



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

Volume 143 / Issue 1 Official Newspaper for Comanche County, All Cities, Townships and USD 300 August 6, 2026

Hoffman Holds Off Challenger in Republican Primary

STAFF REPORT

Comanche County voters went to the polls Tuesday to select party nominees for federal, state and local offices during the Kansas primary election.

According to unofficial results provided by Comanche County Clerk Bri Uhl, 401 ballots were cast countywide. Of those, 222 were cast in Coldwater, 132 in Protection and 42 were advance or early ballots and five were provisional ballots pending review during the election canvass.

Kyle D. Hoffman held off challenger Herb Landwehr in the Republican primary race for the Kansas State House of Representatives District 116 seat.

Hoffman, the incumbent, won Tuesday’s primary election. In Comanche County, he received 163 votes while Barber County’s Herb Landwehr received 166. But throughout the district, Hoffman received 2,534 votes while Landwehr received 1,772 to win the nomination.

“I appreciate the continued wide support throughout the district and enjoyed the opportunity to speak with so many people in the last couple of months about the issues,”

the current state representative said. “I commend Mr. Landwehr and his supporters for a spirited campaign and now look forward to the general election and making further progress for our communities in Topeka.”

Hoffman, a Comanche County resident, will move on to the November general election with no opposition as no Democratic candidate filed for the seat.

In local races, two Comanche County positions were up for election, with just one Republican candidate filling in each race. Zackery Ellis was the only candidate for District One county commissioner and Abriana “Bri” Uhl was the only candidate for county clerk. Ellis received 73 votes and Uhl received 251 votes.

Among the Republican races, U.S. Sen. Roger Marshall easily won Comanche County with 269 votes, defeating challenger Pond Naramore, who received 47 votes.

In the Republican primary for Kansas’ 4th Congressional District, incumbent U.S. Rep. Ron Estes received 268 votes to defeat challenger Frank McCollum, who received



KATEE UNDERWOOD / The Star-Press
A lone Comanche County voter, Lane Haas, sits at a polling booth in Coldwater, at the veteran’s building, to cast his ballot in Tuesday’s primary election.

See **RESULTS** / Page 2



SUSAN EDMONSTON / The Star-Press

Heading West: Traveler Seeks Simpler Life

Randilyn Allred, from Missouri, prepares to leave the Edmonston farm in Clark County, where she and her animals stayed overnight before traveling Monday on their journey to New Mexico. See Susie’s Scribbles on Page 6 for more information on the visit.

Kansas Silver Haired Legislature Sets 2027 Priorities

PRESS RELEASE

The Kansas Silver Haired Legislature (KSHL) held its delegate meeting on July 29, 2026, 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.

2027 KSHL Legislative Priorities Delegates voted to build formal resolutions around the following five priorities:

See **PRIORITIES** / Page 4

Facebook Post About Chickens Elicits Controversy in Coldwater

BY KATEE UNDERWOOD
Staff Writer

A recent Facebook discussion about Coldwater’s chicken ordinance has led to a broader conversation among residents about city priorities, ordinance enforcement and the challenges of balancing day-to-day issues with long-term community needs.

The discussion began with a Facebook post from a Coldwater resident questioning why attention was being given to chicken regulations while other concerns, including aging water lines, road conditions and maintenance at Coldwater Lake, remain topics of discussion among residents.

The post stated that the concern was not with having ordinances or enforcing them, but with how enforcement is handled.

“Rules should be applied consistently,” the post stated. “Equal enforcement builds trust; selective enforcement erodes it.”

Several residents responded to the post, with comments reflecting concerns about consistency in enforcement and whether city resources were focused on the community’s most pressing needs.

One commenter said city ordinances are important but questioned whether they are being applied equally to all residents.

“I’m with you, city ordinances are important and we should be held to a certain level of accountability, but I also wish that this was

subject to all residents, not just some,” the commenter wrote.

Another resident said they had experienced more issues with dogs than chickens.

“I deal with more trouble from dogs than I do the chickens in town,” the post said. “I’ve never had a problem with chickens at all.”

Other comments supported the idea that residents should be able to keep chickens responsibly.

“I fully agree,” one commenter said. “Focus on the larger problems in Coldwater. Not chickens that are in a fence.”

Some residents also encouraged people to address concerns directly with elected officials rather than only through social media.

“Don’t waste time on Facebook. Let your representatives serve your needs,” one commenter said.

Coldwater Councilman Gary Haulmark said the chicken ordinance is not a major focus of the city council and does not represent the issues taking up most of the council’s time.

“The chicken ordinance is not a huge thing for this council,” Haulmark said. “It’s not why I ran.”

Haulmark said the council’s primary focus has been on larger issues, including the city budget, infrastructure needs and sewer line improvements.

He said the council has also been working on securing funding, improving city policies and procedures, and

See **CHICKENS** / Page 6



NEWS

RESULTS

• From Page 1

53 votes.

Republican voters also selected their preferred nominee for governor. Ty Masterson and running mate Jeffrey Klemp led the field in Comanche County with 111 votes. Philip Sarnecki and Joy Eakins finished second with 95 votes, followed by Scott Schwab and Ken Rahjes with 55 votes.

On the Democratic ballot, Cindy Holscher and running mate KC Ohaebosim received 24 votes in the gubernatorial primary.

Several local precinct committee races were also decided during the primary election.

In the Avilla, precinct committeewoman race, Sandy Hoffman received 11 votes to defeat Trent Haas, who received one vote. In the Avilla, precinct committeeman race,

Kyle Hoffman received 13 votes to defeat Harlee Haas, who received one vote.

Several write-in candidates also received votes in local precinct committee and township races, with many receiving one vote each.

County voters also weighed in on a proposed State Constitutional amendment. According to the unofficial results, the amendment passed in Comanche County with 196 yes votes to 178 no votes, while

the measure was overwhelmingly defeated statewide.

The unofficial results will remain subject to review until the Comanche County Board of Canvassers certifies the election. Provisional ballots will be reviewed during the canvass before official results are finalized.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Katee Underwood, Bob Morris and Jason Jump all contributed to this article.



KATEE UNDERWOOD / The Star-Press

VBS: Local Kids Learn About God

Kids at the First Christian Church, in Coldwater, take part in an activity during its recent Vacation Bible School. See Page 4 for the story.

BLOOD SHORTAGE
Blood Donors Needed Now

Coldwater Community
Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, August 20
10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Coldwater Veterans City Building

Help meet the urgent need for blood donors, make your life-saving appointment today by visiting redcrossblood.org or call (800) 733-2727.

LEGAL NOTICE

(First published in The Western Star and Protection Press on Thursday, August 6, 2026) 3t
Millsap & Singer, LLC
8900 Indian Creek Parkway, Suite 180
Overland Park, KS 66210
(913) 339-9132
(913) 339-9045 (fax)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF Comanche County,
KANSAS
CIVIL DEPARTMENT

Onity Mortgage Corporation f/k/a PHH Mortgage Corporation
Plaintiff,
vs.

