"Autumn shows us how beautiful it is to let things go."
Unknown

$1 tax included
USPS307-500

Kingman Leader-Courier

Serving Kingman and Surrounding Communities Since 1878

Volume 149 / Issue 47 | Official Newspaper for Kingman, Norwich & USD 331 | November 19, 2026

City to Seek Funding Options to Reopen Swimming Pool

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

The Kingman city commission voted 4-1, with Commissioner Jon Wollen dissenting, to move forward with exploring ways to fund work to get the swimming pool at Riverside Park reopened.

The action taken does not commit the city to anything but merely indicates that the city intends to explore what funding sources are available to help, whether grant funding or donations, before determining what comes next.

Wollen did not elaborate on his reason for voting against the motion that Vice Mayor Travis Kaufman made, which Commissioner Mark Arensdorf seconded.

The action came after the city reviewed an estimate from Carrothers Construction, which did a "sound test" on the pool to determine if it could be reopened. The estimated cost for repairs and improvements to get the pool functional again was $1.61 million.

That estimate would include engineering, removing and replacing the western section of the pool slabs, a new gutter system and surge tank, new piping and drains and new pool equipment.

Kingman park board president Kylee Maloney said that the estimate came in "a little higher than I was hoping" but that it was lower than the last quote the city received for getting the pool reopened.

See **POOL** / *Page 2*

City to Look at Rewriting Animal Ordinance

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

Kingman City Manager Dan Knoell and City Attorney Greg Graffman will work on rewriting the city's animal ordinance to include grace periods and enforcement mechanisms that are about a "soft hand" approach.

During Thursday's Kingman city commission meeting, Knoell recommended that direction because many city residents already own certain animals prohibited by the current ordinance.

The current ordinance states that an owner, leasee, occupant or person in charge of a premises in the city may not possess any animal or fowl within the city such as horses, mules, cattle, sheep, goats or swine. The ordinance does not apply to keeping animals commonly kept as pets such as dogs, cats, rabbits, hamsters or parakeets.

Knoell said he has researched other cities, noting that Kingman is a rural community and there will be some instances of people owning such animals not usually kept as pets.

He sent some examples of those ordinances to city commissioners and cited Emporia's ordinance as the model that he would want to use "as a baseline, and when I say baseline, we need to reestablish a baseline."

Knoell said he wants to meet with Graffman, Police Chief David Lux, and code enforcement to develop enforceable guidelines that recognize specific city situations.

He noted that there is a residence inside the city limits zoned R-1 but with 3.4 acres, is on the outskirts of the town and has a horse. Knoell said that Emporia's ordinance has a permit process that would allow such a person to keep a horse.

Knoell cited another property within city limits that

See **ANIMAL** / *Page 2*

Wonderland!





BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

TOP: Alice (Courtney Schoenhofer, right) visits with Tweedle Dee (Leightyn Larcade, left) and Tweedle Dum (Averi Yauk, middle) in a scene from the Kingman High School theater production "Wonderland!" BOTTOM: Cast members perform the number "Ride the Choo Choo" during the KHS theater production, which took place last Saturday and Sunday in the high school auditorium.

KHS Theater Students Present Fall Production

STAFF REPORT

The Kingman High School theater students presented the musical "Wonderland!" Saturday and Sunday at the KHS auditorium.

The musical is based on Alice in Wonderland. Courtney Schoenhofer played Alice, while a number of students took on multiple roles. The other cast members were:

Callie Wheat: Troubadour, Hatta, rose.

Ellie Turner: White queen, umpire.

Kyleigh Halsey: Red queen.

Oliver Redmond: White king, announcer, Humpty Dumpty, proper authority.

Matthew Loop: Red king.

Bennett Huse: Tiger lily.

Ashlyn McNelly: Daisy, unicorn.

Leightyn Larcade: Tweedle Dee, lion, white knight, proper authority.

Averi Yauk: Tweedle Dum, proper authority, pawn.

Ashlyn McNelly: Conductor.

Jacen Bradshaw: Catcher, red knight.

Nala Henderson: Vendor.

Maggie Winter: Pawn.

Emily Schoenhofer: Pawn.

Emma Dyke: Pawn.

The crew members were Dawn Hansard on stage lights, Dakota Crow and Domenick Sterling on spotlights, Shanda Wylie and Wyatt Yauk backstage and Taryn Hayes on sound management. Philip Hayes did the choreography and Ellie Turner and Callie Wheat did the backdrop design.

