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Western & Protection
The Star-Press

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September 24, 2026

Salisbury Credits Faith, Family, Hard Work for Long Life

BY KATEE UNDERWOOD
Staff Writer

At 97, Charles ‘Chuck’ Salisbury credits faith, family and a life of hard work for a life that has spanned nearly a century.

Salisbury will celebrate his 98th birthday Oct. 25. The Coldwater resident remains active, independent and grateful for the life he’s been given, and when Salisbury talks about turning 98, he doesn’t talk about slowing down.

“I feel pretty good, you know,” he said. “I’m highly blessed by God.”

For Salisbury, faith isn’t simply something he picked up later in life. He said God has influenced his life for many years and remains at the center of everything he does.

“God in my life. That is my true belief,” he said when asked what he considers the secret to reaching 98.

These days, Salisbury keeps busy with housekeeping and yardwork, something he has continued doing for several years. He moved to Comanche County with his wife, June, on June 2, 1992, and has called the area home ever since. But his story began much farther west.

He was born on Oct. 25, 1928, at home, in Mount Harris, Colo., a coal-mining town near Hayden, which no longer exists.

His father worked for the Victor Coal Mines.

“It was pretty much a mining camp,” he said. “You just took care of yourself.”

Army Air Corps, Air Force

At 17, Chuck enlisted in the Army Air Corps on Dec. 28, 1945. World War II fighting had ended by then, although the war was not formally declared over until 1946. He spent three years in the military and said he enjoyed his time in the Air Corps. He trained as a weather observer and teletype technician, learning to repair teletype machines and weather equipment. His service took him to Germany for three months before he was shipped to the Azores, a group of islands belonging to Portugal. He spent the remainder of his enlistment on the island of Lajes. He even still remembers some of the Portuguese language.

While he was stationed in the Azores, the Army Air Corps became the U.S. Air Force in September 1947. The change also meant a change in uniforms. Salisbury, and the men stationed with him, had been wearing Army-style uniforms, including the sun-tan uniforms associated with the Army Air Corps. When the new Air Force uniforms arrived, they were blue. The other servicemen weren’t sure what to do with their old uniforms. Salisbury boxed everyone’s up and mailed them home in two large boxes so his younger brothers could have them.

All three of his brothers eventually served



COLDWATER RESIDENT CHARLES ‘CHUCK’ SALISBURY

in the military. One remained in the military for nearly 22 years before retiring. Nearly eight decades later, Salisbury still wears a hat bearing the name of the original Army Air Corps. And although he said he doesn’t have many memories from his earliest years, there is at least one military detail he has never forgotten. He still remembers his Army serial number.

69 Years of Marriage

Salisbury married his wife, June, on July 23, 1950. She was just 16 – 11 days past her 16th birthday – and her mother had to give permission for the marriage to take place.

The two had already become well acquainted before they married. Their dates

See **SALISBURY** / Page 2

Kansas State Economist Predicts High Diesel Prices Through 2027

BY TIM CARPENTER
Kansas Reflector

Diesel costs are likely to remain elevated through next year to the detriment of farmers struggling to turn a profit and consumers grappling with food inflation, a Kansas State University agricultural economist says.

Gregg Ibendahl, farm management specialist with KSU’s Extension Service, said the diesel market was influenced by soaring crude prices, limited refining capacity and supply system interruptions. Consequences of international conflict may sustain those conditions and hold prices at \$6 to \$7 per gallon into 2027 or beyond, he said.

Shipping in the Gulf region and the Strait of Hormuz has been undermined since February by the United States’ war with Iran. In addition, diesel exports by Russia weakened since its full-scale military assault of Ukraine began in 2022.

The only means of addressing pump prices would be to resolve global tensions and resume the regular international flow of fuel, Ibendahl said.

“Even in a best-case scenario, where the war in Ukraine winds down quickly and shipments through the Gulf normalize, it could easily take six months for the market to adjust,” Ibendahl said. “To see prices return to what we had earlier this year could take up to two years, even if everything goes right.”

Ibendahl said diesel costs in Kansas climbed approximately \$2.25 per gallon during 2026. In Lawrence on Tuesday, the pump price of diesel stood at \$6.29 per gallon. The national average for diesel climbed to \$6.53 a gallon on Tuesday, according to AAA motor club.

About one-third of escalation in domestic price was

See **DIESEL** / Page 4



PAULA BRADLEY / The Star-Press

Bounced Back: Timberwolves Win Big at Sublette

South Central sophomore Jeffery Cope (29) tries to stretch out for more yardage while he is being tackled by a Sublette defender during last week’s 54-0 road win over the Larks. It was Sublette’s first game of the season after the first two contests were cancelled, and it came a week after a gut-wrenching two-point loss for South Central at home against Reno County.



PAULA BRADLEY / The Star-Press

Volleyball Split: SC Wins One, Loses One

South Central sophomore Emerie Woolfolk (9) returns a ball toward the net from the back row during a recent match at home.

State Wants to Create Mental Health Transport System

BY RACHEL SCHNELLE
Kansas News Service

The state is taking bids to create a mental health transportation system. Without it, people in crisis can end up in the hands of law enforcement or simply waiting in emergency rooms.

The Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services is taking bids to create reliable transportation for people in mental health or substance use crises with the goal of connecting them with available care.

Right now, Kansans in a crisis might not get appropriate services if they live in remote or rural areas. That can mean law enforcement intervention or simply staying in an emergency room.

KDADS anticipates awarding a single statewide contract with a budget of nearly \$2.5 million.

The initiative is part of the larger Behavioral Health Services Program within the

Kansas Rural Health Transportation Program. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment administers it.

Right now, there is only a patchwork of regional or countywide transportation.

For transportation that does exist, it can be rare they would pick up someone in a mental health emergency.

Personalized Acute Medical Transportation offers a variety of non-emergency transportation in the Topeka, Wichita and Kansas City areas.

Co-founder James Byrd said they lack training and resources available to handle mental health crises situations.

“A lot of companies, like my company, they’re not equipped to deal with that type of passenger,” Byrd said.

Michelle Ponce is with the Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas. She said Kansas currently has no

See **SYSTEM** / Page 4

NEWS

SALISBURY

• From Page 1

sometimes included a chaperone. June’s mother accompanied them on many of their dates, and her younger brother, Ed Killgore, sometimes came along, too. Ed was 9 years old at the time and, according to Salisbury, he would sit directly between the young couple during their dates.

The pair was married for 69 years before June died in August 2019. Together they had six daughters, all of whom are still living. Their family has continued to grow. Salisbury counts 20 grandchildren, including their spouses, 40 great-grandchildren, including their spouses and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

Life Behind the Wheel

Salisbury spent much of his working life driving a truck. For 35 to 40 years, he hauled freight in a truck with a van trailer, carrying various types of goods. For the final 13 years, before moving to Kansas, he drove six nights a week between Farmington and Albuquerque, N.M. for the trucking division of Denver and Rio Grande Motorway. He was home during the day and back on the road at night. After moving to Kansas, he worked for Kindsvater Trucking for a couple of years.

Faith Through June

When asked what he would want people to

remember about him, his answer came back to the same thing he credits for carrying him through nearly a century.

“That God influenced my life for a lot of years and everything I do,” Salisbury said.

His faith became especially important because of June. He said his wife was the reason he became a Christian. He attended the old Baptist church, in Coldwater, for years, until it closed in 2008. Afterward, he and June began attending Antioch in Buttermilk, where he occasionally preached. After June’s death, he began attending the Baptist church in Protection with one of his daughters.

Close Call at 80

His life has not been without its scares. Salisbury has also had a few reminders that a long life doesn’t necessarily mean an easy one. At 80, he was trimming trees at the old Baptist church, in Coldwater, when an accident causing him to suffer a serious head injury nearly cost him his life.

He was on a ladder cutting a branch from an evergreen tree with a chainsaw. The branch was long enough that when it struck the ground, it came back and hit him in the head, knocking him from the ladder and rendering him unconscious. But the seriousness of the injury wasn’t discovered immediately. About seven weeks later, he drove from

Kansas to New Mexico, as he frequently did. During the trip and after arriving, he began feeling very sick. In the emergency room, in New Mexico, doctors discovered he had a major brain bleed. He remembers hearing people in the hospital hallway expressing disbelief that he had driven from Kansas to New Mexico that day, because he shouldn’t have made it.

Doctors performed surgery, removing part of his skull to drain and flush the bleeding and placed a shunt. There is an indentation in his skull that’s still there to this day, but he survived.

When asked what he would tell his 20-year-old self if he could go back, his

answer was simple, “I’d have to tell myself I was gonna live a while.”

“I didn’t think I was gonna live this long,” he said.

His parents and grandparents died in their early 70s. Salisbury had three younger brothers and two younger sisters, all of whom have since died. Most lived into their 60s, while one sister died in her early 50s.

Despite everything he’s experienced, Salisbury said he doesn’t remember having a particularly hard time himself. But he said he believes the past 10 years have been some of the hardest times he’s witnessed for other people, pointing to concerns about issues and events around the world.

Join your friends at
Antioch Community Church
Saturday, October 3rd 12:00pm
5th Annual Fall Festival & BBQ

At Buttermilk, KS
Smoked Pork, Brisket, &
Turkey BBQ & Pie Social

MUSIC by Aaron Mullins of Destiny Worship
Disc Golf, Sling Shots, Face Painting,
Corn Treasure Hunt & kid’s activities

ARCHERY: Genesis Bows provided for age
8-adult with Range Safety Certified Instructor
Sign-up for free archery lessons this fall!

Questions: Call 785-409-9318 Pastor Jeff Perry
Admission is free If it rains, we will be inside.