Marian Reynolds, Jane Doe, John Doe aka Kansas Reynolds, Unknown Spouse of Marian Reynolds, and Unknown Spouse of Marie E. Ferrin aka Marie Ferrin (Deceased), et al.,
Defendants

Case No. CM-2026-CV-000003

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

NOTICE OF SUIT

STATE OF KANSAS to the above named Defendants and The Unknown Heirs, executors, devisees, trustees, creditors, and assigns of any deceased defendants; the unknown spouses of any defendants; the unknown officers, successors, trustees, creditors and assigns of any defendants that are existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; the unknown executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns of any defendants that are or were part-

ners or in partnership; and the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendants that are minors or are under any legal disability and all other person who are or may be concerned:

You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in the District Court of Comanche County, Kansas by Onity Mortgage Corporation f/k/a PHH Mortgage Corporation, praying to foreclose a mortgage on the following described real estate:

THE WEST HALF (W/2) OF LOT 17, ALL OF LOT 18, BLOCK 29, CITY OF COLDWATER, COMANCHE COUNTY, KANSAS. Parcel ID No. 017-083-07-0-30-11-004.00-0. Commonly known as 111 N Boston Ave., Coldwater, KS 67029 ("the Property") MS 226806

and all those defendants who have not otherwise been served are required to plead to the Petition on or before September 16, 2026 in the District Court of Comanche County, Kansas. If you fail to plead, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the request of plaintiff.

MILLSAP & SINGER, LLC

By:

Aaron M. Schuckman, #22251
aschuckman@msfirm.com

612 Spirit Dr.

St. Louis, MO 63005

(636) 537-0110

(636) 537-0067 (fax)

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

MS 226806.470789 KJFC

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

LEGAL NOTICE

(Published in The Western Star and Protection Press on Thursday, August 6, 2026) 1t

State of Kansas
Budget Form USD-A

USD #300
2026-2027

Notice of Hearing 2026-2027 Budget

The governing body of Unified School District 300 will meet on the 9th day of September 2026 at 6:45 PM at 600 E Garfield, Coldwater, KS 67029 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, including budget profile, building needs assessment and Board state assessments review is available at District Office on the district website and will be available at this hearing.

The Amount of 2026 Tax to be Levied and Expenditures (published below) establish the maximum limits of the 2026-2027 Budget. The 'Est. Tax Rate' (column 7), shown for comparative purposes, is subject to slight change depending on final assessed valuation.

	Code 99 Line	2024-2025 Actual	2025-2026 Actual	2026-2027 Proposed Budget				
		Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	Budgeted Expenditures (5)	Amount of 2026 Tax to be Levied (6)	Est. Tax Rate* (7)
OPERATING								
General	06	3,960,849	20.000	3,978,765	20.000	3,986,597	472,357	20.000
Supplemental General (LOB)	08	1,205,126	24.835	1,201,984	27.152	1,300,217	765,256	26.483
SPECIAL REVENUE								
Federal Funds	07	109,254		116,757		120,104		
Adult Education	10	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Preschool-Aged At-Risk	11	0		0		0		
Adult Supplemental Education	12	0		0		0		
At-Risk Education Fund	13	479,697		724,680		770,196		
Bilingual Education	14	0		0		0		
Virtual Education	15	0		0		0		
Capital Outlay	16	276,290	7.852	341,375	8.000	755,585	231,166	8.000
Driver Training	18	0		0		9,335		
Declining Enrollment	19	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Extraordinary School Program	22	0		0		0		
Food Service	24	389,246		479,603		518,790		
Professional Development	26	5,507		7,735		13,758		
Parent Education Program	28	0		0		0		
Summer School	29	0		0		0		
Special Education	30	691,721		664,018		1,018,192		
Cost of Living	33	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Career and Postsecondary Education	34	74,453		85,029		104,546		
Gifts and Grants	35	0		3,498		286,116		
Special Liability Expense Fund	42	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Extraordinary Growth Facilities	45	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Special Reserve Fund	47	0		0		0		
KPERs Special Retirement Contribution	51	277,343		285,567		351,247		
Contingency Reserve	53	0		0				
Textbook & Student Material Revolving	55	70,149		9,231				
Activity Fund	56	103,879		104,045				
DEBT SERVICE								
Bond and Interest #1	62	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Bond and Interest #2	63	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
No-Fund Warrant	66	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Special Assessment	67	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Temporary Note	68	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
COOPERATIVES								
Special Education	78	0		0		0		
TOTAL USD EXPENDITURES	100	7,643,514	52.687	8,002,267	55.152	9,214,683	1,468,779	54.483
Less: Transfers	105	1,532,925		1,536,265		1,703,634		
NET USD EXPENDITURES	110	6,110,589		6,466,002		7,511,049		
TOTAL USD TAXES LEVIED	115	1,663,229		1,585,541		1,468,779		

1. Sponsoring District Only
*Tax Rates are expressed in Mills

Notice of Hearing 2026-2027 Budget

		2024-2025 Actual		2025-2026 Actual		2026-2027 Proposed Budget		
	Code 99 Line	Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	Budgeted Expenditures (5)	Amount of 2026 Tax to be Levied (6)	Est. Tax Rate* (7)
OTHER								
Historical Museum	80	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Public Library Board/District	82	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Public Library Board Employee Benefits	83	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Recreation Commission	84	72,184	1.000	35,912	1.000	39,000	28.896	1.000
Rec Comm Employee Benefits & Spec Lib	86	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
TOTAL OTHER	120	72,184	1.000	35,912	1.000	39,000	28.896	1.000
TOTAL TAXES LEVIED	125	\$1,896,888		\$1,419,027		\$1,497,875		
Assessed Valuation - General Fund	128	\$28,477,302		\$25,479,348		\$23,617,836		
Assessed Valuation - All Other Funds	130	\$33,469,261		\$32,608,836		\$29,095,306		
Assessed Valuation - Capital Outlay	129	\$3,856,221		\$3,608,836		\$28,895,298		
Outstanding Indebtedness, July 1								
General Obligation Bonds	135	0		0		0		
Capital Outlay Bonds	140	0		0		0		
Temporary Note	145	0		0		0		
No-Fund Warrant	150	0		0		0		
Lease Purchase Principal	153	0		0		0		
TOTAL USD DEBT	155	0		0		0		
*Tax Rates are expressed in Mills								
Kelly L. Vard Board President Ganda Bessett Clerk of the Board								

*Tax Rates are expressed in Mills

Kelly J. Underwood
Board President

Gunda B. Bessett
Clerk of the Board

LEGAL NOTICE

(First published in The Western Star and Protection Press on Thursday, July 30, 2026) 3t

IN THE SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT OF
COMANCHE COUNTY, KANSAS

PROBATE DEPARTMENT

In the Matter of the Estate of
JAMES ARTHUR MCCAY,
Case No. CM-2026-PR-000009

Deceased.

Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59

TITLE TO REAL ESTATE INVOLVED
NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR
DETERMINATION OF DESCENT

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a Petition for Determination of Descent has been filed in this Court by Petitioner, BERNADETTE I. MCCAY, as an heir of JAMES ARTHUR MCCAY, Deceased, requesting:

Descent be determined of the following Real Property legally described as:

The Northeast Quarter (NE/4) and the East Half of the Southeast Quarter (E/2 SE/4) of Section Ten (10) of Township Thirty-two (32), Range Seventeen (17), in Comanche County, Kansas; commonly known as 00000 US HWY 160, Wilmore, Comanche County, KS 67155.