Process OK'ed to Prioritize Street Work

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

The Kingman city commission discussed priorities for street improvements during Thursday's meeting, then approved having city staff determine road priorities, then get commission approval before construction starts.

City Manager Dan Knoell said there were 34 streets that need complete resurfacing and there were five to 10 other streets that are in rough condition and requiring new milling and surface laying.

He noted the city has about 6,500 tons of crushed concrete, 500 tons of asphalt and is hoping to get another 1,000 tons of asphalt that is sitting east of Kingman.

But he said that, even with the potential asphalt addition, it will only go so far, so he asked the city commission for direction on whether it wants to approve "every single street that either gets resurfaced or redone, or taken from sand and build and actual street, or or a true surfacing."

He said the other option could be to let the staff make the best possible decisions on which streets to prioritize.

City Commissioner Mark Arensdorf said his main concern was about streets that are "high in water" and finding ways to get curb and gutter added to give the streets more longevity.

Mayor Tracy Winsor said one concern she had was about people who had paid for specials and whether it was fair to them if work was done on other streets.

Knoell noted that he had paid for specials at his house and, the way he saw it, the streets are all community roads, everyone uses them and, if people are avoiding certain roads now, it's because you can't use them under certain conditions.

See **STREET** / *Page 2*



THANKSGIVING HOURS

KHC Family Practice Clinic
- Closed Thanksgiving Day
- Open the 27th for urgent care

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NEWS

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

County Commissioners Clear Up Confusion Over Whether Road Remains Open

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

The Kingman County commissioners visited with an individual who was set to purchase county land and inquired about the status of a portion of Road 32 at NW 170th, regarding whether it was still considered an open road.

Corey Good told the county commissioners that the road hadn't been maintained and there was a gate located there. He said that road was necessary for him to be able to access 20 to 30 head of cattle he plans to have.

Good said he has visited with the landowner adjacent to him, who has indicated he has no issues with him utilizing the road, but his concern was that the road hadn't been maintained and what might happen if the adjacent property was sold.

Good said he visited with County Clerk Carol Noblit and County Register of Deeds Susan Hubbell, who spent some time researching deeds and leases and didn't find anything that said the road had ever been closed.

Mike Floyd with Floyd Auction and Real Estate, who is the real estate agent working with Good on the purchase of the property, said that their research showed nothing that indicated the road had been closed or vacated.

County Appraiser Amber Hartley said that the road has never been indicated as open on a tax map, but it was noted during other discussion that the tax map is not a legal document to determine whether or not the county has closed the road.

Floyd added he understood that the gate had been put up along the road because of issues with people going down that road and dumping trash in the area.

County Commissioner Jack Thimesch noted that the road can't be closed unless there is a petition from all landowners who have property alongside the road. A notice then has to be published in the newspaper and a public hearing must be held.

County Counselor Brandon Ritcha added that the county commissioners could only take action to close the road, but the county does not maintain the road. That's because the county utilizes a county township road system, meaning the township is responsible for road maintenance.

Good said his main concern was, if there were ever issues with somebody attempting to close the road, he wanted something which stated that no official action had ever been taken to do that. He asked if he could have something on the record to make it clear the road is still open.

County Commissioner Jeff Young made a motion to have it recorded in the minutes that the road was still open and his motion passed unanimously. An attachment of Road 32 was provided, which showed the road opening date Aug. 25, 1879, as a supporting document to the motion.



BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

Riverside Park: City Crews Install New Sign

Kingman city work crews installed a new sign at Riverside Park last Thursday. The sign was paid for in part by donations.

POOL

• *From Page 1*

The estimate does not include any work to be done at the bathhouse. Mayor Tracy Winsor questioned what would happen there with any work to make the bathhouse ADA compliant.

City Manager Dan Knoell said his understanding is the plumbing in the bathhouse is inadequate and, at minimum, ADA accessibility would have to be addressed with toilets and showers.

The conversation then turned to the previous cost estimate of $500,000 to get the bathhouse updated, which Winsor called an "exorbitant amount."

"I mean, you could build a nice house for $500,000," she said.

Knoell said he has talked to a couple of local contractors who said, if the city provided materials for the bathhouse, they would do the labor.

The one concern Knoell said he had was that the item was listed for action, but the city does not have $1.61 million budgeted for either 2026 or 2027 to do work on the swimming pool.

Kaufman said that the city could at least start pursuing funding options.

"And if that is presenting this as a potential grant opportunity, because now we have a plan to move forward, and we can see what the gap is based on grants that are received, then we can put that to a vote to the public on whether or not they approve," Kaufman said.