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Published in The Western Star & Protection Press on Thursday, Sept. 17, 2026) 2t

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-5

A RESOLUTION FIXING A TIME AND PLACE AND PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF A HEARING BEFORE THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF PROTECTION, KANSAS, AT WHICH THE OWNER, HIS OR HER AGENT, LIENHOLDERS OF RECORD, OCCUPANTS AND OTHER PARTIES IN INTEREST OF STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN SAID CITY AND DESCRIBED HEREIN MAY APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE WHY SUCH STRUCTURE SHOULD NOT BE CONDEMNED AND ORDERED REPAIRED OR DEMOLISHED AS AN UNSAFE OR DANGEROUS STRUCTURE.

WHEREAS, the enforcing officer of the City of Protection, Kansas, did on the 12th day of June, 2026, file with the governing body of said city, a statement in writing that the structure, hereinafter described, is unsafe and dangerous.

WHEREAS, on August 19th, 2026, the governing body of the City of Protection, Kansas, passed and adopted Resolution No. 26-3, "A Resolution Fixing a Time and Place and Providing for Notice of a Hearing Before the Governing Body of the City of Protection, Kansas, at Which the Owner, His or Her Agent, Lienholders of Record, Occupants and Other Parties In Interest of Structures Located Within Said City and Described Herein May Appear and Show Cause Why Such Structure Should Not Be Condemned and Ordered Repaired or Demolished as an Unsafe or Dangerous Structure."

WHEREAS, said Resolution No. 26-3, was published in the Western Star & Protection Press on August 27, 2026, and a copy of the Resolution was sent by certified mail to the owner at the last known place of residence and marked "deliver to addressee only," however, said Resolution 26-3 was not published the second consecutive week on September 3rd, 2026, as required.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF PROTECTION, KANSAS:

That a hearing will be held on the 11th day of November, 2026, before the governing body of the City of Protection at 7:00 o'clock p.m., at the Protection Township Library, 404 N Broadway Ave, Protection, KS 67127, at which the owner, his or her agent, any lienholders or record, any occupant and any other parties in interest, as that term is defined by law, of the structure located at:

208 W. Main Street Protection, KS 67127

Legal Description: Lots Ten (10), Eleven (11), and Twelve (12), in Block Two-Hundred and Ten (210), Hickok's Addition to the City of Protection, Comanche County, Kansas.

May appear and show cause why such structure should not be condemned as an unsafe or dangerous structure and ordered repaired or demolished.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk shall cause this resolution to be published once each week for two consecutive weeks with at least 30 days elapsing between the date of the last publication and the date set for the hearing and shall, within three days after the first publication, mail a copy of this Resolution, by certified mail, to each owner, agent, lienholder, and occupant at the last known place of residence and shall be marked "deliver to addressee only."

Passed and adopted by the Governing Body of the City of Protection, Kansas, this 9th day of September, 2026.

PUBLIC NOTICES

(First published in The Western Star & Protection Press on Thursday, Sept. 17, 2026) 2t

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-4

A RESOLUTION FIXING A TIME AND PLACE AND PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF A HEARING BEFORE THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF COLDWATER, KANSAS, AT WHICH THE OWNER(S), HIS OR HER AGENT, LIENHOLDER OF RECORD, OCCUPANTS AND OTHER PARTIES IN INTEREST OF STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN SAID CITY AND DESCRIBED HEREIN MAY APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE WHY SUCH STRUCTURES SHOULD NOT BE CONDEMNED AND ORDERED REPAIRED OR DEMOLISHED AS UNSAFE OR DANGEROUS STRUCTURES.

WHEREAS, the enforcing officer of the City of Coldwater, Kansas did on the 14th day of September, 2026 file with the governing body of said City, a statement in writing that the structures, hereinafter described, are unsafe and dangerous: Structures on Lot 7 and Lot 8 in Block 56

In the Original Town of Coldwater, Comanche County, Kansas.

Street address: 210 S. Boston Ave.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF COLDWATER, KANSAS:

That a hearing will be held on the 9th day of November, 2026, before the governing body of the City at 6:30 o'clock p.m. at 239 E. Main St, in the northeast room, at which time the owner(s), his/her agent, any lienholders of record, any occupant and any other parties in interest, as that term is defined by law, having objection to the ordered repair or demolition of the structures located on:

Lot 7 and Lot 8 in Block 56 in the Original Town of Coldwater, Comanche County, Kansas
Street Address: 210 S. Boston Ave.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Clerk shall cause this Resolution to be published and shall give notice of the aforesaid hearing in the manner provided by Law.

Adopted this 14th day of September, 2026.

Paul Alvarez, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kristal Sherman, City Clerk

(Published in The Western Star & Protection Press on Thursday, Sept. 17, 2026) 2t

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-4

A RESOLUTION FIXING A TIME AND PLACE AND PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF A HEARING BEFORE THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF PROTECTION, KANSAS, AT WHICH THE OWNER, HIS OR HER AGENT, LIENHOLDERS OF RECORD, OCCUPANTS AND OTHER PARTIES IN INTEREST OF STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN SAID CITY AND DESCRIBED HEREIN MAY APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE WHY SUCH STRUCTURE SHOULD NOT BE CONDEMNED AND ORDERED REPAIRED OR DEMOLISHED AS AN UNSAFE OR DANGEROUS STRUCTURE.

WHEREAS, the enforcing officer of the City of Protection, Kansas, did on the 16th day of July, 2026, file with the governing body of said city, a statement in writing that the structure, hereinafter described, is unsafe and dangerous.

WHEREAS, on July 16, 2026, the governing body of the City of Protection, Kansas, passed and adopted Resolution No. 26-2, "A Resolution Fixing a Time and Place and Providing for Notice of a Hearing Before the Governing Body of the City of Protection, Kansas, at Which the Owner, His or Her Agent, Lienholders of Record, Occupants and Other Parties In Interest of Structures Located Within Said City and Described Herein May Appear and Show Cause Why Such Structure Should Not Be Condemned and Ordered Repaired or Demolished as an Unsafe or Dangerous Structure."

WHEREAS, said Resolution No. 26-2, was published in the Western Star & Protection Press on July 23rd, 2026, and a copy of the Resolution was sent by certified mail to the owner at the last known place of residence and marked "deliver to addressee only," but said mailing was returned to sender as insufficient address, unable to forward; however, said Resolution 26-2 was not published the second consecutive week

on July 30th, 2026, as required, and an alternate potential address for the owner has been located.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF PROTECTION, KANSAS:

That a hearing will be held on the 11th day of November, 2026, before the governing body of the City of Protection at 7:00 o'clock p.m., at the Protection Township Library, 404 N Broadway Ave, Protection, KS 67127, at which the owner, his or her agent, any lienholders or record, any occupant and any other parties in interest, as that term is defined by law, of the structure located at:

107 W. Main Street, Protection, KS 67127

Legal Description: Lots Six (6) and Seven (7), in Block One-hundred and Ninety-one (191), of the Original Town of the City of Protection, Comanche County, Kansas.

May appear and show cause why such structure should not be condemned as an unsafe or dangerous structure and ordered repaired or demolished.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk shall cause this resolution to be published once each week for two consecutive weeks with at least 30 days elapsing between the date of the last publication and the date set for the hearing and shall, within three days after the first publication, mail a copy of this Resolution, by certified mail, to each owner, agent, lienholder, and occupant at the last known place of residence and shall be marked "deliver to addressee only."

Passed and adopted by the Governing Body of the City of Protection, Kansas, this 9th day of September, 2026.

Chris Brosius, Mayor

Attest:

Jennifer Monroe: City Clerk

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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* Sept. 27, 1901

Protection paragraphs

The new band instruments are expected in this week. The wheat that was sown some time ago is looking fine. The rain of last Friday night made the pastures look green. —[Correspondent] “OWEN.”

Protection prattle

Shorter days now. School begins here next Monday. The dance here last Friday night was not largely attended. Most of those in attendance were compelled to remain in the hall until near morning on account of the rain which began falling at 12 o'clock.

The Democratic and Populist conventions held in this city on Wednesday nominated J.E. Harbaugh for commissioner from the Third District. The Republican primary convention which met here last Saturday afternoon made the following nominations—For commissioner from the Third District, M.L. Baxter. Protection Township ticket: trustee, I.K. Rodgers; for clerk, George Meisinger; for treasurer, Alex Thornhill; for justice of the peace, Milt Poe. —[Correspondent] “JUNIPER.”

100 YEARS AGO *Protection Post* Sept. 23, 1926

Town boosters

Last Wednesday, the Protection Boosters, with a delegation of 50 or more cars, invaded the precincts of Wilmore, Coldwater, Ashland, Buffalo and Selman to advertise the Fall Festival, which is preparing to open its doors Wednesday. The Boosters, with souvenirs, advertising matter and a wealth of enthusiasm, left Protection early and motored directly to Wilmore, returning to Coldwater after spending an hour at Wilmore. The Boosters had prepared a program for each town of Charleston dancing, talks, songs and a variety of entertaining stunts.... Goodly crowds met the

Protection Boosters at each of our neighboring cities and each one gave them a cordial welcome. The schools were dismissed and the children joined their elders.... Basil B. Truby, Scott McCormick and W.E. Snyder deserve possibly the premier praise for the wonderful success of this Booster trip. Under the guidance of Mr. Truby, a special paper, *The Festival Signal*, had been prepared and edited by him, and hundreds of copies of it were distributed among crowds at each stop. The trip to Wilmore and Coldwater was made in the forenoon and the trip to Ashland, Sitka, Buffalo and Selman in the afternoon. At noon those in the Booster party, as well as many others, met at the Festival building [the old barn north of today's swimming pool that was torn down several years ago] and enjoyed a big picnic dinner which had been prepared by the ladies.... As a whole, the affair was very successful and is possibly the best “stunt” that the Protection community has ever done. All the credit cannot be given to the town for some of the most prominent and untiring workers and those who make the affair successful were from the adjacent country and possibly a count would have shown more country-owned cars than town-owned ones....