And that such real estate be assigned pursuant to the Family Settlement Agreement attached to the Petition.

You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before August 28, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. in Comanche County District Court, 201 S New York Ave, Coldwater, Comanche County, Kansas, at which time and place such case will be heard. Should you fail to file your written defenses, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Bernadette I. McCay, Petitioner

Submitted by:

Joshua A. Pollak, #21699

MINTER & POLLAK, LC

800 E. First Street, Suite 310

Wichita, Kansas 67206

Telephone: (316) 265-0797

Fax: (316) 618-0058

E-mail: josh@mp-firm.com

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

Past Paragraphs

Protection news from earlier times
Compiled by Dave Webb

125 YEARS AGO *Western Star* August 9, 1901

Along the railroad

The Santa Fe fencing gang were [*sic*] along the line in Comanche County the latter part of last week.

William Taylor and C.L. King each loaded a car of cattle at Protection Wednesday morning for Kansas City. The former's car was loaded mostly with dry cows and the latter's with a few cows and about 30 head of calves. Messrs. Taylor and King accompanied the shipments to Kansas City.

[Our] people had no mail from Saturday evening until Tuesday morning, owing to the train on Monday evening being over 6 hours late. Such mail service becomes decidedly unsatisfactory, especially when the people are required to put up with it very often.

That free Oklahoma land

Comanche County fared very well in the land drawing at El Reno. As stated last week, Miss Tena Rogers drew No. 1046 in the Lawton district. The other lucky persons from this county are: Fritz Schwader, No. 4563, El Reno district; Hop Sewell, No. 5152, El Reno district; John Galloway, No. 5871, Lawton district.

It is stated that A.J. Cantrell, of Protection Township, also drew a claim, but the report seems not to be fully confirmed.

Names in the news

Mrs. Maud Meisinger will organize a class in vocal music at the [Methodist] Church in Protection at 8 p.m. on Friday, August 23. All who wish to join the class should endeavor to be present on that evening.

Miss Flora Burr went to Protection Monday evening to spend a week or so visiting with Mrs. A.T. Rodgers and other friends in that vicinity.

C.H. Volkman, of Irwin Township [north of Protection], came to [Coldwater] last Saturday with a load of watermelons—the first of the season in the home market. He found ready sale for them at 25 cents each [just over \$9.80 in today's dollars]. The STAR was the

recipient of a choice melon for which Mr. Volkman has our thanks.

Clarence Henninger, who until recently was an employee on the Box Ranch, was quite sick the first of the week at the home of Peter Snyder, in [Coldwater]. He is now much better.

Summer weather

Last Saturday was one of the hottest days of the season in Comanche County. During the afternoon thermometers indicated a temperature varying from 98 to 105. But late in the evening the wind changed to the north and a fall in the temperature of between 20 and 30 degrees followed. Cool weather has prevailed ever since.

100 YEARS AGO *Protection Post* August 5, 1926

In business

Donald Keller recently installed a new, up-to-date cleaning and pressing plant. Mr. Keller states that he is now equipped to give the best service possible, besides being able to handle a larger volume of business.

Just for fun

The Coldwater golf team defeated the local team, on the Coldwater Country Club course, Sunday, by a score of 26½ to 3½. The Protection club was greatly handicapped by the lack of practice, due to the neglected condition of the local course.

Several from Protection attended the dance at Bucklin, Monday night. The Santa Fe "Wheat Special Train" spent the night there and was an added attraction.

The Allen-Names Players presented their show last week in their big tent, which was erected on the lots just north of the Williams Service Station, to goodly crowds at each performance.

The Allen-Names Players have a high-class show, with interesting attractions and entertainment specialties, well staged. Their cast is exceptionally good and the players are a gentlemanly and pleasant bunch of folks to meet. They are above average as entertainers and as gentlemen and ladies they

are above reproach. Their plays were exceptionally well cast and well received during the week. A feature was their orchestra which rendered a very pleasing program each evening.

Injured!

While leading a horse from the barn last Monday, the small son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Crane fell and the horse became frightened and jumped over the boy, striking him on the left cheek and cutting his face until it was necessary to take several stitches to close the wound.

On the road

H.O. Bauer purchased a new model Hupmobile from the agent, Frank Arnold, of Coldwater, last week.

G.D. Eubank purchased a new 1927 model Master-Six Buick sedan from Mr. Day of Bucklin, Monday.

The Misses Madeline Bean and Mary Wilson returned Saturday from Wichita, where they had been attending Friends University.

Grover and Bertha Ellison and family returned Sunday from Pittsburg, Kansas, where they had been visiting with relatives and friends for the past fortnight. Mr. Ellison had been on vacation from his duties [as manager of] the Houston-Doughty Lumber Company. They made the trip by auto.

T.A. Myers and son Lane returned Sunday from Lamar, Colorado, where they had spent the week threshing their wheat.

The editor [W. Clyde and Connie Pile] and his family are taking a vacation and visiting with relatives at various points in Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas for the month of August.

The POST will be in charge of Edgar Gray and Gordon Murray and they will extend you every courtesy possible. We ask for indulgence with them. The experience and the responsibility, we hope, and it should be a valuable experience for them, and the POST man knows that they will honestly strive to meet the requirements and hopes that they will publish a paper and extend a service that will eclipse our own.

The Pastime Theatre will be completely in charge of Alva Parkinson, and his agreements with the Protection public will be as our own, and he will do all possible to extend every service at the theatre.

The writer has been at the business grind for 35 years and in all that time unless illness intervened has never taken what might be termed a vacation. Now for a month we hope to rest and play with our children. We have concluded that a rest and play time once in a while will beat a hospital residence, at least we hope so. We have tried the latter, now we shall try the former. . . .

In the service

Among the U.S. Marines who were first to rush to the aid of their stricken comrades, after lightning and fire had destroyed the naval ammunition plant near Dover, New Jersey, was Russell Markwood Catron, of Protection, Kansas, who went from Quantico, Virginia, to assist in rescue work in the stricken area.

Catron recently completed a tour of duty in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and was on duty with the 8th Company at Quantico, when a call was made for volunteers to enter the danger zone at Dover. . . .

Catron lived at the home of his mother, Mrs. Gertrude V. Catron, Rural Route 1, Protection, before he joined the Marine Corps in June 1923.

75 YEARS AGO *Protection Post* August 3, 1951

Lake repair

Recently, a crew of men from Protection and Coldwater worked all of one day with trucks, cement mixer and power machinery on the spillway of the Frank Lindsay Lake on the south side of Highways 160-183 [less than a quarter of a mile southeast of the intersection of the highway and Road 11], to prevent further erosion and prevent a channel being cut that would drain the lake. More work will be done at a later date.

Since there will be considerable expense for cement, power machinery, etc., it was suggested that many would be interested in contributing to the expense of saving this lake.

Frank Lindsay has not denied anyone the privilege of an outing at this lake as long as they did not abuse the privilege, and we see no reason why he or any small group of men should bear all the expense.

Anyone interested in helping may hand their contribution, no matter how large or small, to Herman Herbord in Protection or to Henry Waller or Verner Pepperd at Coldwater.

A fish story

We're inclined [to think] a little professional jealousy prevails at the Herbord filling station this week.