"Who knows? Maybe it'll be $500,000 to the public by the time we get grants and donations to pursue some kind of a plan moving forward."

Maloney asked if the park board needed to start a petition for anything and Knoell said that wasn't necessary, but the park board could get feedback from residents.

In response to Maloney's question about donations, Kaufman said that could help with the grant process. Knoell said there would likely have to be something presented to the voters for them to consider, but that the public being aware of donations or grants received could help with the vote.

As far as potential grants, Knoell said he would work with Economic Development Director Leslie Schrag. Kaufman said the city should also contact the county, as it wouldn't hurt to have "more than one pair of eyes look at it."

ANIMAL

• *From Page 1*

is zoned for agricultural, so such a property would be exempt from the ordinance, as Emporia's does. He added there is a property within the city limits where the owner has goats and Emporia's ordinance would allow a permit for that because the property is 3.4 acres.

"And the main reason for the permits would be, number one, the city would establish the fact that we are aware of said animals," Knoell said. "The city then, through law enforcement or code enforcement, would also know that the individuals had chickens. Throughout this ordinance, from Emporia's, and through their permitting, they have it to where the coops are regulated."

Knoell said that the city would have to modify its ordinance when it comes to how many feet coops are allowed from another property line.

One thing Knoell noted is that Emporia's ordinance does not allow people to keep roosters or swine.

"But I would suggest we don't rush into anything," Knoell said. "We are looking for something that we want to enforce and be enforceable. But at the same time, we want to look at something that accommodates everybody within the city of Kingman."

He said that the permit process where applicable would allow for code enforcement to know whether there is appropriate acreage and any buildings are up to code.

"I think that would eliminate a lot of that investigation part, because it would be done through the permit approval process," Knoell said.

Vice Mayor Travis Kaufman asked why there would be an ordinance on the books if it would not be enforced. He said that, while he understood the purpose of modifying the ordinance, he added, "To say that it's kind of applicable but not to others and are grandfathering some folks, then I think that leads to a difficult situation."

Knoell said he believed that "grandfathering should never exist" but, if the city has the conversations and gives people an opportunity, whether through permitting or extended registration, "I think that would help promote positive enforcement."

Kaufman said his concern was about having something on the books and not enforcing it, to which Knoell said that, once the city commission passes a new or amended code, then the city can start the process of enforcing it.

"Because you can't go one day and not enforcing something for however long, and then tomorrow, or tonight, commission order us, you are going to go and slap the full authority of the code on people," Knoell said. "I would never recommend that."

He said the objective would be to create a new path and, moving forward, make sure the commission, police department and code enforcement follow that path and not let issues come up with enforcement.

STREET

• *From Page 1*

After discussion, the commission decided it was OK with having Knoell visit with city staff to determine which roads to prioritize, then bring them back for approval from the commission.

Also at the meeting, the city commission, meeting as the land bank board, approved starting the process of writing an agreement to sell the property at 101 W D Ave. to John Streatch, who wants to operate an auto and tractor repair shop there.

The city originally acquired the property from Merlin McFarland for a potential visitors center, but since Knoell took over as city manager and new commissioners were elected, the commission opted to put the property into the land bank.

Vice Mayor Travis Kaufman asked what would happen to the plane sculpture that is currently at the property. Economic Development Director Leslie Schrag said that she plans to meet with the TIF board to discuss moving the sculpture to Depot Park.

She added that the city would need to have some conversations with Streatch about an easement for the new traffic lights that will be installed at the intersection.

NEWS BRIEFS

TAX STATEMENT FIRST DUE DATE DECEMBER 21

A reminder from the Kingman County Treasurer that 2026 tax statements will be mailed this week and the first due date is Monday, Dec. 21.

COUNTY OFFICES TO BE CLOSED NOVEMBER 26-27

All Kingman County Offices will be closed Thursday, Nov. 26 and Friday, Nov. 27 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

LEADER-COURIER TO BE CLOSED NOVEMBER 26-27

The Kingman Leader-Courier office will be closed Thursday, Nov. 26 and Friday, Nov. 27 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

(First published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, Nov. 12, 2026) 2t

CLOSINGS FOR THE KINGMAN COUNTY CONSTRUCTION/DEMOLITION LANDFILL

The Kingman County Landfill will be closed November 26 & 27, 2026 in observation of Thanksgiving. We will return to our Summer Schedule on Monday, November 30, 2026.