New business

Marion Bratcher and Marion Rubendall have formed a partnership and will establish an automobile accessory shop. Both are experienced motor men. For the past several months, Mr. Bratcher has operated the Standard Oil Service Station in Protection and has been very successful with it. Mr. Rubendall moved to Protection recently from the northern part of Kansas, but has had many years of experience as a motor accessory workman and dealer. Mr. Bratcher and Mr. Rubendall recently purchased the building of Basil B. Truby, just south of the Standard Service

Station and have moved the building to the rear of the lot, in line with the front of the station and will build a driveway, or rather extend the station driveway across the front of the building they purchased.... **Traveling entertainment** McCabe's Georgia Troubadours, Negro minstrels, at The Pastime Theatre, Tuesday of next week. One night only: 25¢ and 50¢ [worth about \$4.75 and \$9.50 in today's dollars]. *The Georgia Troubadours was a well-known African American minstrel and vaudeville touring show active during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Led by William McCabe, it was a launching pad and training ground for several Black musicians who were later active in early jazz, blues, and American entertainment groups.*

Lyceum program

The schedule for the numbers of the Lyceum Course has been received from the White & Brown Lyceum Company and is as follows: The New York Players, Oct. 5; the Baroness de Hueck, Nov. 5; the De Willo Concert Company, Dec. 11; the Anne Varner Baker Company, Jan. 28; and Sarah Mildred Wilmer, Mar. 2.

This course is sponsored by 33 men of the community, who have agreed to purchase two season tickets each, and the students of the high school. The course, last year, was a good one and is furnished by the same company this year. Therefore we are expecting a good one this year. The season was a financial success last year and we are hoping that we may receive the same generous response that we did a year ago. Arrangements have been made so that all numbers will be held in the Pastime Theatre. There will be a meeting of the guarantors at the Bachman & Company Garage, Saturday morning, Sept. 25, for the purpose of affecting an organization.

Spelling bee report

The Kansas State Spelling Contest was held on Tuesday, Sept. 14, at the Statehouse in Topeka.... Since Vella Patterson had won first place in the elimination contest held at Coldwater last April, and Owen Teter had won second place, we represented Comanche County in the contest. Promptly at ten o'clock Tuesday morning, 86 local spelling champions were in their places in the Senate chamber of the Statehouse, ready for the written test of 100 words selected from Pearson's Speller by State Supt. Miley. This test was to decide the persons eligible for the oral spelling.... At about two o'clock the names of the winners of the written contest were posted on the bulletin board in the rotunda of the Capitol. I was overjoyed to find I had tied with 46 others for first place. Unfortunately, Owen had lost out, as he missed one word in the written contest. After two hours of spelling, only two persons had gone down. The judges then decided to leave the speller and use a list previously selected by Supt. Miley. This was indeed a list of “jawbreakers.” At 5:30, after 30 of the

47 contestants had gone down, I met my Waterloo. The word “borough,” which means a little English village, was pronounced to me, and after exactly three hours and 15 minutes, I was spelled down. There were 16 left standing after this and the spelling continued for some time before the state championship was decided. The winner was Meryke Poeke from Arlington, Reno County.... —VELLA PATTERSON.

75 YEARS AGO *Protection Post* Sept. 21, 1951

A million fence posts

The Lane Myers Company has been awarded a defense contract from the U.S. Army for 1,250,000 fence posts to be used on the battlefield. Lane flew to Kansas City Sunday afternoon and on to St. Louis Monday where he completed negotiations on Tuesday for the contract. “It will take several weeks to tool up, then it will require about twelve men approximately six months to complete the order,” says Mr. Myers. When full production is attained, a carload of steel will be used about every other day.

Winger-Dale engagement

Chocolates at Waltheim Hall, Kansas State College in Manhattan, announce the engagement of Miss Helen Winger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Winger of Johnson, to Private William L. Dale, son of Mr. and Mrs. Karl Dale of Protection. Miss Winger is a senior in home economics and extension at K-State. Private Dale is with the U.S. Marine Corps at San Diego, California.

Church barbecue oven

The Methodist church has a new outdoor oven, which may be used for get-togethers out of doors. The oven was laid up by Roger Vaughan three weeks ago, and presented to the church. It is lined with fire brick, which extends to the top of the chimney, and covered outside with a course of regular brick. There are shelves on either side upon which the food may be placed as it is cooked. *This brick oven was across the street east of the church on a large lot used by the church as a park. In later years the congregation built a parsonage on the west portion of the lot, and sold the rest to the Protection Mennonite Church where it built its parsonage.*

State Fairgoers

Among those from Protection who attended the State Fair in Hutchinson Monday were Herman and Lola Herbord and Marilyn, Marjorie Sue Morlan, George and Irene Herron and Don Lee, L.A. and Zella Shrauner, Milo and Mid Edmonston, Paul and Frances Edmonston, Charles and Allene Jones and Cecilia. Ronnie Prilliman, Glen and Lena Smalley and Shirley, Bobby Bayne, Ben and Rema Filson and family, Clarence Sr. and Birdie Condra, Clarence Jr. and Lois Condra and

sons, Jack and Beulah Alexander and family, Claude Simkins, Robert and Pauline Graham and sons, Mary Sue McLaughlin, and Marlene Williams.

55 YEARS AGO *Protection Post* Sept. 24, 1971

Wet weather

Drizzly weather the past week has blessed the area with 1.60 inches of moisture and dropped the daytime temperatures near the 70-degree mark, while nighttime lows have been in the 40s. The rain has slowed feed cutting, but has put the ground in excellent shape for drilling wheat.

Cowboy injured

Raymond Gibson was severely injured last Wednesday evening when he was checking new calves. The horse spooked and threw him. He was within a half mile of his home and his wife Esther saw the accident. Raymond received a broken right pelvis bone and separated pelvic bones. He is confined to the Trinity Hospital at Dodge City. He was put in a cast last Tuesday and will be returned to the Ashland Hospital in the near future. Neighbors and friends are taking care of his farm.

Out and about

Larry and Melvina Harvey and sons and Merton and Mildred Moore visited Sunday afternoon with Warren Lee and Judy Moore and family. A quilting was held at the home of Erma Zimmerman on Wednesday. Those present were Ruth Baker, Alice Baker, Clara Schweitzer, Phebe Selzer, Stella Zimmerman, and Mabel and Susie Zimmerman. Sandy Hoffman and Kyle of Coldwater visited last week in the home of her parents, Garland and Irene Fitzwater. Joni Leeper was a Monday evening guest of Mac and Sherry Leeper and girls. Ollie Osmon and Garland Peterson were Wednesday evening supper guests of Tom and Phyllis Fellers and family of Ashland, helping Jacque celebrate her birthday. Esther Selzer visited her father A.F. Willems at the Greensburg rest home on Wednesday. Don and Judy Kerstetter and boys spent Sunday with Harold and Naomi Ellis. Bob and Sue Schultz and family of Coldwater visited Joe and Viola Schumacher Saturday afternoon. The Rev. Carl and Agnes Carrier, Ethel Windus and Julia Foster attended church services at Pioneer Lodge in Coldwater Sunday. Charles and Penny Peterson, Tammy and Timmy, were Wednesday supper guests of Virgil and Ramona Lawrence. Both couples celebrated anniversaries. The PHS Home Economics Class III visited Crossland Studios in Bucklin on September 22. They toured the business and were shown different techniques used in restoring old furniture. Those attending were Debbie Teeter, Mary Rhodes, Connie Lauffer, Joy McMillin, Deborah Hutson, Gretchen Sangster, Debbie McLaughlin, Michelle Morlan, Debi Walters, Sara Leeper, bus driver Leona Mae Williams, and instructor

Mada Walker, all of Protection.

35 YEARS AGO *Protection Press* Sept. 26, 1991

Up by four

It's official now. Protection School has 180 students enrolled in its 13 grades for the current school year, 1991-92. Friday, September 20, was the “census” date. That's when the official counts of students in schools across the state were taken. That data was sent to the Kansas State Board of Education to be used in a number of ways.... The enrollment here last year officially was 176 students. Two years ago, it was just 172 students. The count in the 1988-89 school year was 178.

This year here, 101 students are in kindergarten through sixth grade. The largest grade is the sixth, with 24 boys and girls enrolled. The smallest are kindergarten and fourth grade, each with just 10 youngsters. Protection Junior High School this time has 31 students. There are 20 seventh graders and just 11 in the eighth grade. High school enrollment here for the current school year is 48 students.... The junior class here (with only eight boys and girls) is the smallest of all the 13 grades.... The [USD 300] total student population during the 1989-90 school year was 431. That climbed to 446 last year. This year exactly matched that 446 total again.

Homecoming candidates

Two of eight young persons will reign over PHS Homecoming festivities here Friday. All are seniors. Queen candidates are Scharmagne Hazen, Angela Hackney, Tiffany Leeper and Cindy Lohrding. King candidates are Kraig Lindsay, Brian Harris, Chris Selzer and Rick Voelker.

L&M Grocery specials

Lettuce, 59¢/head
Carrots, 49¢/2-lb. package
Tomatoes, 59¢/lb.
Chili beans, 2 for 89¢/15-oz. can
Wesson oil, \$2.29/48-oz. bottle
Chuck roast, \$1.69/lb.
Boneless ham, \$1.89/lb.
Tater tots, 99¢/24-oz. pkg.

