial Officer, was in to go over budget information with the County Commissioners.

Ms. Stegman presented two options to the County Commissioners for review and discussion.

Commissioners would like to review and discuss next week.

Ms. Stegman left the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

10:16 a.m. Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director; Josh Beckman, Kirkham Michael & Josh Dlabal, Kirkham Michael were in to discuss the consultant County Engineer open position and possibly having Mr. Dlabal fill that position.

Commissioners would like Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor, to look at the contract before a decision is made.

Josh Dlabal discussed bridge repair for the bridge south of Murdock. Kirkham Michael will contact contractors to see what options can be done for repair.

Josh Beckman discussed that the repair could be around \$500,000.00 and full replacement could be around \$4,000,000.00.

Mr. Arensdorf, Mr. Beckman and Mr. Dlabal left the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

Commissioners signed the following abatements:

ABATEMENTS
2026000053-320.34
2026000054-188.14

MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 10:59 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

KINGMAN CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

July 9 Meeting

Attendance:

Present: Vice Mayor Kaufman, Commissioners Wollen and Arensdorf were present, and Commissioner McFarland arrived late. Mayor Winsor was absent. City Staff consisted of City Manager Knoell, Clerk Bieghler, Attorney Graffman, and Chief Lux.

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

Agenda: The Commission considered an amended agenda with an executive session added for attorney-client.

- Motion made by Arensdorf, seconded by Wollen, to approve the agenda. Motion carried 3-0.

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

1. Minutes: 6/25/2026
2. Bills Payable: \$832,835.33
3. CMB Special Event:

OneFootCrow Productions

- Motion made by Wollen, seconded by Arensdorf, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 3-0.

Public Comment: No citizens signed up for public comments.

CCLIP Engineering Bid Review: Manager Knoell presented three bids for engineering services for the next CCLIR Bids were received from Wilson & Company, Kirkham Michael, and PEC. Knoell shared that he made a review committee comprised of himself, Clerk Bieghler, Director Kari Goldston, Commissioner Arensdorf, and Commissioner Wollen. The committee scored Wilson & Company the highest and Manager Knoell recommended awarding the project to Wilson & Company.

- Motion made by Arensdorf, seconded by Wollen, to approve the engineering bid from Wilson & Company for the CCLIP project. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner McFarland arrived at 6:10pm, shortly after introduction of the next topic

First Right of Refusal Contract — ECK Fabrication: Manager Knoell shared that he was contacted by Ethan Eck, who purchased an open lot on N Koch Industrial from the City in 2023. Mr. Eck said that he wants to sell the property that he purchased. The Real Estate Contract executed in 2023 states that should Mr. Eck decide to sell his property at a later date, that the City of Kingman shall have first right of refusal.

Manager Knoell noted during discussion that the land was originally sold for \$47,500.00. During discussion, it was proposed that the City buy the property back and place it in the Kingman Land Bank.

- Motion made by Wollen, seconded by Arensdorf, to approve the purchase of the land back from Ethan Eck.

Motion carried 3-1 with Vice Mayor Kaufman opposing.

RNR Determination and Hearing Date: Manager Knoell informed the commission that he has completed a draft of the 2027 Budget that would meet RNR. However, there are some projects that the commission may want to consider in the near future, such as street improvement, that would raise RNR. Manager Knoell recommends that the commission approves exceeding the RNR as a precautionary measure and to set a hearing. Mr. Knoell is recommending an RNR ceiling of 70.073mils, which equates to approximately a \$91,450 increase from RNR.

- Motion made by Wollen, seconded by McFarland, to potentially exceed the RNR Rate with a ceiling of 70.073 and to set a hearing date of September 10, 2026. Motion carried 4-0.

Executive Session for Attorney-Client:

- Motion made by Arensdorf, seconded by Wollen, to recess into executive session for five minutes with the City Manager, City Clerk, and the City Attorney for consultation regarding a matter which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship pursuant to the attorney-client privilege exception in K.S.A. 75-4319 (b) (2). Motion carried 4-0.

The meeting recessed at 6:25p and reconvened at 6:30p with no action taken.

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

- Been working on the budget to cut it down to the RNR
 - Has been field calls regarding code enforcement and building codes during the current position vacancy.
 - New plans have been submitted to the City for the car wash & laundromat on East 54 Hwy.
- Commissioner Comments:

Wollen

- Had seen some concerns on Facebook regarding people burning firework debris in the streets.