This was the former White Eagle/Mobil service station that was later the Hob Nob Inn/Cottonwood Cottage eatery and is now the site of the Methodist church parking lot.

All summer long Herman has been going around with his arms spread to denote a couple of big fish he caught early in the season.

Employee Don Clark, who usually tags along with Herman to climb trees and fall in creeks unsnagging Herman's lines, blossomed out in his own right Sunday when he snagged a catfish everyone in town thought weighed 12 pounds.

That is, everyone but Herman. He insists the fish didn't top 8 pounds. If everything at the station isn't serene, you'll know the reason.

Rodeo time

Plans were announced this week concerning the 11th Annual Protection Rodeo which will run for three days next weekend. The Friday and Saturday performances will begin at 8 p.m. and an afternoon show will be presented on Sunday.

The ever-popular wild mule race will be an attraction of the Sunday show, along with bronc riding, steer riding, team tying and calf roping which will be presented at the evening performances. . . .

55 YEARS AGO *Protection Post* August 6, 1971

And another rodeo

The 31st Annual Protection Rodeo, sponsored by the Bit & Spur Club, will be held Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. at

the arena east of town.

The Bit & Spur Club's arena was along Highways 160-183 east of the intersection with Road 5.

Advance ticket sales began July 10 by the two young ladies competing for rodeo queen and their attendants. The contestants are Sharon Webster, daughter of Martin Jr. and Betty Webster of Protection, and Debbie Hubbard, daughter of Earl and Rose Hubbard of Wilmore. . . .

In the service

Midshipman Leslie F. Duer, son of Russell and Janie Duer, is one of 600 midshipmen taking part in a special eight-week summer training program aboard U.S. First Fleets ships operating off the West Coast and Hawaii.

His special summer training is designed to give him practical shipboard experience relating directly to regular classes in Naval command and management. He is a graduate of Coldwater High School.

Weekend guests

Keith and June Boone of Dexter were weekend guests of Mrs. Bessie Christopher and attended the wedding of Pat Riner and Steve Mitchell.

Gilbert and Lois Park and family of Burlingame were weekend guests in the Lloyd Rich home.

Ted and Gail Barnes and boys of Hoxie were weekend visitors in Protection and attended the Riner-Mitchell wedding. Brad remained to spend the week with his Eubank and Barnes grandparents, and Kim Riner returned to Hoxie with Ted and Gail.

Property purchases

Bruce Allender purchased the lot owned by Mrs. Sara Martin, south of his property. He is clearing the lot and plans to have a trailer court there.

Mrs. Edith Wright, mother of Mrs. Royce Smith, has recently purchased the former George Downing property in the east part of Protection.

Mrs. Wright and members of her family have been doing extensive remodeling on the inside, with plans for the outside later. She will make her home there upon completion.

Be careful!

Jon and Kay Sawyers killed a rabid skunk in their yard Friday of last week. . . . The results came back last Thursday and proved rabid. The Sawyers live on their farm east of town. People might be reminded that rabid skunks do not have an odor.

Mort Newton cut a muscle while running a power chain saw Thursday, July 22. He was trimming trees at the home of Mrs. C.A. McPhail. Twenty or more stitches were required to close the wound. Mort reports that he is back on the job and doing fine.

Jay Rich received seven sutures in his hand after cutting it with a handsaw last Sunday, while trimming a limb from a tree. Jay is still unable to do much work.

35 YEARS AGO *Protection Press* August 8, 1991

FunFest schedule

Handbills and flyers advertising the upcoming FunFest celebration here are now being distributed throughout

the area.

The one-day event is set for Protection on Saturday, August 31. That is the Saturday that kicks off the Labor Day weekend. A full schedule of activities is on tap here again.

Sidewalk sales and arts and crafts displays downtown get underway at 9 a.m. The traditional downtown parade will be at 10 a.m. The yearly horseshoe tournament at the city park will start at 11 a.m.

The children's carnival and races are set for 11 a.m. through 1 p.m. The mud volleyball tournament is set to begin at 11:30 a.m. Swimming at the local pool will be free of charge throughout FunFest day.

Bingo will be played from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Senior Center downtown. From 6 to 7:30 p.m. at City Park will be the barbecue. It is always sponsored by the Bank of Protection.

Winding up the day's fun will be the downtown street dance. It will be from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. Music this year will be by the Little Sand Creek band from Ashland.

Around town

Merle Wait, Jr., his wife Jacque, and children Kelli, Lora and Melissa, all spent from Wednesday evening until Sunday afternoon in Protection. They are from Watauga, Texas. They visited in the home of Merle's parents, Merle Sr. and Jo Ann Wait.

Mindy Brumbaugh is back home after a two-day stay at St. Francis Medical Center in Wichita. She underwent corrective surgery on her back there. Mindy returned home last Thursday afternoon, August 1.

Chester and Alice Baker on Sunday night went to the Kenyon Baker home. They helped great-grandson Jesse Baker celebrate his first birthday. Also on hand were Francis and Arlynn Baker.

Funeral services [were held] at Ashland Monday morning for Dee Brunholtz. Dee was editor and publisher of the *Clark County Clipper*.

15 YEARS AGO *Protection Press* August 4, 2011

Protection—for real!

Reprinted from *The Wichita Beacon*, August 11, 1957:

"If ever a town lived up to its name, Protection, Kansas, is doing it in 1957.

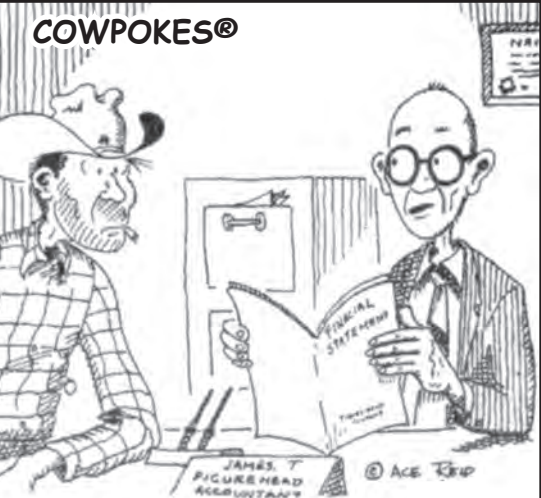
"This old cattle town [?] of 800, in the shortgrass country of western Comanche County, this spring became the first city in the world to gain protection for 100% of its population [under age 40] with Salk vaccine against the dread disease of polio.

"And now 30 men are working two shifts in a 'home grown' factory to produce the infantryman's kind of basic military protection.

"The military protection, which probably will never be used on these peaceful Kansas prairies, is a rugged and biting kind of barbed wire.

"Razor-sharp, four-pronged barbs of .080 galvanized steel wire, wrapped on crimps of endless .116 hard-drawn spring wire, come rat-a-tatting from Lane Myers' homemade machines at the rate of 18,000 an hour. This from each of four machines, and a fifth machine is in standby. . . ."

COWPOKES®



"Jake, your financial worth is somewhere between 15 cents and 47 dollars!"

The Bank of Protection
302 North Broadway, Protection, 620-622-4224

The Bank of Coldwater
145 East Main, Coldwater, 620-582-2113

bankofprotection.com  

NEWS

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

PRORITIES

• From Page 1

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 & 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 & 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 & 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 & Elections – Protecting access to mail-in and early voting and opposing.