Women's golf

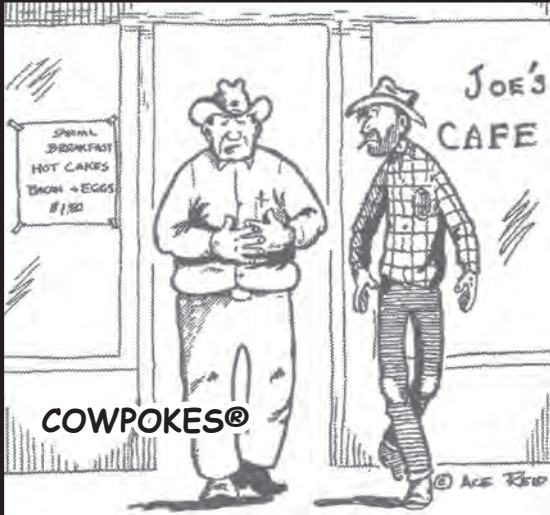
Five women played at the Protection Golf Course on ladies day, Tuesday, September 17. They teed off at 8:30 a.m. Taking part were Arlene Butts, Lillie Christopher, Olive Parkin, Marie Ward and Pansy Riner. By 10 a.m. the group had made it to Don's Place for coffee and visiting.

15 YEARS AGO *Protection Press* Sept. 22, 2011

Bobbing Along Broadway By Bob Greer

Some of the happenings last weekend for me and my wife Wilma as we rode Amtrak to meet our son Donnie in Kansas City: Speeding along on a passenger train, traveling 75 to 90 miles per hour. An exciting visit to one of our region's largest cities. Watching a college football game with thousands of fans. And a scary mishap when I fell on a moving escalator! *After tumbling over four times, sore Bob had only some small cuts and a few bruises.*

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NEWS

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



ANNA KAMINSKI / Kansas Reflector

Rev. Adam Hamilton, a Democrat, and Republican U.S. Sen. Roger Marshall appear on the debate stage on Sept. 12, at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson.

Kansas Independents Could Send Dem to U.S. Senate, But Not Governor’s House

BY GRACE HILLS
Kansas News Service

A recent poll shows Democratic Senate candidate Adam Hamilton leading in his race, but the Democratic candidate for governor, Cindy Holscher, is behind.

Independent Kansas voters could be what sends a Democrat to the U.S. Senate, but also what keeps a Democrat out of the governor’s office.

A poll by Emerson College has Democratic U.S. Senate candidate Adam Hamilton prevailing over incumbent Republican Roger Marshall, but Democratic gubernatorial candidate Cindy Holscher losing to Republican candidate Ty Masterson.

The two Democratic, white, Johnson County-based candidates running on their moderate approaches might seem similar, but have split independents. Why would someone vote for Hamilton in the Senate race but not Holscher in the race for governor?

According to experts and voters, two factors are influencing the outcome – funding and messaging.

Kansas has far more registered Republicans than Democrats or unaffiliated voters, but has elected two Democrats to the governor’s office since 2000.

The state tends to flip-flop between which party holds the office, and has alternated between Democratic and Republican governors for more than 60 years. Since current Democratic Gov. Laura Kelly is term-limited and leaving office, history would suggest that a Republican would hold the seat next.

History would not, however, predict Kansas sending a Democrat to the U.S. Senate. The last time Kansans sent a Democrat to the U.S. Senate was 1932. It’s the longest streak of any state for not sending a Democrat to the Senate.

Bob Beatty, a political science professor at Washburn University, said a Democrat can win a statewide vote if voters know who they are.

Beatty said Hamilton is able to go toe-to-toe with Marshall’s campaign in terms of spending and recognition – but Holscher hasn’t been able to against Masterson.

“If people aren’t hearing and seeing from a different candidate, the default is the Republican,” Beatty said.

Money, Money, Money

Beatty said Holscher is being outspent on television ads by the mil-

lions, specifically by the Republican Governor’s Association.

“This may turn out to be the largest monetary discrepancy in modern Kansas history,” Beatty said.

Beatty, who analyzes political ads and maintains an archive of them, said while watching one show streaming on HBO, he saw 16 anti-Holscher ads.

Holscher told Kansas News Service she wasn’t surprised by the attack ads – especially since the Republican Governors Association has been targeting the seat. Holscher said she’s doing polling and message testing to make sure her messaging is effective, but plans to roll out more ads.

In 2022, Kelly outspent her Republican opponent. Beatty said Kelly was an effective fundraiser – but that many of the national groups that funneled money into Kelly’s advertisements haven’t returned for Holscher.

Kelly endorsed Holscher’s primary opponent, state Sen. Ethan Corson. Holscher pitched herself as the anti-establishment candidate, and tied Kelly and her endorsement of Corson to the Kansas political establishment. Holscher ended up winning in a bitter primary, marked by accusations of blackmail from Kelly’s administration, which Holscher denies.

“So that’s going to have an effect on fundraising,” Beatty said. “Possibly the people that contributed to Kelly’s campaign may not be as open to it.”

Hamilton, on the other hand, set a record-breaking number of donations after announcing his bid. In the first two months of his campaign, Hamilton brought in more than \$3.5 million – more than any Kansas Senatorial candidate has raised in the first reporting period. Hamilton is the founding pastor of the country’s largest United Methodist Church, with a yearly budget in 2023 of \$30 million.

Marshall’s previous Democratic opponent for Senate, Barbara Bollier, also set fundraising records. The 2020 polls had the Marshall/Bollier match up as a close race. Bollier ultimately lost by 11 percentage points in 2020.

“It’s not enough to raise a lot of money – but it has to be done in order to have a chance,” Beatty said.

Messaging

There are, by far, more Republicans in Kansas – around 900,000 registered in 2025. But there are around 58,000 more unaffiliated voters than Democrats.

Alexandra Middlewood, a political

science professor at Wichita State University, said these elections boil down to who can attract more unaffiliated voters.

“To do that you really need to focus on these moderate, those center-of-the-road issues,” Middlewood said. “I just think that Hamilton is doing a better job of doing that.”

Middlewood pointed to Kelly’s emblematic ad of her literally walking down the middle of a road as the same approach that Hamilton has taken – except his is in the middle of a field.

“Because he has ads out, because he’s able to speak to voters directly in that way,” Middlewood said. “He gets to determine the messaging of his campaign.”

Middlewood said that money from pro-Masterson groups is leaving Holscher on the defensive when it comes to ad spending.

“We see fewer ads in general from the Holscher campaign, which means that (the pro-Masterson political action committees) are setting the messaging for Holscher’s campaign,” Middlewood said.

That messaging, so far, has been that Holscher is too “woke.” Holscher denies this characterization of her – and said that more ads supporting her will come out soon.

Middlewood said that the policies that put Holscher out of step with Kelly are her policies on legalizing marijuana and temporarily stopping new data centers from being built in the state.

Holscher said these policies make her “mainstream, where the voters are.” Surveys have shown a majority of Kansans support legalizing marijuana.

Eric Marmon, who lives in Spring Hill, was an independent until the August primary – when he switched his affiliation to Democratic so that he could vote for Hamilton.

He said more independents would stand behind Holscher if they knew about her stance on marijuana.

“I’ve heard nothing about her positions on almost anything,” Marmon said. “I need to do a better job of going out and researching, but that’s the thing – most people aren’t going out and researching these candidates. They’re being told what to think from these commercials.”

Beatty said Holscher is still within striking distance to win the governorship – especially if she pulls in more money. Hamilton’s predicted win is within the poll’s margin of error.



TIM CARPENTER / The Premiere

Gregg Ibendahl, farm management specialist with Kansas State University, says diesel prices paid by Kansas farmers and truckers will remain elevated into 2027 and beyond due to rising crude costs, limits on refining capacity and transport bottlenecks. In this image, the price of diesel in Kansas stands at \$6.29 per gallon.

DIESEL

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associated with crude oil costs, Ibendahl said.

“The price of oil has gone from the low to mid-\$70s to more than \$100 a barrel, and that probably explains about 70 cents of the increase per gallon,” he said. “The rest is really because there just isn’t enough diesel fuel in the world right now.”

The bulk of the ballooning cost should be attributed to supply disruptions at the refinery level and transit issues, he said.

“Russia is still producing oil but can’t get it refined easily because of damage to its refineries,” Ibendahl said. “They’ve essentially shut off diesel exports to Europe, and there’s not much moving through the Gulf, either. That’s created a very real shortage.”

U.S. refineries have operated at about 98 percent capacity, Ibendahl said, but overseas demand has drawn U.S. supplies offshore. An estimated 30 percent of diesel produced in the United States was destined for export and the tighter domestic supply was reflected in pricing,

he said.

Ibendahl said many Midwest farmers returned to fields in the fall on tractors fueled by diesel. A north-central Kansas farmer might use four gallons of diesel to grow one acre of corn, he said. Assuming diesel remained \$2.25 above normal, which previously was below \$4 per gallon, that extra cost per gallon would add \$10 for each acre seeded. So, Ibendahl said, a corn farmer working 2,000 acres would see an instant input cost increase of \$20,000.

“For many operations, that can be the difference between having a profitable year and not making anything at all,” Ibendahl said.

Higher diesel prices hit the bottom line of transportation companies, and those costs eventually must be passed to consumers, he said.

“We move practically everything in this country by truck, and almost all of those trucks run on diesel,” he said. “They can’t eat those costs forever. Over time, consumers are going to feel higher diesel prices, even if they’re not buying diesel themselves.”

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SYSTEM

• From Page 1

reliable transportation for these types of crises.

“That transportation might fall to local law enforcement. It might fall to other types of transportation that may not be best for meeting

the needs of an individual experiencing behavioral health symptoms,” she said.

Ponce said Kansas counties are responsible for providing certain behavioral health services. The 25 Kansas Community Mental Health Centers form a statewide system of care. The

centers serve more than 120 locations, according to the ACMHCK’s website.

“No individual can be admitted to a state psychiatric hospital without being screened by a community mental health center and being deemed to need that level of care,” Ponce said.

In an announcement from KDADs, Secretary Laura Howard pointed to the existing need.

“Establishing a dedicated crisis transportation system is a critical step in strengthening Kansas’ behavioral health infrastructure,” she said.

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 Sept. 26, 1896 *Star*

The Republicans of Coldwater have opened reading and club rooms in the offices formerly occupied by W.J. Jackson. You will find it a clean, pleasant place to drop in and write letters, read the latest news, talk politics or business and you may rest assured that you are heartily welcome.