Chief Brooks shared that they did not have any firework related calls this year.

- Heard some constituent concerns regarding bulb outs and mowing.

McFarland

- No Comments
- Arensdorf
- Provided a brief update on the Park Board and the H Ave Park upgrades.

Kaufman

- Heard positive comments for City Workers who worked over the holiday to prepare the City for the 4th of July celebrations.

- Appreciates the city manager's work on the budget to get it down to the RNR.

Adjournment:

- Motion made by Kaufman, seconded by McFarland, to adjourn the meeting at 6:38pm. Motion carried 4-0.

NORWICH CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

July 6 Meeting

Mayor Mitch Hewitt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The mayor led the invocation and the pledge of allegiance. Council members present: Nathan Adams, June Hardaway, Eldon Headrick, Lanny Hower, and Steve VanGieson. Employees present: Chrissy Bartel, Chris Bartel, Carol Poe, and Monte Vavra.

Citizens present: Michele Kyle.

Michele Kyle discussed running for county commissioner.

Nathan Adams moved to approve the consent agenda, including the June 1, 2026, regular meeting minutes, treasurer's report through May 31, 2026, and warrants through June 30, 2026. Lanny Hower 2nd. Motion carried 5-0.

Lanny Hower made a motion to approve the special warrants for Ye Olde General Store, which was seconded by Eldon Headrick. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0, while June Hardaway

abstained from voting.

Monte Vavra discussed water and sewer. After discussion regarding sludge in the sewer and cleaning, Eldon Headrick moved to test sludge in sewer ponds for \$2,200 in all three ponds with Team Lab. June Hardaway 2nd. Motion carried 4-1.

June Hardaway discussed everyone is gearing up for Summer Fun and thanked Monte Vavra and Justin Murphy for putting up the flags.

Nathan Adams discussed quotes for windows upstairs. Lanny Hower stated we are waiting for millings for the streets.

Monte Vavra provided his public works report.

Tab Turner provided his fire report.

Chrissy Bartel provided her EMS report. After discussion, Lanny Hower moved to approve for Jennifer Campbell to attend the KEMSA Conference for \$360 and hotel stay for \$557.63 utilizing MIH grant dollars. June Hardaway 2nd.

Motion carried 5-0.

Carol Poe provided her admin/clerk report.

Muriel Boyce provided her treasurer report.

Chris Bartel provided an oral compliance report.

June Hardaway suggested having a workshop to discuss the possible changes to the personnel policy. No date was set.

After discussion, improvements were tabled for upstairs windows, door, and air conditioning. June Hardaway will check with Kingman County on possible building preservation assistance.

Carol Poe reminded the council there will be a budget meeting on June 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Ordinance 445 was presented regarding a zoning change to 203 S. Briarwood. Lanny Hower moved to approved Ordinance 445. Eldon Headrick 2nd. Roll call was taken as follows:

Steve VanGieson—yea
June Hardaway—yea

Nathan Adams—yea
Lanny Hower—yea
Eldon Headrick—yea
Motion carried 5-0. Ordinance was passed as presented.

After discussion on the city ATV tag, it was the consensus of the council to not enforce that ordinance at this time.

It was stated the new zoning regulations and map were sent via email to all council members to review and it will be an agenda item to be approved next month.

The consensus of the council was to have a facility tour in September.

Mitch Hewitt stated he has contacted Bob Alamanza to be our judge, and Mr. Alamanza is checking into it.

The next meeting will be on August 3 at 7:00 p.m.

The mayor stated Steve VanGieson's council assignment will be water/sewer.

Eldon Headrick moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. Steve VanGieson 2nd. Motion carried 5-0.

NORWICH CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

July 13 Special Meeting

Mayor, Mitch Hewitt, called the special meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Council members present were: Nathan Adams, June Hardaway, Lanny Hower, and Steve VanGieson. Employees present were: Chrissy Bartel and Carol Poe. Kyle Spielbusch with Jarred, Gilmore, and Phillips was also present.

Steve VanGieson arrived at 7:09 p.m.

Kyle Spielbusch reviewed the 2025 audit. Lanny Hower moved to approve the 2025 audit. June Hardaway 2nd. Motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Spielbusch reviewed the proposed 2027 budget.

Lanny Hower moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. Steve VanGieson 2nd. Motion carried 4-0.