SUMMER SCHEDULE: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday – 8:00 am to 9:00 am

And the first Saturday of the month – 8:00 am to NOON

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OPINION

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

Til Then

By Bernie Sheahan

In the last two weeks, I have lost two women so dear to my heart. First, my dad's baby sister, Aunt Judy Hageman, who was so loved that her funeral was standing-room only. This time, it's my Nashville Mom, "Big Mama," Betty Hatcher Little. She has three daughters, two by birth, one by adoption of the heart. Big Daddy, her sweet Howard ("Buddy"), started calling me "Numba Three" (that's how it sounds in Nashvillian) back in 1983 or so, when their eldest daughter, Eve, became one of my nearest and dearest lifelong friends. So I got grafted onto the vine, and included in family gatherings, around the swimming pool, the supper table, and the train station.

What? The train station? Yes. Union Station, in Nashville, built in 1900. It closed, was shuttered, and then restored and renovated into the gorgeous Union Station Hotel in 1986. It was my blessing and good fortune to be hired by the developers as what we called the Director of Public Relations, which, in a place like Union Station, including being the Goodwill Ambassador, the Official Historian (lucky for me, the history major) and Collector of Stories.

Big Daddy and Big Mama had some of the best. Big Daddy worked for the L&N (Louisville & Nashville) railroad as a claims agent, with an office on the second floor. So not long after the hotel's opening day, it was my great joy and privilege to offer a pretty swell birthday present, the "Buddy Little Suite," in the large guest room that used to be Big Daddy's office, with a view of Broadway and the 1934 Post Office. Big Mama was in on the surprise, and she was just as delighted as Big Daddy. I made sure the two of them were treated well with a fine dinner and the attention of all our staff, and Eve and I decorated the former office/now hotel suite with a big sign on the door "Buddy Little Suite."

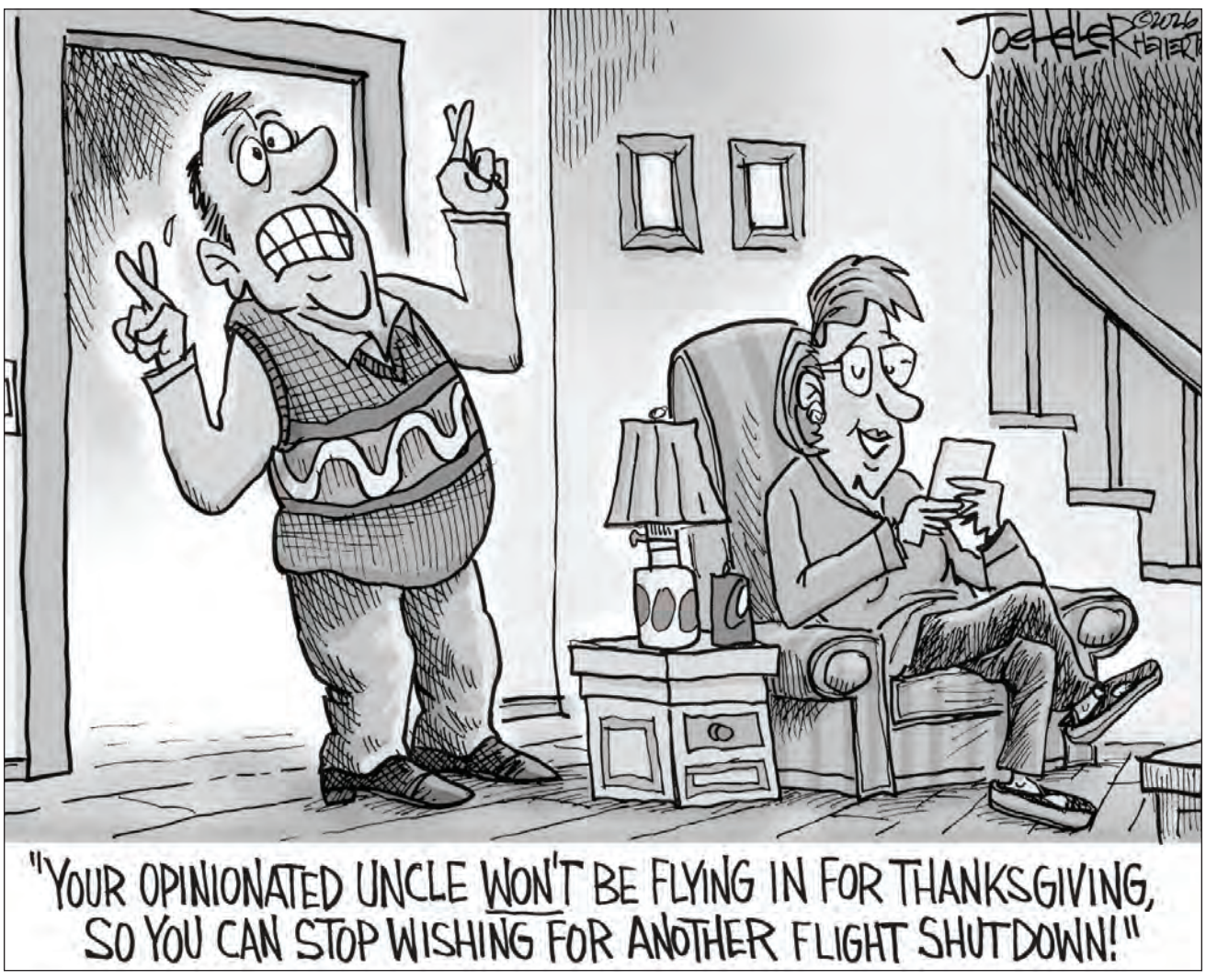
She remembered that always, and I cherished the time I got to spend with them in that place that was so familiar and well-loved. I'll never forget another place, their home outside Nashville, where they invited all of Eve's single church friends to enjoy the pool and the tennis court. Every summer Sunday afternoon in the mid-1980s, the hordes would descend on their lovely home and have fun in the sun, complete with snacks and coolers full of Cokes. We called it the "Little Country Club" and we can credit the hospitality of the Littles with several marriages, because what better way to pair up young couples than to enjoy summer fun with friends?