The Republicans have established headquarters in the upstairs rooms of the Avery-Hungerford block and hung out a sign big enough for all to read who may pass that way.

How are you fixed for prairie fires? There were very few persons that had made guards when the last fire came sweeping along.

County Treasurer Jackson presented at this office with some peaches this week.

120 YEARS AGO

From Sept. 21, 1906 *Star*

Comanche County and especially the western and northwestern portions, have been thoroughly water-soaked since last Sunday.

The heaviest rainfall in one day for the past fifteen years fell on that day, and heavy showers at frequent intervals continued until noon on Monday. In the northwestern part of the county, the rain began a short time before noon on Sunday and for ten hours there was a continuous downpour.

In the more eastern and southern portions of the county the rain did not begin until about 8 p.m. By far the heaviest rainfall was on upper Kiowa where it is thought that fully ten inches of water fell.

In the vicinity of Coldwater about six inches fell during Sunday and Monday. Every stream in the county was swollen and even the "draws" were bank-full.

Kiowa and Bluff creeks, however, showed the greatest effect of the heavy rainfall. In a very few hours after the rain began to fall these streams were out of their banks and they continued to rise until by Sunday evening each was half a mile or more wide.

The rise was very sudden; one person says that while returning home from church at Protection about 9 o'clock Sunday evening and while crossing Kiowa Creek he heard a roaring noise up the creek and soon afterwards saw a huge wave, probably three feet high and several hundred feet wide going down the stream.

The waters from the headwaters of the streams had quickly collected and a mighty on-rushing current was thus formed. Fences were swept away as though they had been built of matches, fields along the lower land were quickly flooded and not only the crops but the sandy soil were washed away.

In some places the fields were entirely ruined. George Briggs, Mark Brothers, A.J. Bratcher, A.H. Baker and others were among the heaviest losers from this cause.

On a great many farms in all parts of the county many hundred yards of fencing were completely washed out. It was the greatest "flood" the Kiowa and Bluff creek valleys have experienced since the flood of May 1891.* By many of the old settlers it is thought to be even worse than the flood of fifteen years ago.

**This 1891 flood permanently changed the course of Kiowa Creek near Protection. The stream originally curved west just northwest of town and ran just south of the present home of Charles and Penny Peterson. West of there it emptied into Bluff Creek.*

During the 1891 event, the rushing floodwaters on Kiowa Creek continued south at the curve northwest of Protection and created its present course into Cavalry Creek southeast of town. Over a quarter-mile of the railroad track just east of Protection was taken out.

Seven miles south, the rising waters of Cavalry Creek washed the sod home of the Joe Sherman family literally out from under them. Floating on the home's wooden roof, they were rescued the next day where their "life raft" had caught in a large plum thicket on top of a hill.

R.A. Callaway, proprietor of the popular St. Nicholas hotel, had about 25 extra boarders for several days this week — westbound passengers who were detained here on account of the washouts farther west. The railroad company is paying the bill.

The Santa Fe Railway company was a heavy loser near Protection. Over 1,100 feet of roadbed was practically ruined. The bridge just west of Protection was partly washed out and 880 feet of roadbed east of the bridge and 200 feet west of the bridge was completely washed away. The bridge east of Protection did not suffer but considerable of the approaches to it was washed out. Several bridges between Protection and Englewood are also out.

The westbound passenger train on Monday came as far as Coldwater only. On Tuesday it ran as far as Protection. It will probably be several days yet before train service can be resumed between Protection and Englewood. The work of rebuilding the track has been rather slow on account of the difficulty in securing men and teams.

Clear and pleasant weather since Tuesday.

110 YEARS AGO

From Sept. 22, 1916 *Star*

It begins to look as though Coldwater will, before another wheat harvest, have another elevator, which will be the fifth in our city. Recently, the Ball Mfg. Co. purchased from E.B. Coles about 4½ lots, each 50 feet wide, as a site for an elevator. The lots are near the railroad and located a short distance west of the Morrison elevator.

There are now not far from 35 Comanche County students in the various state and denominational schools of Kansas. We doubt if any other county of like population can show so good a record in this respect.

About every school in Comanche County is again in session. The school population of Comanche County (between the ages of 5 and 21) is now 1,628, which is 150 more than the school population last year.

In 1915 Comanche County's population was 4,704.

Next Wednesday, Thursday and Friday will be the time for the holding of the Comanche County Fair, and it should be the purpose of every citizen of the county to attend the fair, each day if possible.

This will be the first attempt ever made in the coun-

ty to hold a county fair. It means much in such matters to "get things started." The officers and various committee members of the local Fair Association have used their best efforts toward planning for the success of the fair.

The most urgent need just now is that all who expect to be exhibitors in any of the departments get busy at once and have the exhibits ready in good time. Exhibitors of livestock should at once notify Secretary A.L. Beeley, if they have not already done so. Let everybody boost for Comanche County's First Annual Fair.

100 YEARS AGO

From Sept. 24, 1926 *Star*

Only one more week of September. Cooler weather may now reasonably be expected.

Clifford Smith and Frank Netherland, who were arrested here on a liquor charge during the night of the first day of the county fair and were being held in jail awaiting arraignment, escaped jail on Thursday night of last week and made their getaway. As yet, they have not been apprehended.

They were due to appear in Judge Silby's court on last Saturday. It seems that they had some difficulty in securing an attorney, or attorneys, to defend them. Evidently they concluded that some other climate would agree with them better but they failed to leave any forwarding address.

The race for sheriff in this county at the general election in November, will be a three-cornered one, since W.M. McCrary came out as an independent candidate, Louis Nehrt, Democrat, and W.S. Lytle, Republican.

Friday afternoon our football team will meet Bucklin High on the Bucklin field in the first game of the season. Coach Travis has been drilling the boys very hard.

90 YEARS AGO

From Sept. 25, 1936 *Star*

The first night football game in Coldwater will be played against the Meade High School Friday night of this week. The local squad will practice from 7 to 8 o'clock Thursday evening and everything is set for the big game under the stars Friday.

Carrying out plans formulated by the school authorities and the America Legion, four Legion men will be present as patrols in the interest of Good Sportsmanship on the part of both the players and the football fans.

Inaugurating a new season, the football game Friday evening, September 25, will also mark the initial use of the new floodlights, which have been erected for use in night football.

The work which is necessary for the erection and completion of the lighting system is progressing rapidly.

The field east of the Vocational Agriculture building is being graded and leveled. Poles which supported the lighting fixtures for the softball court have been removed and new poles placed along the north and south sides of the field.

This is the site of the current South Central High football field, still in use.

When the boys on the squad are not busy in workouts, they are interested spectators of the work being done.

The team will make its appearance handsomely suited in new, brilliant red and white jerseys and new pants.

To create an even more

picturesque spectacle, the band, attired in its crimson capes and caps will furnish music, pep and color to the contest.

Ninety-five or more girls of the pep club, clad in scarlet and white capes, will do drill work on the field before the game and during the half.

During the past week, several light rains have fallen over most of the county — enough to hold up wheat drilling several days. In the southwestern part of the county a deluge of rain fell, as high as 7 inches being reported.

Melvin Patterson, who was in Coldwater at the time of the rain Friday, says that when he got home a No. 10 fruit can sitting in his yard away from any building was full of water.

This week has been an ideal one for drilling wheat and all wheat farmers are making every minute count. The continued cool weather is also much appreciated.

80 YEARS AGO

From Sept. 27, 1946 *Star*

Harry Woodring, Democratic candidate for governor, and a former governor of Kansas, as well as a former Secretary of War before he resigned, is scheduled to be in Coldwater on Saturday of this week.

A limited number of local Democrats will give a breakfast in his honor Saturday morning at Evelyn's Cafe and he will speak on the streets of Coldwater at 10:30 a.m.

The Kiowa Braves looked very formidable just prior to last Friday night's gridiron tussle in Coldwater, and they started right down the field after receiving Don Whelpley's fine kick-off, as if they were fully determined to take home a large handful of Eagle feathers, but after driving for two first downs, they were forced to kick.

Coldwater consistently outplayed the Kiowans, scoring one touchdown in each of the first three quarters. One try for point failed. Credit for the victory goes to all the squad. The boys on the bench deserve a full share. The inconspicuous play of the linemen and the blocking backs makes possible the thrill of a dashing gain, so here's to the boys who clear the way for the runner, and here's to the hard-driving, low-shouldered, heads-up runner who takes more gain than his blockers give him. Final score: Coldwater 20, Kiowa 0.

The Coldwater football squad and a large bunch of football fans will go to Greensburg this Friday evening to meet the Greensburg eleven on their field.

Greensburg always has quite a bunch of green players but, as may have been indicated at the game here last Friday, when the local boys took the heavy end of the score, 20-0. Coach Doty may have several rabbits up his football sleeve, which may surprise the Kiowa County lads.

At the half of the Kiowa-Coldwater football game last Friday evening, Dr. J.W. Morrow of Greensburg was awarded a new Servel Electrolux refrigerator, Coulson Bogue drew an electric toaster and R.L. Lee was the lucky winner of an electric iron which were given away by the William H. Finney VFW Post.

70 YEARS AGO

From Sept. 28, 1956 *Star*

A family night dinner, in honor of the Rev. and Mrs. H.C. Atkins, will be held in the Methodist church

basement Sunday evening, September 30, at 7:00 p.m. This will be a potluck affair and all are invited.

Rev. Atkins is retiring from the ministry and has bought a home in Hays. He and Mrs. Atkins plan to move there after conference. During his five years as pastor here the church has been built up in all departments and Rev. and Mrs. Atkins have made a fine record.

The Coldwater Eagles in their first encounter of the season completely swamped Kiowa on their field last Friday night by a score of 39-0. It was a sweet victory for Coach Bob Roberts to best his own home high school which was laying for his boys. It was the first time in his coaching experience that a team of his has beaten Kiowa.