A big thank you to all of our
carnival volunteers.
We so appreciate all your
time and effort you gave to
make the carnival a success in
2026. See you next year.
Thank you again.
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LEGAL NOTICE

(First published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, July 23, 2026) 3t

IN THE 30TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

Case No. KM-2026-CV-12

In the Matter of the Petition of Cooper James Adams to Change His/Her name to Cooper James Almond Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 60

NOTICE OF HEARING - PUBLICATION

The State of Kansas to All who are or may be concerned

You are hereby notified that Copper James Adams, filed a Petition in the above court on the 5th day of May 2026, requesting a judgment and order changing his/her name from Cooper James Adams to Cooper James Almond.

The petition will be heard in Kingman County District Court, 130 N. Spruce Kingman, Kansas, on the 2nd day of September, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

If you have any objection to the requested name change, you are required to file a responsive pleading on or before September 2, 2026 in this court or appear at the hearing and object to the requested name change. If you fail to act, judgment and order will be entered upon the Petition as requested by Petitioner.

Cooper Adams, Petitioner Pro Se
Cooper James Adams
230 N Douglas St.
Kingman, KS 67068
620-931-9443

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Aug. 12 from 11 a.m. to noon.
Bingo: Aug. 12 from 1 to 2:30 p.m.
Monthly Commodities: Aug. 11 from 8 to 9 a.m.

KCCOA Board Meeting: Aug. 25

AUGUST TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to Wichita: Aug. 10, 11, 12, 13, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27, 31.
Transportation to Pratt: Aug. 12, 19.
Transportation to Hutchinson: Aug. 17, 24.
Transportation Available: Aug. 14, 18, 21.
Trip to Pretty Prairie Aug. 7.

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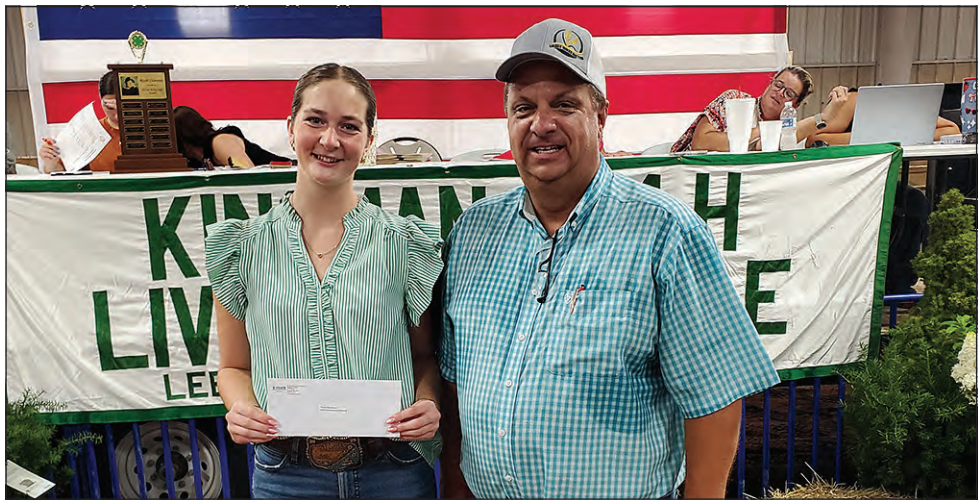
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4-H SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



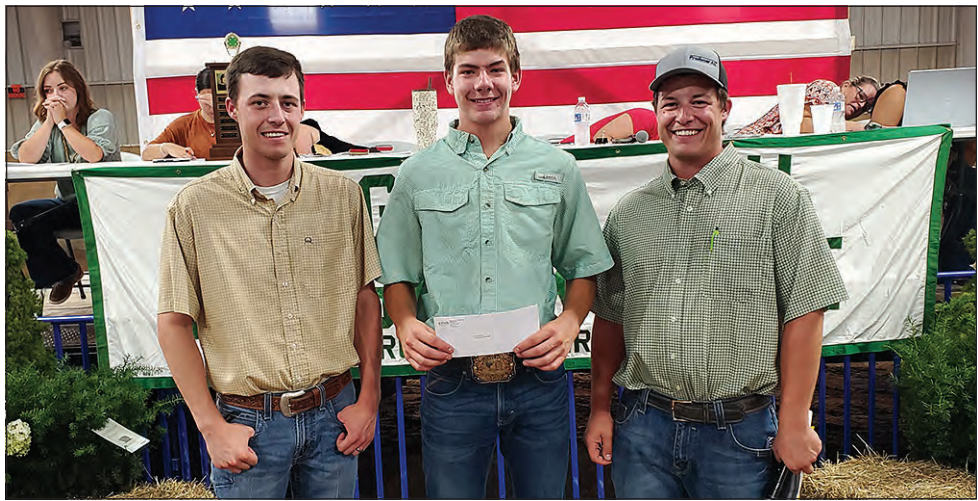
BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