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 & Elder Abuse, Healthcare Access and Workforce Availability, and KPERs Cost of Living Adjustments.

Kansas Silver Haired Legislature

The KSHL is a volunteer advocacy body made up of elected delegates age 60 and older from all 105 counties. 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.

Children ‘Beat the Clock’ During Local VBS

BY KATEE UNDERWOOD
Staff Writer

Children spent the week learning, creating and working together during Vacation Bible School at The First Christian Church, where this year’s theme reminded them that God’s timing and plan are perfect. Seventeen children participated in the weeklong event, with help from five junior high and high school volunteers, along with numerous adult volunteers who helped lead activities and make the program possible.

This year’s theme, “Beat the Clock,” focused on trusting God’s timing and following His plan. Throughout the week, children took part in games, snacks, crafts and escape rooms where they solved puzzles and clues to move

through each challenge. “The kids have loved it,” organizers said.

The theme verse for the week was Isaiah 41:10: “So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

Each day focused on a different lesson from the Bible.

On the first day, “Time to Begin,” children learned about Noah and how God delivered him and his family through the flood. The lesson focused on how God can also deliver people from sin.

The second day, “Time to Live,” focused on Daniel and his faithfulness to God, even when he was thrown into the lions’ den. Children learned that God provides for His people and offers

salvation through Jesus.

During “Time to Stand for Jesus,” children studied the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who stood firm in their faith despite facing the fiery furnace.

The fourth day, “Time to Go,” focused on Jonah and how God guides people when they choose to follow Him. Children learned that God offers second chances and calls people to trust His direction.

The final day, “Time is Now,” encouraged children to make the decision to follow God. Using the story of Esther, children learned that God has a purpose and plan for each person.

Organizers said the week provided an opportunity for children to grow in faith while building friendships and making memories with others in the community.

Thank you for your continued support!

Handy Man Big and small jobs welcome 720-474-5232 Coldwater	howell@unitedwireless.com H Howell Insurance Teresa Jellison Hilary Murphy Holly Fast Erin Boggs 620-622-4501 620-635-2297	Red Hills Waste Solutions Justin York, owner-operator Coldwater 316-833-2990 <i>Advertise here!</i> ON FARM TIRE REPAIR Kropf Oil Co. Coldwater 620-582-2391	Spiderman: Brand New Day Rated PG / 160 minutes August 8-9 / 15-16 <i>Sponsored by</i> The Bank of Coldwater Chiel THEATRE Showtime 8 pm BOTH Saturday and Sunday Box office opens 45 minutes prior to showtime
COMANCHE COUNTY MEDICAL CLINIC Coldwater 620-582-2136 301 South Washington Monday-Friday 9 am-noon 1:30-5 pm Protection 620-622-4588 463 US Highway 160 Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday 9 am-noon 1-4 pm Daniel Schowengerdt, MD in Protection Tuesday morning Melanie Dunn, APRN-C in Protection Wednesday morning Four providers serving the county Carmen Nelson, APRN-C in Protection Wednesday afternoon Ashley Alvarez, APRN-C in Protection Thursday morning			
SHATTUCK LAW OFFICE Offices in Ashland and Greensburg Phone 866-635-2331 Email bootes@ucom.net or shattuck@ucom.net Sally Shattuck Attorney Linda Brower Assistant	My Brother's House Mark and Jeanette Houghton 311 N B'dway • Protection • 620-622-7352 Monday-Saturday 4-12 midnight Kitchen closes at 10 pm	Finishing Touch FAMILY HAIR CARE Debi 620-253-4396 Beverly 620-546-3204 204 East Main Coldwater Open Tuesday-Saturday	Waiting for your special message!
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QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jason Jump at (620) 532-3151 or email jasonjump@thestarpress.news

Back in the Older Days

Coldwater news from earlier days
Compiled by Teresa Jones

130 YEARS AGO *From Aug. 8, 1896 Star*

This has been a week for conventions. The populist and democratic state conventions and the populist congressional convention are all booked for this week, and the republican state convention comes next week.

The weather the past week has been unusually hot, and complaints have come in from all sections. In Oklahoma the mercury has been reported at 110.

Fatalities are numerous and the effects of the heat have been alarming. If the spell is not broken soon, much sickness will result. The only way possible to avoid it is the observation of the most stringent sanitary regulations and the maintenance, so far as possible, of a uniformly normal condition physically.

The train is generally late on Mondays, and last Monday it was four hours behind schedule time.

The Coldwater schools will open September 7th, with three teachers. It is expected there will be the usual number of scholars from the outside districts, as in a number of [rural] districts it will be cheaper to send here than to maintain a school.

The school tax, which is the only tax that is imposed by a rule of the people is about one-third of the entire tax collected by the county.

At the school meetings held over the county last week, the full limit of 20 mills was voted in a number of districts where there was only one or two families with children to send to school, while in other more densely populated districts, the levy was only 5 and 10 mills.

We believe in good schools, but we don't think it is just the proper caper for a depopulated district to pay into one family \$25 per month for school purposes, or enough to pay tuition and support the entire family all winter. It is just simply an imposition on tax payers.

Residence houses are in demand in the city. The time is coming when some new houses will have to be built to supply the demand.

120 YEARS AGO *From Aug. 3, 1906 Star*

Plenty of moisture now. The corn has been "saved" again. Another good shower of rain yesterday. Comanche county was visited by a heavy rain on last Friday. In some places the rainfall was estimated at from three to four inches.

Not much politics in the county yet.

This is the busy season for the elevators.

Watermelon social on Methodist church lawn on next Tuesday evening. Big slice ice-cold watermelon, 10 cents [or about \$3.70 in today's dollars]. Plan to be present.

110 YEARS AGO *From Aug. 4, 1916 Star*

Only 4 or 5 more weeks remain until the time for the opening again of many of the schools of the county.

During that time the members of the school board in every district should see to it that everything in and about the school house is in proper condition, that all needed supplies in and about the building are furnished and that everything is done that will add to the convenience and comfort of the teacher and pupils, as well as to the facilities for the

most successful teaching and the sanitation of the entire premises.

A visit to the school house and grounds should be made by the school board within the next week or two to ascertain what the school needs may be, then they should proceed at once to provide for those needs.

Do not wait for the teacher or some patron of the school to call attention to the urgent needs of the school. One of the duties imposed by law upon the school board is the care of the school house and school grounds.

At the county teachers' examination held in this city on last Friday and Saturday, there were 27 applicants for certificates, or for grades to complete an examination begun before.

The Coldwater Chautauqua for 1916 will begin Sunday, August 13, and close on Thursday evening, August 17. Information in regard to the attractions which will compose the program has already been given freely in this paper.

We are assured by the managers of the Chautauqua that the program this year is an exceptionally good one. There will be ten attractions in all—one each afternoon and one each evening during the five days.

Season tickets are on sale at \$2 each for adults and \$1 each for children [just over \$61 and \$30 now]. It is much cheaper and far more satisfactory, and it is to the financial advantage of the local committee if season tickets are purchased before the Chautauqua begins.