There was a large crowd of fans from Coldwater, even larger than the total number of Kiowa people at the game, which speaks well for the backing Coldwater players have. CHS plays Greensburg there Friday night.

The junior high football team, coached by Mr. Zachary, has a turnout of 28 boys, 11 from the seventh grade and 17 from the eighth grade. The first game is with Greensburg at Coldwater on Thursday, September 27, at 2:00 p.m.

The Eagles B-team is to play here Monday night, October 1, at 7 o'clock. We play the Greensburg B-team.

Last Saturday the cash prize of \$21.00 was drawn by Harve Thompson of this city. The drawing next Saturday, the 29th, will be for the same amount and the time will still be 5:30 p.m.

60 YEARS AGO

From Sept. 22, 1966 *Star*

The Rich Rose Ranch announces that the annual Fall Festival featuring 4,000 roses, 1,250 dahlias, 3,000 cannas, and other flowers will be held at the ranch October 1st to October 9th inclusive. The garden will be open to all visitors without charge and everyone is invited to attend.

The Kansas Press Association Better Newspaper Contest winners were announced at Editors' Day at the Kansas State Fair last Saturday, September 17, 1966. The WESTERN STAR was third in Division Two, newspapers with between 1,000 and 2,000 subscribers.

The Ulysses News was the sweepstakes winner, *St. Mary's Star* was second and the WESTERN STAR third out of the 13 papers that entered the contest. The judges were from Minnesota newspapers.

The following comment was given by the judges about the STAR in press work, typography, and make-up, "correct usage of type styles for their purposes is very evident in the WESTERN STAR."

"STAR has excellent coverage of county news plus county agent and ASC office columns each week. 'Soil Conservation' and 'Green Thumb' columns are excellent reading and should be of interest to the farmers. You have made use of available photos."

In the General excellence division this is what the judges had to say: "As a second place winner our choice is the WESTERN STAR. Reproduction is excellent, undoubtedly due to good camera work and the offset reproduction method. To find fault with this newspaper we would say some pictures could have been used up front."

All 'n' all, we were real happy with the results and wish to thank our staff, Maurice, Laurine, Betty, and Duane and our column writers. Hod, Bill, Earlene, John and Curtis helped make this award possible. Our sincere thanks also to the county correspondents, Mrs. Pearl Goodale, Mrs. Doris Callaway, Mrs. Marie Dillinger, Mrs. S. Enos Miller, Mrs. Helen Parker, Mic and Dolie Moores.

50 YEARS AGO

From Sept 23, 1976 *Star*

Property owners in the cities of Coldwater, Protection and Wilmore, please note the amendment to Comanche County's Solid Waste ordinance published elsewhere in this issue placing collection of delinquent accounts on the real property tax roll. You also need to be advised that the Kansas Attorney General has ruled that the late payment penalty is valid and legal. — Wesley W. Wendt, P.E., Comanche County Engineer.

On Tuesday, September 28th, the first and second grade Brownie and Cadette troops will have their first meeting of the school year. They will leave from school at 3:30 to travel to the Rich Rose Ranch for a field trip.

Brownie leaders are Kathy Bilyeu, Bambi Russell, and Kathy Dunne. The Cadette leader is Sue Schultz. The third grade Brownies have started their meetings and the leader is Sondra Marley. The Junior leader is Donna Rush. Mrs. Earlene Rathbun will help her.

Xi Epsilon Kappa, the exemplar chapter of Beta Sigma Phi sorority, will host a square dance Saturday, October 2, 1976, at the veterans building. Festivities will begin at 8:00 p.m.

No one needs to know how to square dance as there will be instructions for beginners. Glen Argyle of Harper will be the caller. All proceeds are to be the foundation for a fund to purchase heart monitoring equipment for Comanche County Hospital.

40 YEARS AGO

From Sept. 25, 1986 *Star*

Coldwater hit the road Friday night and traveled to Jetmore to take on the Longhorns, a team Coldwater defeated twice last year on its way to the state championship.

Coldwater prevailed in the game after Jetmore put a scare in every one by tying the game up with less than four minutes to go. However, Coldwater scored the winning touchdown with less than a minute to go to win 18-12.

With this win, Coldwater extended its winning streak to 14 straight and 20 straight regular season games. This week will be Coldwater's first home game. It will be "Moms' Night." Coldwater will host the Protection Panthers. Throw the records out the window when these two play. Protection comes into the game with a 0-2 record, losing last week to Greensburg, 24 to 6.

The Ashland Blue Jays turned their football game with Coldwater into a track meet and ran away with a 54-14 victory. Mistakes and fumbles by Coldwater, combined with Ashland's speed, proved to be too much for the Eagles. The squad will work toward improvement and when the boys take on Greensburg Sept. 25.

NEWS

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

Epstein Documents on Tour Across America, Stops in Kansas

BY GRACE HILLS
Kansas News Service

A van containing millions of documents is traveling the country to raise awareness of the magnitude of the Epstein files and push for accountability for perpetrators of sexual violence.

Dani Bensky wasn't old enough to vote when Jeffrey Epstein sexually exploited her. Neither was Sharlene Rochard.

More than 20 years later, the women stood before a truck packed-full with more than 3 million pages of the Epstein files in Kansas City, Kan., with a plea: vote for people who will hold sex offenders accountable.

"We really are in this to save the next generation, to be honest," Rochard said, "because if we don't do it, who else is going to do it?"

The outside of the truck shows a timeline of President Donald Trump and Epstein's relationship, their photos together, the birthday card, Epstein's ban from Trump's Mar-a-Lago club.

However, appearing in the files is not a guarantee of criminal

wrongdoing.

NPR found that the Department of Justice withheld or removed some of the files related to Trump, including allegations that he sexually abused a minor.

The survivors want the DOJ to investigate the people mentioned in the files, but the department has said there isn't enough evidence.

"Our goal is to really spread awareness of the files," Bensky said. "We've heard a lot that there's nothing to investigate, when clearly that is untrue when we have 3.5 million files full of investigative leads."

The Trump-Epstein Bookmobile is headed on a cross-country tour. Bensky said Washington D.C. felt like an echo chamber, so she enjoys being on the road. The survivors have been asking to meet with the federal officials for months, and when the meeting happened Bensky said it felt like "a mere 'check-the-box' exercise."

"To actually hear people's real life survivor stories and say 'listen, when we say that we are here for all survivors we actually really mean it,'" Bensky said. "We do

want to see change and make it safer for survivors in our country."

The survivors appeared alongside Democratic nominee for governor, state Sen. Cindy Holscher. She brought up similarities between the Epstein case and the former Kansas City, Kansas, Police Detective Roger Golubski, who was set to go on trail for decades of alleged sexual abuse before he died by suicide.

Bensky said it's not a political issue for the survivors. They see it as a human rights issue.

"Voters need to really pay attention to the core issues, and vote based on an issue not based on a partisan line," Bensky said.

The survivors applauded Holscher's efforts to extend the time frame for prosecution on childhood sex abuse cases. Holscher said she narrowly avoided being sexually abused as a child, something she came to terms with after speaking with survivors.

Lesa Patterson-Kinsey is a Kansan who survived sexual abuse in the 1970s. She said after her experience, she had nowhere to go

but that things are different now, in large part due to people like the Epstein survivors speaking up.

"This is momentum that we need," Patterson-Kinsey said. "Stick with it, (accountability) will come."

Candidates' Approaches

The bill upping the statute of limitations for alleged childhood sexual abuse cases passed unanimously, which means Republican nominee for governor, Senate President Ty Masterson, also voted in favor of it.

Garrett Henson, a spokesperson for Masterson's campaign, said "Ty will make sure anyone who preys on a child in Kansas has nowhere to hide."

He pointed to the 2023 law that proponents, like Masterson said would deter human smuggling. The law increased the penalties for smuggling a person into Kansas while knowing that person is undocumented for financial gain or exploitation.

Democrats and immigration activists worried the law may lead to racial profiling. Gov. Laura Kelly

vetoed it, and said it was "rushed" and invasive.

"As Senate President, (Masterson) led the veto override to make it a felony to smuggle people into Kansas for exploitation, with the harshest penalties reserved for anyone whose victim ends up trafficked or forced into prostitution," Henson said.

Masterson is endorsed by Trump, whose involvement with Epstein has been a focal point for survivors. But after the primary, where an endorsement from a president that won Kansas easily likely holds significant sway, Masterson's relationship with Trump has been dialed down on his campaign site. It now focuses on more Kansas-centered issues.

A state governor has limited power over what happens with the Epstein files, aside from setting a precedent on how seriously the state takes sex crimes.

Many decisions on the files are decided on the Congressional level. While Republican U.S.

See **FILES** / Page 10

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KID SCOOP

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



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Hi! My name is **Addy Line!**
Join me for...

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A PENCIL

My morning began with a bumpy backpack ride to school! **Oooof!**



The teacher gave us a math puzzle.
Can you help me finish it?

$$\star + \star = 8$$
$$\star - \diamond = 3$$
$$\star + \diamond + \diamond =$$

Standards Link: Math: Calculate sums and differences to 20.



Kid Scoop Together

Art Starts

Woohoo! My very favorite part of the school day is when we get to create **ART!**



With a family member, use your imagination to draw pictures starting with these lines and squiggles Addy drew.



Next, there was a **spelling quiz!** I guess I went a little too fast. I made three spelling mistakes. But that's what **erasers** are for!



Circle Addy Line's three mistakes. Then, rewrite the words correctly.

1. newspaper	6. editor
2. reporter	7. delivery
3. story	8. press
4. question	9. photo
5. factz	10. deadline

Can you draw the shape that comes next in each row to continue the pattern?