Kingman County 4-H seniors received senior scholarships prior to the July 25 4-H livestock auction. Recipients (L to R) are Reese Allen of Norwich Boosters, Brecken Bergkamp of Vinita, Peyton Boos of Hawk, Noah Dietz of Vinita, Sean Kostner of Whispering Willow, Kristyn McAndrew of Vinita, Emily Ogg of Cunningham, Kendall Rogers of Cunningham, Kaitlyn Webb of Vinita and Dawson Wood of Whispering Willow.



BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

Kristyn McAndrew, left, of Vinita 4-H was the recipient of the Richard Rosenhagen Memorial Scholarship, which was presented July 25 prior to the 4-H livestock auction. McAndrew is pictured with Mike Floyd, who made the presentation and is a close friend of the Rosenhagen family.



BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

Dawson Wood, middle, of Whispering Willow 4-H was the 4-H recipient of the Leslie Krehbiel Memorial Scholarship, which was announced July 25 before the 4-H livestock auction. Wood is pictured with Leslie's sons Riley, left, and Drew Krehbiel. A scholarship is also presented to an FFA member and Peyton Boos was named the recipient earlier this year.

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Tuesday, Aug. 11: Chicken salad sandwich, bowtie pasta salad, pickled beets, fruit.		
	Thursday, Aug. 13:	

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Days of Yore

11 Years Ago
The Kingman County Commission awaited a required Federal Emergency Management Agency report so that it could get a date scheduled to demolish the three downtown buildings the county purchased. Concrete and carved wooden statues created by Kingman resident Glenn Stark were moved to their new home at Santa Fe Park for public viewing. 10-year-old Alice Huelskamp of Cunningham won the Wyatt Oakman 4-Her of the Year award at the conclusion of the 2015 Kingman County Fair. The pilot of a small plane escaped injury when a deer ran into the plane as it moved down the runway at the Kingman Airport. A three-person scramble concluded the junior golf program at the Kingman County Club. Mike Wilmott was named the new head football coach at Norwich High School.

35 Years Ago
Friends and neighbors of the late Bruce Frisbie gathered to work more than 600 acres in two and a half hours. Despite rainfall for July measured above normal, it was remembered as a hot, dry month because the temperature exceeded 100 on 17 days of the month. The USD 332 board of education had to raise its mill levy because of a drop in the district's valuation, but the mill levy raise still resulted in the district asking for

60 Years Ago
The USD 331 board of education adopted a budget of slightly more than \$1 million and a mill levy of 9.35. Voter turnout in the primary election was low with just 1,200 people casting votes; lack of competition in local races was cited as the main reason for low turnout. There were 15 boys who were named to the National League All-Star team tournament for boys 11 to 13 years old, to be held in Kingman; among the players named were Alan Taber, Dale Rohlman, Jack Salmans, Darrell Kaufman, Bruce Watson and Tony Hubble.

11 Years Ago
The Kingman Rotary Club hosted 86 Boy Scouts and 11 adult leaders who were traveling from Pittsburgh, Pa., to attend camp at the Philmont Ranch in New Mexico. Kathy Meyers' three-run homer helped send the Kingman IGA women's softball team past Great Bend 10-7 during state tournament play. The Methodist Star Parish, which included four Methodist churches in Kingman County, celebrated its 10th year.

85 Years Ago
Kingman County's contribution to the nation's "Keep 'Em Flying" defense program came to a head when 900 pounds of scrap aluminum collected throughout the county were hauled to Wichita. The Fifth Annual Night Rodeo in Pretty Prairie expected to have a record-breaking crowd on hand. The annual drive for funds to conduct the weekday Bible school got underway. Frank Yeoman was elected president of the Kingman board of education. The newly-seeded football field at Riverside Park received a continuous, 24-hour service wetting via a unique sprinkler device that the school board purchased. Three of the four teams that reached the semifinals of the Kingman softball tournament were from Kingman County: Brown Spur, Basil and Cleveland. Safeway advertised two 20-ounces loaves of bread for 15 cents.

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