The U.S. Civil Service Commission announces an examination for the county of Comanche to be held in Coldwater at 4 p.m. on August 12, 1916, to fill the position of motor rural mail carrier at Wilmore, and vacancies that may later occur in the county on motor rural routes. Application blanks may be obtained at the postoffice in Coldwater or in Wilmore.

The Coldwater Gospel Team held a good service at the school house last Sunday. Quite a number from Bethel [the New Eden area southeast of Wilmore] and from Coldwater attended, and the meeting was certainly a helpful one to anyone who wished to be helped. "Come over and help us" again.

100 YEARS AGO *From Aug. 6, 1926 Star*

The school board in the Coldwater district has just received the following notice from J.E. Edgerton, State High School Supervisor:

"At a meeting of the Kansas State Board of Education, held on July 10, 1926, the organization, administration equipment, and character of work done in the Coldwater High School during the school year 1925-26 was reviewed, and the school was placed in 'Class A' on the accredited list of Kansas high schools for the school year 1925-26."

This should be good news to every person in the Coldwater district, and to all who may live outside of the district, but who, at any time, have attended C.H.S. The new building has added several points to the credits to which our school is now entitled.

The work of Superintendent Crosswhite and his corps of teachers last year is commended by the high school supervisor. Let us all

give three cheers for C.H.S.

The Coldwater Fair Association will give a season ticket free to each girl who sells ten or more season tickets to the fair. Tickets will be on sale beginning August 20. Inquire at Castle's Store for particulars.

There will be a big Roundup and riding contests at the Briggs Ranch Sunday afternoon, August 15. Three hours of excitement.

Plan to hear the Southwestern Quartet at the Methodist church in this city on Sunday evening, August 15.

There is every indication that farming by means of horse or mule power is rapidly passing, especially throughout the great wheat belt of this and other states, and that power machinery is coming into quite general use.

There are many advantages which tractors and trucks have over the old way of plowing, harvesting and of transporting grain to market.

Farmers all over the country are beginning to realize these advantages, and they are investing in up-to-date machinery. They are convinced that it pays to do so.

The various candidates have been chosen and now we know whose names will appear on the printed ballots at the general election on November 2.

Possibly not all of the party candidates for whom you voted at the primary were chosen. If that is the case, don't get sore about it and bolt your party.

It will be your privilege at the general election to vote for the persons who, in your opinion, will make the best officers. That can be done, and should be done, without regard to party affiliations.

90 YEARS AGO *From Aug. 7, 1936 Star*

The school board of District No. 1 received word the latter part of last week from Winfield Trimble that he did not expect to return to Coldwater for the coming school year. Mr. Trimble's work here was very satisfactory, and people generally regret having him leave Coldwater.

A district Boy Scout water carnival will be held at the Coldwater swimming pool on Tuesday evening, August 18. Winners in the various events will compete in a meet in Great Bend. Plans for accommodating a large crowd are being made by the local Scout committee.

The Pikeview ladies will hold a carnival next Wednesday, August 12, at 4 p.m. at the McCulla Lake. There will be plenty of amusement eats and cold drinks for sale.

A pre-school clinic sponsored by the state and Comanche County medical societies will be held at the courtroom in Coldwater, August 11, starting at 1:15 p.m. Dr. J.S. Fulton, child specialist from Topeka, will be in charge and will be assisted by the local committee: Mrs. Goldie Freshour, Miss Helen Thompson, Miss Mary Guyer and Mrs. Abe Darroch.

Monday, August 10, is the day set for all 4-H members interested in baking judging to meet at the courthouse in Coldwater for a real workout in judging. A judging school will be held in the morning and a regular contest in the afternoon.

4-H members of Comanche County will broadcast a 30-minute radio program from KGNO, Wednesday afternoon, August 12, at 4 o'clock.

80 YEARS AGO *From Aug. 9, 1946 Star*

Another month, then school begins.

Coldwater's baseball team, undefeated thus far in league play, annexed their 7th straight victory Sunday afternoon by defeating Sun City 10 to 5. As has been the story throughout the present season, the local team's batting was the outstanding feature of the game.

Sun City couldn't get Harold McKinney, Coldwater's right fielder, out. McKinney got four hits for five times at the plate. Credit for the hardest hit ball of the afternoon goes to Abe Darroch, first base, for hitting a home-run over the Sun City center fielder.

Next Sunday afternoon, Greensburg will be in Coldwater for a game on the local diamond.

Considerable interest is being taken in the softball games which are being played several nights a week on the high school athletic field in Coldwater.

The scheduled games for this coming week: Friday, August 2, Wilson Lumber Co. vs. I.H.C.; Monday, August 5, Amerado Oil Co. vs. Buttermilk; Tuesday, August 6, Home Bakery vs. Wilson Lumber Co.; Thursday, August 8, Anderson Grocery vs. High School.

This week the WESTERN STAR begins its 63rd year of continuous publication, having last week completed Volume 62. The paper was founded in August, 1884, one year before Comanche county was even organized and only a few months after the town of Coldwater started.

In those days it took one man to ink the one page handset form and another strong-armed individual to operate the lever which printed a few hundred copies.

Through the lean years, the exodus to Oklahoma after opening the Strip and the years of drouth and depression, the STAR managed to outlive 13 other publications in Coldwater and is today Comanche County's oldest business institution.

70 YEARS AGO *From Aug. 3, 1956 Star*

George Docking, Democratic candidate for Governor, and his wife, accompanied by Bruce Kennedy, Democratic chairman of Kiowa County, and Richard Dowell, Greensburg, Campaign manager for Kiowa County, visited in Coldwater on main street with friends last Friday.

He was met in Coldwater by Clyde Thompson, recently appointed campaign manager for Comanche County for George Docking's 1956 gubernatorial primary campaign.

Mrs. L.B. Sailor, Coldwater, has this year again raised some fine cucumbers. One of them weighed over 4 pounds and measured 14 inches around. She won first place on pickle cucumbers at the state fair at Hutchinson last year.

Mrs. Ardinell Kuster seems to have beaten the race when it comes to raising long beans. She has monster beans on her vines and a particular one she is displaying is 34 inches long and weighs almost four pounds. Her wonder beans are called "guinea beans." Must have some connection with Jack and his bean stalk.

The primary election will be held in Comanche County

at the regular polling places next Tuesday, August 7.

Highlight of the election will be tonight at 9:30, when Gov. Fred Hall and Warren Shaw lock horns for what promises to be an interesting debate over the "Right to work" issue, which Hall vetoed.

It is doubted that anything conclusive or even constructive will come from this debate because of the cloud of claims and counter-claims which have been made. It will be interesting to watch, though. Considerable interest is being created in the local and county races as well.

The Democratic party is sponsoring a watermelon feed and rally tonight with the promise of at least two write-in-campaigns. Others are rumored. A record vote is indicated as election time nears.

Remember, you can't vote for your candidates in the General Election if they are defeated in the Primary.

60 YEARS AGO *From Aug. 4 1966 Star*

Nearly 1000 voters turned out for Tuesday's primary election in Comanche County, added interest being created primarily by this county having its first candidate for national office.

State Senator Harold S. Herd of Coldwater, was one of four Democratic candidates for the office of United States Senator. A total of 529 votes were cast in Coldwater Township.