♥ ♥ ♦ ♥ ♥ ♦
♦ ☺ ☆ ♦ ☺ ☆
✎ ♥ ☆ ✎ ♥ ☆
☺ ✎ ♥ ☺ ✎ ♥ ☺
♦ ☺ ☺ ☆ ♦ ☺
♥ ♦ ☺ ☆ ♥ ♦
☺ ☆ ☺ ✎ ☺ ☆ ☺

After lunch, our teacher explained how two smaller words can be combined to make a new word. That's called a **compound word**.



FOOT + BALL = FOOTBALL
CUP + CAKE = CUPCAKE

Draw lines to connect two words that create a compound word.

RAIN	GLASSES
KEY	COAT
SUN	BOARD
DOOR	CORN
POP	BELL

Ooops! I hate when this happens! Can you take me to the sharpener?

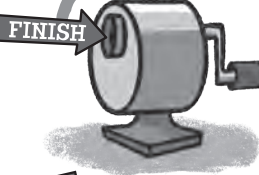


SNAP!



START

FINISH



Extra! Extra!

Look Sharp

Look through the newspaper to find five prices or other money amounts. Write these in order from lowest to highest. Then have a friend or family member check your work.

Standards Link: Math: List money amounts in ascending order.

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Kid Scoop Teacher Activity Pack!



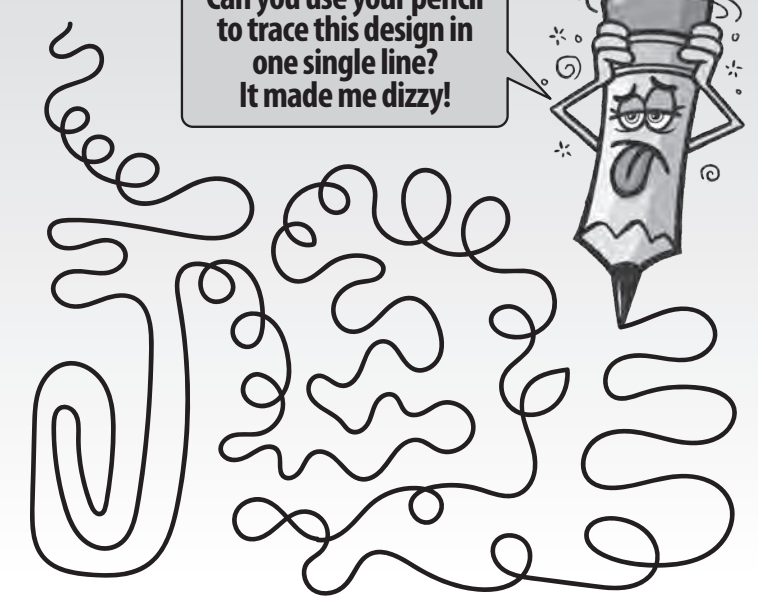
With hundreds of topics, every **Kid Scoop®** printable activity pack features six-to-seven pages of high-interest extra learning activities for home and school! Get your free sample today at:

kidscoop.com/activity-pages/

Kid Scoop® Puzzler

Can you use your pencil to trace this design in one single line? It made me dizzy!





Double Double Word Search

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards and diagonally. Then look for them in this week's *Kid Scoop* stories and activities.

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

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

ART
BACKPACK
FAST
LOW
MATH
MISTAKES
MONEY
NEXT
PRESS
QUIZ
RIDE
SCHOOL
SHARPENER
SPELLING
WORDS
WORK

FROM THE **Kid Scoop®** LESSON LIBRARY

Make Your Point

What's your favorite part of the newspaper? Write a letter to the editor and tell them why you think that part of the newspaper is important to you.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written instructions.



How can a pencil make a room darker?

ANSWER: By drawing the curtains!



Write On!

How Does Lead Get in a Pencil?

Describe how you think this happens.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write descriptively using supporting details.



If your business is interested in sponsoring Kid Scoop on a weekly basis, please reach out to Stephanie at 620-532-3151 for more information.

SPORTS

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

Timberwolves Dominate Sublette 54-0 in Final Game Before District Play

STAFF REPORT

The South Central football team rolled to a 54-0 win over Sublette last Friday.

The Larks had not played a game yet this season and the Timberwolves rolled to the victory, ending the game at halftime on the mercy rule.

Coda Lindsay led things off with a 21-yard touchdown run, then the defense struck quickly as Jack Willems had a safety. Wiley York then returned the ensuing

kickoff 65 yards for a touch-downs.

Lindsay added another 17-yard touchdown run, then Parker Price got a safety on defense. Lindsay capped the first-quarter scoring with an 8-yard touchdown run.

In the second quarter, Easton Huck hooked up with Lindsay on a 35-yard touchdown pass. The younger players then entered the game, with Tyree Elliss getting a big play with a 46-yard touch-down run, then Jeffery Cope add-

ed a 2-yard touchdown run before the first half ended.

The Timberwolves had 252 yards of total offense while the Larks were held to -31 yards of total offense. South Central converted three-of-six third downs and one-of-two fourth downs, while Sublette converted just one-of-seven thirds downs and was stopped on three fourth-down conversions.

Ellis led the Timberwolves in rushing with 68 yards on 12 car-

ries and Lindsay added 48 yards rushing on four carries. Cope had five carries for 28 rushing yards and Huck had three carries for 31 rushing yards. Price added a 29-yard run.

Huck attempted just four passes, completing two, one of them the 35-yard pass to Lindsay. Price had the other catch, a 13-yard reception.

On defense, Colt Yoder had five tackles and Westynn Stapleton and Willems each had four

tackles. Price had an interception and Kasen Yoder had a defensive fumble recovery.

The Timberwolves (3-0) will head to Greensburg this Friday to face the Kiowa County Mavericks in the District 7 opener for both teams.

Kiowa County is 2-1, with a 56-6 win over Minneola to open the season, followed by a loss to Hodgeman County 58-14. The Mavericks are coming off a 58-8 win over Meade last Friday.



PAULA BRADLEY / The Star-Press

LEFT: South Central's Parker Price gets a block from teammate Wiley York during last Friday's football game at Sublette. RIGHT: Price hauls in a reception during the game against Sublette. The South Central senior had a 29-yard run, a 13-yard reception and a safety on defense to help the Timberwolves beat the Larks 54-0. The Timberwolves are now 2-1 for the season and are set to open District 7 play at Greensburg against Kiowa County this Friday.

Snyder Happy With Progress From Lady Timberwolves This Past Week



PAULA BRADLEY / The Star-Press

LEFT: South Central freshman Lyla Girk (24) tips a ball as it comes cross the net during a recent home match. RIGHT: South Central head volleyball coach Cindy Snyder talks to her squad during a break in the action in Tuesday's home triangular, in which the Lady Timberwolves won one and lost one, moving to 11-5 on the year.

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

South Central head volleyball coach Cindy Snyder was proud of how the Lady Timberwolves played at the recent Hugoton tournament, which SCHS won.

"It was a great day of competition for the team," Snyder said. "Hugoton gave us a strong challenge and really pushed us, with lots of exciting rallies throughout all three sets. The girls are continuing to find their rhythm and build chemistry with one another."

She added that it was good to have Lyla Girk back in the lineup after she had missed some time with a broken hand.

"Lyla was a great addition to the team, and it was exciting to watch her confidence and play improve through-

out the day," Snyder said. "By the end of the tournament, she was really finding her groove."

She added that the hitters continue to make progress with each match. Kate Herd had 12 kills against Hugoton. The back row also stepped up, Snyder said, with Bretlynn Westrip getting 29 digs.

"It was a long, hot day in a gym without AC, but the girls continued to compete, encourage one another, and battle through every point," Snyder said.

The Lady Timberwolves hosted a triangular Tuesday night, losing to Hodgeman County 25-22, 32-30, and beating Kiowa County 25-24, 25-13.

On Sept. 29, South Central (11-5) will face Bucklin, Satanta and South Gray in a quadrangular at South Gray.

SCHS Girl's Tennis Faces Tough Competition at Meade

STAFF REPORT

The South Central girl's tennis team attended the Meade tournament on Tuesday.

Fabiola Rivero played No. 1 singles. She lost to Ulysses' Corley McCormick 8-4 and lost to Ashland's Hayden Garden 8-6.

Mia Napierala played No. 2 singles. She lost to Ulysses' Talia Flores 6-2, beat Kiowa County's Melanie Sneed 6-1 and beat Meades Alejandra Valenzuela 6-2,

Max Miller and Nevaeh Pankrat played No. 1 doubles. They lost to Ashland's Josie Boggs and Makenna Boggs 6-2, lost to Meade's Laura Lynn and Sayler Stapleton 6-0 and lost to Ulysses' Teagan Deyoe and Stephanie Lerma 6-0.

Sydney Sanchez and Aileny Zarate played No. 2 doubles. They lost to Meade's Addison Tacha and Taylor Zeibart 6-0, lost to Kiowa County's Kimberly Redcap and Addison Higbie 6-0 and lost to Ashland's Audry Ivey and Elliana Cenicerros 6-0.

The Lady Timberwolves are set to play at the Chaparral tournament on Saturday, then head to Ashland this Tuesday, Sept. 29.

Cross Country Runners See Hilly Course at St. Johns

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

The South Central cross country runners competed at the St. Johns meet in Stafford Thursday morning.

In the boy's varsity race, Corbett Heaton was 14th with a time of 19:37.44, Denin Johnson was 24th with a time of 20:36.86 and Dominic Macias was 82nd with a time of 27:18.88.

In the girl's varsity race, Breckyn Snyder was 35th with a time of 26:18.55 and Sophia Hernandez was

40th with a time of 27:15.81.

In the boy's JV race, Gavin Martin was 45th with a time of 37:51.09.

"I thought the runners put out a lot of effort for the St. John meet," said head coach Tori Selzer. "It was a tough rolling hill course."

She said she doesn't compare times meet to meet because every course is different. Also, there are a number of runners who are new to cross country, so it's hard to compare times when they didn't run last year.

Selzer said the heat has taken its toll

and the runners are ready for cooler temperatures. The Timberwolves will next attend the Larned meet on Thursday, Sept. 24.

"This next week we have our first meet in the afternoon and will run around 4:30 to 5 as opposed to 11 to 12," Selzer said. "So I'm curious to see how they handle it then. Looking forward to it though."

"They are all looking forward to cooler weather — we hope it holds together this week and stays as cool as they say."

GOT NEWS?

Send your news tip to: jasonjump@thestarpress.news or Call Katee at 620.518.1896.

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

Coldwater HS Class of 1961 Reunion



ORIGINAL CLASS OF 1961



MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 1961 WITH SPOUSES



MOST CHILDREN - JIMMY ALLEN



MARRIED THE LONGEST - RON AND LINDA LYTLE



TRAVELED FURTHEST (HOUSTON) - RALPH CARTHRAE

CLASSIFIEDS

Call Stephanie at 620.532.3151 to place an ad.

Help Wanted

City of Coldwater
Employment Opportunity – Full-Time City Clerk
The City Clerk is a key administrative position responsible for the daily business and financial operations of the City. Primary duties include maintaining official City records; utility billing and collections; payroll; accounts payable and receivable; preparation of financial reports; preparation and maintenance of City Council records and minutes; assisting with budget administration; and providing administrative support to the Mayor and City Council.
Qualifications:
The position requires a high degree of professionalism, confidentiality, accuracy, and responsibility. The successful applicant should possess strong organizational and communication skills, attention to detail, computer proficiency, and the ability to work effectively with the public, City officials, employees, and outside agencies.
Experience in municipal government, accounting, bookkeeping, office administration, or a related field is preferred. Relevant education, qualifications, and experience will be considered.
Compensation & Benefits:
• Competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.
• KPERS retirement
• 100% City-paid employee health and dental insurance
• 12 days of sick leave per year – unused leave may be banked up to 60 days
• Vacation leave ranging from 12 to 21 days per year, based on years of service – unused leave may be banked up to 15 to 25 days, based on years of service.
• 12 paid holidays
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• Employee-driven compensatory time program
• City-paid job-related training and professional development opportunities
Application Deadline:
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Bar-Six Manufacturing, Inc. is hiring a welder. No experience is required. Must be 18 years old or older, have reliable transportation and the ability to lift 50-plus pounds. Need the ability to work in a shop environment (heat, noise, dust) and a willingness to learn welding and fabrication skills. Need the ability to use basic hand tools. Need a good work ethic and dependable attendance. Apply in person at US-160, in Protection. For more information, call (620) 622-4456.

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.

South Central High School Custodian (4 ten-hour days per week) – Please contact the district office if you are interested in a bus driver or substitute teacher position. Applications are available at <https://usd300ks.com/en-us/employment-1887b0dc> – Positions Open Until Filled
Send resume and credentials to: Mike Baldwin, Comanche County USD 300, PO Box 721 Coldwater, Kansas 67029

Part-Time Help Wanted: Comanche County Communications has a part-time position available. Applicants must be able to pass a rigorous background check, have no felonies, possess a valid driver's license, and have reliable transportation. Starting pay is \$14 per hour. There are no set hours for this position, and it requires night, weekend and holiday shift work. Applications received 6 months prior to this notice must be resubmitted. Applications are available at Comanche County Sheriff's Office or call (620) 582-2511 to request a mailed application.



Screen with Arrowhead West
Monday, Sept. 28, BPW Presents Julie Dinkel of St. Francis Ministries, 6pm (light supper as well).
Saturday, Oct. 3, Taste of Ashland. The Rebel Mahieu Art Showing continues and we will serve tasty treats.
Friday, Oct. 9, Cake Club: Noon to all gone.

Upcoming Events:
Saturday, Sept. 26, Free Developmental

Monday, Oct. 19: Lunch & Learn with Jill Eller.

Activities:
Check out the many activities at the library. Let us know if you have an idea for our next activity. The library offers kids' arts and crafts, Cake Club, Lunch & Learns, art shows and more.

New Books:
Allison Brennan *I'll Be Watching You*
Danna Bash *The Elections That Changed the World*
Alice Hoffman *The Witches of Cambridge*

GOT NEWS?
Send news tips to: jasonjump@thestarpress.news

PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in The Western Star & Protection Press on Thursday, Sept. 17, 2026) 2t
RESOLUTION TO INCREASE COMANCHE COUNTY RECREATION SYSTEM MILL LEVY

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Comanche County Recreation Commission operates with a levy authority of one mill(s); and

WHEREAS, the Comanche County Recreation Commission of said recreation system has determined that the tax currently being levied is insufficient to operate the recreation system; and

WHEREAS, the Comanche County Recreation Commission pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 12-1927, has requested the school district to authorize an increase in the current levy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 300, COMANCHE COUNTY, KANSAS:

Section 1. That the maximum annual mill levy for the Comanche County Recreation system be increased to two mills in the year 2027 and thereafter.

[NOTE: By statute, the increase cannot exceed one (1) mill in any single year, and cannot exceed four (4) mills total, except up to one additional mill may be levied for creating and establishing an employee benefits contribution fund.] [However, K.S.A. 79-5040 suspended all statutory fund mill levy rate limitations, including the one (1) mill levy limitation and the four (4) mill maximum rate limitation.]

Section 2. That this resolution be published once each week for two consecutive weeks in the official newspaper of the taxing district pursuant to K.S.A. 12-1927(c).

Section 3. That the tax levy authorized by this resolution may be made unless a petition requesting an election upon the proposition to increase the tax levy, signed by at least 5 percent of the qualified voters of the taxing district, is filed with the county election officer within 30 days following the date of last publication of the resolution. In the event a valid petition is filed, no such increased levy shall be made without such proposition having been submitted to and having been approved by a majority of the voters of the taxing district voting at an election called and held thereon.

ADOPTED by the Board of Education of Unified School District No. 300, Comanche County, Kansas, this 9th day of September, 2026.

By: *Steve G. Kusa*
Board Member
Cheryl Leeper
Board Member
Johnny S. McLaughlin
Board Member
Scott Brannan
Board Member

Jo Ann Smith
Board Member
Ben J...
Board Member

Board Member
Attest: *Sinda Bassett*
Clerk, Board of Education

NEWS

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

Kansas Reports Two Measles Cases Associated With U.S. Travel

BY MORGAN CHILSON
Kansas Reflector

Kansas joined a growing list of states nationwide reporting measles cases with two cases apparently related to travel outside the state, a health agency said.

The Kansas Department for Health and Environment reported two measles cases on its Infectious Disease Dashboard, which is updated on Wednesdays.

These are the first measles cases reported in Kansas since an outbreak of 91 cases in 2025.

“Both cases are domestic travel-associated, meaning the individuals were exposed to measles while traveling within the United States, outside of Kansas,” KDHE said on its website.

Measles activity is elevated in the United States and globally,

KDHE said. As of Thursday, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported 3,471 confirmed measles cases in the United States, occurring in 46 states and the District of Columbia.

Measles outbreaks, which means more than three measles cases re-

lated to each other, account for 95 percent of the cases being reported, the CDC said.

The percentage of caregivers claiming an exemption from vaccinations for kindergarteners continued to rise in Kansas, according to KDHE data.

FILES

• From Page 6

Sen. Roger Marshall, who’s up for reelection, originally said the Epstein files were “not his focus,” he helped pass the bill to compel the release of the files.

Marshall’s campaign did not respond to requests for comment for this report. After a political action committee supporting Democratic nominee Adam Hamilton put out an ad condemning Marshall’s response to the Epstein files, Marshall’s campaign doubled down on accusations that Hamilton is too “woke.”

Glynnis Harvey, a spokesperson for Hamilton’s campaign, said Hamilton met with Epstein survivors. Harvey said that if elected,

Hamilton would vote in favor of the Epstein Files Transparency Act II, which would force the DOJ to release the rest of the files, and Virginia’s Law, which aims to make it easier for survivors to pursue justice.

Virginia’s law is named after Virginia Giuffre, an Epstein survivors who died by suicide. Giuffre originally worked at Trump’s Mar-a-Lago club, and Trump said that Epstein “stole” her as an employee.

“Adam was honored to meet with these survivors as they bravely share their stories and tour the country,” Harvey said. “Adam stands with them and believes fighting for accountability should not be a partisan issue.”

Hamilton’s opponent for the Democratic nominee for

Senate state Sen. Patrick Schmidt who garnered about 6 percent of the primary votes alleged that Hamilton helped cover up a child sex abuse scandal at his church camps.

There were two instances where the same church volunteer attempted to assault campers, in 2005 and 2006.

Hamilton told *Kansas Reflector* there was no attempt at a cover-up, but he’d approach the first incident differently today by going directly to law enforcement.

After the 2005 incident, the church conducted an internal investigation but after the victim couldn’t identify the perpetrator, it was inconclusive. In 2006 church leaders told law enforcement after the same perpetrator acted again and was identified.

COLDWATER WEATHER
By Greg Vanderree

SEPTEMBER 16
High 97 / Low 60 / Precip - None
SEPTEMBER 17
High 90 / Low 67 / Precip - None
SEPTEMBER 18
High 97 / Low 75 / Precip - None
SEPTEMBER 19
High 97 / Low 75 / Precip - None
SEPTEMBER 20
High 98 / Low 66 / Precip - None
SEPTEMBER 21
High 83 / Low 61 / Precip - None
SEPTEMBER 22
High 83 / Low 57 / Precip - .29

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<i>Protection - 620.622.4619</i>

September 16 - \$7.19
September 17 - \$7.14
September 18 - \$7.04
September 19 - CLOSED
September 20 - CLOSED
September 21 - \$7.14
September 22 - \$7.01

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jasonjump@thestarpress.news
or call us at 620.532.3151

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