Coach Fruechting asks that boys get football shoes and start running in them. Make appointments with Dr. McCoy for physicals.

All members of this year's team are asked to attend the 8:30 p.m. showing of the film "The Restless Ones" on Saturday night. See Coach Fruechting for tickets. Workouts are being held daily from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the home of Dr. McCoy.

Vacation Bible School at the Southern Baptist Chapel, August 8 through 17, 8:30 to 11:15 a.m. Enrollment, August 5, 10 a.m.

Early last Saturday morning a rain came up from the southwest, accompanied by only a moderate wind, and broke the long, dry, hot spell, temporarily, at least.

Vernon Pepperd, local U.S. weather observer, reports .92 inch of moisture fell. The rain was very beneficial to the dry pastures and to spring crops. Preceding the rain, temperatures of up to more than 100 degrees were recorded.

50 YEARS AGO *From Aug. 5, 1976 Star*

We have an expression in Kansas that it always rains just in time. We don't always agree on what the rains are in time for. In this case the pastures and growing feed were really hurting. The elm trees were turning brown and dropping their leaves.

While the rains were pretty general, they ran out in the Buttermilk area. Woody Beeley reported not even a sprinkle as did Neill Jackson.

North at the county line from .50 to .60 of an inch was recorded. Gregg Ranch received 1.70 inches. Protection totaled .60 to .80 inch. Roy Boisseau officially reported 3.20 inches while John Lehman, weather observer in Coldwater, officially reported 1.62 inches. Other reports in Coldwater vary from two to three inches.

Temperatures dropped

from several days of being over 100 to the upper 80s. We still need rain so need to keep asking The One Who Gives—and I don't mean Mother Nature! Thank you, Lord, for this blessing of rain.

Grade enrollment for Coldwater will be held August 16 and 17 between the hours of 8:00 to 12:00 and 1:00 to 4:00. Any student participating in interschool athletics on the Junior High level and all cheerleaders will need to have a physical examination before any practice begins. Forms are available at the grade office and at the local doctor's office.

Voters in Comanche County turned out in good numbers Tuesday of this week, showing interest in several primary contests. A total of 623 ballots were counted, with 340 Democrats and 283 Republicans voting.

Absolute cut-off date for tickets for the Bicentennial buffalo feed is August 16 and none can be procured thereafter. Contact Clair Carlisle, Bob Huck and Leo Oller. The feed is sponsored by the Buttermilk Saddle Club of Coldwater.

The feed will be held on Saturday, September 4, 1976, at 6:30 p.m. at the campsite. Tickets are \$5 each. This will include food and evening's entertainment plus a songfest at the camp fire with a Trail-Boss yet to be named, helping to direct all the activities of the evening and the upcoming trail ride.

40 YEARS AGO *From Aug. 7, 1986 Star*

The third annual Coldwater Lake Run has been scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 6, 1986. Co-sponsored by the City of Coldwater, the Coldwater-Wilmore Recreation Commission, Pepsi of Dodge City, and the Coldwater Chamber of Commerce, the events include a two-mile fun run and a 10,000 meter (6.2 mi) road race. Both races begin at 8:30 a.m., four blocks west of Central on Main Street.

Both the 10K and the two-mile will have the following men's and women's age divisions: 12 and under, 13-18, 19-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50 and over. Pepsi is providing free soft drinks for the contestants after the race. The entry fee is \$2 on or before Aug. 30; \$6 after Aug 30. Entry forms are available at Dave's Pizza Oven. To encourage as many local participants as possible, particularly the senior citizens, those who walk are invited to enter the two-mile fun run.

The Coldwater Christian Church congregation had an unusual treat recently, as Kim Ivy presented a bagpipe rendition of "Amazing Grace," accompanied by her cousin, Rhonda Cline.

Kim, a Scottish bagpipe enthusiast, has been practicing (but not performing) with the Shrine band for several years. She plays in bagpipe competitions at Highland Games and has appeared on Miami TV. The bagpipe is a leather "balloon," with three drum pipes and a chanter pipe with finger holes. Nine notes can be produced with this double-reeded instrument.

For this performance, both girls wore traditional Scottish dress. Kim and her parents, Richard and Carmen Ivy of Wichita, were weekend guests of Mrs. Ivy's mother, Vertie Wilson. They also spent some time with the J.R. Cline family.

NEWS

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



Protection had some visitors on Saturday – a young woman, Randilyn Allred, 41, from Missouri, along with two donkeys, six dogs and five chickens (for eggs and meat). The donkeys pull the cart.

Dave Webb who submits a weekly historical column to *The Western Star & Protection Press* called me that afternoon to suggest a possible feature story if they continued west that day on Highway 160. They didn't.

Sunday morning I was in Protection to attend church and listen to former Protection resident/guest speaker Blake Carter, of Meade, and meet his family. Church was dismissed earlier than usual and I headed west toward home where my daughter Amy and her husband Shane from Hays were waiting.

Less than a mile out of Protection near Bluff Creek bridge I saw "a caravan" off the road with a woman, donkeys and dogs in the ditch. I stopped the car and met the woman. Randilyn and her animals had stayed overnight in Protection with Geneva and David Darty. She had had trouble with one of the wheels on the cart but Corey Filson of Protection had stopped earlier to help her.

Randilyn was headed to Ashland with her destination being New Mexico. I asked her a few questions then told her to stop at my farm along the highway to rest after walking seven miles in 90-degree weather and the animals could be watered there.

Her animals look healthy. After three and four days of traveling, all would rest for a day or two. They average 5-10 miles a day in this heat, trying to head out early in the mornings.

Traveling for Six Years

This trip was not her first. She began to travel in 2020 after "the empty nest" bothered her. She has three children ages 20, 22, 23 – two daughters Anastacia and Mercy-Jane and one son Julian, and one grandchild. All live in Missouri. She also has two younger brothers. Her mother calls her every day.

Since 2020, Allred has been through Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi.

She has friends in New Mexico and needs to be there before mid-October to avoid snow in the mountain passes. Only 400 miles to go until there. She and one of the donkeys walk beside the wagon/cart so the donkey pulling the cart isn't burdened

with extra weight. The smaller dogs stay in the cart and the others are on leashes to stay in ditches to avoid the hot pavement and traffic.

I noticed the shoes she wears. They are not what you would expect for someone who walks miles. Randilyn makes hers out of leather and repairs them, too. She says, "When my feet get hot, then I know that the animals need to get off the pavement and we need to rest."

Her animals have unique names. The donkeys (ages four and seven) are Roadhouse and Traffic Jam. The dogs' names are Neodora, Vixen, Teeny Tiny, Blessin', Mazyoon, and Kalo Dingo. Their ages are 10 weeks old to four years.

Only two of the chickens have names. Maybe that is because she will eventually be butchering some of them for meat to eat.

They began this trip from Missouri in early May not realizing that a drought would be continuing in Kansas. When Joplin, Mo., was reached, Tabitha Wilson and her husband Matthew had them stay with them for two weeks. The Wilsons rented a trailer to see that this group be transported through Kansas to Medicine Lodge. There, Lana and Rob (no last names given) loaded them on a trailer to bring them 42 miles through the scenic Gyp Hills to Coldwater.

Her Journey on Facebook

Randilyn Allred has a friend who posts on Facebook her journey. If you want to know more, just go to thefoxdenstorytelling@gmail.com that belongs to Rambling Rambilyn – Fox Den Storytelling, a public page focused on traveling, teaching, and storytelling.

She began to write poetry during high school years – and some of her poems are posted on that web page. She enjoys art museums (inherited that from her mother).

When asked about her education, Randilyn said she graduated from high school then attended an aviation trade school to have a job as an aircraft mechanic. She also became a veterinary technician and was trained for that work on the job.

Staying at the Farm

Shane and Amy left at 3 p.m. for their home in Hays but called to tell me that the woman and animals were almost to my mailbox, a mile from my home. When they neared the entrance to my farm, I then drove down the lane to give her a cold bottle of water to make sure she would stop and rest at my homestead.

We first provided shade, water and some food for her animals, then had her come into an air-conditioned home to cool off and eat, and later to bathe before bedtime. I also invited her to sleep inside my home but she said she would stay outdoors under the open skies with the animals nearby.

For the past 15 years, she has used no television nor microwave.

She showed me the solar panel that helps keep her cell phone charged. Other belongings she showed were the hides from sheep, fox, and other animals that she had tanned; wooden spoons she carved with a knife; small stones/rocks she collects. She also skins deer. Randilyn has a purpose for everything.

She makes and sells leather pouches with all the stitches made with her hands. She also makes beautiful bracelets to sell.

Early Monday morning I invited her indoors for pancakes and milk before she prepared the animals to leave. Three miles from my home is Sitka Hill intersection. There, Corey Filson met her again. He gave her bottled water as well as oats for the donkeys.

She was now six miles from Ashland on August 3. There a man named David had told her to stop and rest at his place two blocks north of the motel. From his place she would be traveling to Meade then the Oklahoma Panhandle on to New Mexico.

COLDWATER WEATHER

By Greg Vanderree

JULY 29
High 104 / Low 75 / Precip - None
JULY 30
High 104 / Low 75 / Precip - None
JULY 31
High 104 / Low 75 / Precip - None
AUGUST 1
High 93 / Low 64 / Precip - None
AUGUST 2
High 89 / Low 67 / Precip - None
AUGUST 3
High 94 / Low 65 / Precip - None
AUGUST 4
High 100 / Low 72 / Precip - None

WHEAT PRICES

Alliance Ag & Grain
Coldwater - 620.582.2251
Protection - 620.622.4619

July 29 - \$6.50
July 30 - \$6.56
July 31 - 6.32
August 1 - CLOSED
August 2 - CLOSED
August 3 - \$6.42
August 4 - \$6.32

CHICKENS

• From Page 1

making changes designed to improve efficiency and save time and money for future councils.

Haulmark pointed to several recent efforts by the city, including expanding pool hours for residents, implementing criminal background checks for new city employees and addressing financial concerns involving Prairie Plaza Apartments.

The council spent significant time working to improve Prairie Plaza's financial situation after the apartments faced deficits and operational challenges. Haulmark said the property is now in a better financial position.

"We're working on much more important issues," Haulmark said.

Regarding the chicken ordinance, Haulmark said the regulation has been in place for more than 10 years. The previous ordinance allowed residents to have up to six chickens but did not allow roosters.

The city councilman said a complaint involving a resident with chickens led code enforcement to review compliance. Approximately 20 residents with chickens were reviewed as part of that process.

After reviewing the existing ordinance, the council made changes to provide more flexibility for residents. The updated ordinance allows residents to keep unlimited chickens

but continues to prohibit roosters.

The ordinance requires a one-time \$5 registration fee.

Haulmark said the goal is not to create problems for residents who responsibly care for their animals.

"As long as people keep

their animals up and are good stewards to their animals, there is not going to be a problem," Haulmark said.

The discussion has highlighted a larger conversation facing many communities – how to balance enforcement

of local ordinances with addressing larger infrastructure and financial challenges.

The Star-Press tried to reach out to the Coldwater mayor for comments, but he was not able to be reached prior to the press deadline on Tuesday.

LAND AUCTION

470± ACRES IN CLARK COUNTY, KS

LEGALS: S12, T33, R25 W, ACRES 469.7, W2, NE EX R/W

- **Income-Producing CRP**
 - 375.6± Acres Enrolled
 - Approx. \$15,644 Annually
- **Quality Native Grass Pasture**
- **Fenced Along North Boundary**
- **Whitetail Deer Hunting**
 - Kansas Deer Mngmt Unit 18
- **Quail Hunting**
- **Highway Frontage on East Side**
- **Power Available on Two Sides**

*** ONLINE ONLY BIDDING ***

OPENS: MON. AUGUST 17TH, 2026 AT 4:00PM CDT

ENDS: FRI. AUGUST 21ST, 2026 AT 4:00PM CDT

NATHAN LEEPER - LAND SPECIALIST - 620.388.6328

Offered by Red Cedar Land Co., 2 NE 10th Ave, St. John, KS 67576 - www.RedCedarLand.com

More About Randilyn

Her email address thefoxdenstorytelling@gmail.com belongs to Rambling Rambilyn – Fox Den Storytelling, a public page focused on traveling, teaching, and storytelling. Go there. It has fascinating photos, stories, and comments about her life and travels.

She is not a gypsy nor a peddler. Her comment on Feb. 2 (no year given):

"I will treat you with respect while having different beliefs but I stand behind communities regardless of the talk. And peddlers have been selling small wares for centuries and peddling isn't a crime. I'm not stealing. I'm making a living to care for myself and my animals just like everyone else... Please don't hate things you have no idea of just because you can't figure out the story doesn't mean you need to make one up."

Also I learned her grandmother had pigeons and quarter horses and since Randilyn was 18, she has had pigeons, but not on this trip.

She says people nowadays want comfort and material things, and she delights in this simpler lifestyle where God has been providing for her needs and safety. Only good things have happened in her travels. It was my pleasure to assist her in this journey to be with friends in New Mexico.

THANK YOU!

I'd like to express a huge thank you for all the prayers, cards, visits and gifts I received during my recent hospital stay.

I'm also very appreciative of Comanche County Hospital staff for their excellent care. And, I'd like to add an additional thank-you to the ambulance crew for a safe trip to Wichita. Being part of a small community is the best.

Helen Dale, Protection

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

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Help Wanted

Lane Myers in Protection is now hiring machine operators and laborers. Competitive starting pay with opportunity for pay increases after probationary period. 5 hours overtime every week with paid holidays. Benefits include medical and dental insurance, PTO, retirement plan and life insurance. Call Doug at 620-622-4310 if interested.

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

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

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

SOUTH CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL is seeking a boy's middle school basketball coach for the 2026-27 season. Please contact Matt Jellison at (620) 622-4545.

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

Now that summer is over, Pioneer Lodge is looking for some C.N.A.'s. Consider joining our team as a FT, PT or Relief employee. Wages vary for each category, and FT employees are eligible for a \$2500 bonus. Stop by for an application or Call Chuck at 620-582-2123 for more information.

Wanted: Paraprofessional at South Central Elementary and Middle School in Protection. If interested fill out an application at www.scksec.com or call Matt Jellison at (620) 622-4545.