The Littles were indeed our friends, and they included all of us as family. I, of course, was the favorite, or so I claim. "Numba Three," that's me. When you're far away from home — and I was the farthest away, of all our friends, being a Californian — it's a gift to have a place to go where you're welcome anytime with a standing "mi casa, tu casa" invitation. They welcomed my parents just as warmly at the Little home when Mom and Dad came to visit their daughter in Nashville.

I eventually went back to California to care for my folks, and, three years ago, when I moved to Kansas, I sold my Nashville house and visited with my dear Nashville friends and family, including and especially my Nashville Mom.

That was the last time I got to love on Big Mama in person. Of course we talked about Big Daddy, who died in his sleep, and left Betty without the love of her life for 27 years. She lived alone in a cozy condo near her daughters, who along with her son Howard, Jr. enabled her to be independent yet cared for, with great love and affection.

They were there as Big Mama transitioned peacefully from this life to the next, and, as with my dear Aunt Judy and all who loved her, we are comforted to know that they are in that place where this is no sorrow, only joy, and, we trust, laughter and light in great abundance. But "goodbye" is so hard. Let's just say "till then."



Walk the Path That ROARS Toward Saving the Constitutional Republic

By Matt Erickson, Founder and President, Foundation For Liberty

The dismal 2026 midterm election results show the error of placing all of one's political hopes and desires on voting and elections – Democracy.

Indeed, where is the effort to ensure that in our Constitutional Republic, that it's first about keeping government actions within allowable boundaries, no matter who gets elected?

OpenSecrets.org estimates that nearly $12 billion was spent in the federal congressional race this election season. That fact alone provides compelling evidence that we're wildly off course nationwide. Surely, if government was contained to its constitutionally-enumerated duties and obligations, far fewer Americans would care much about who held the reins at any given time, as there's far less of a grand prize ever worth being seized.

Toward that end, I have devoted many decades and many tens of thousands of hours of effort. Although I may well be slow on the uptake, I've learned a thing or two, over that time. Although all 16 of my books are all freely available as pdfs on my website, PatriotCorps.org, I know few people read today.

Which is why I'm excited about Artificial Intelligence. Let AI do all the heavy work digesting the public domain book text files and then let AI teach you what's been going on behind the curtain and under the radar, that ever allowed the United States to be steered off-course from its constitutional map in the first place.

Toward that end, is my public domain ROAR-Path framework – a series of 21 simple copy and paste steps, uploaded to an AI platform in sequential order, that first prepares AI to see political matters from the strict-constructionist viewpoint of the framers and ratifiers, and then uploading the text files of five core books (before ending the framework with a few summation steps).

Simply by spending 30-60 minutes copying and pasting the step prompts on a free AI platform, one has – within that chat window – a constitutional tutor and personal guide, to bring you out of the disorienting woods, back to a society where everything again makes sense, so you know what you need to do, without wasting precious time, effort and money, doing things which have never actually worked.

ROAR-Path is the Pathway to permanently Restore Our American Republic, outside the election process, almost overnight.

The Constitutional First Principles upon which ROAR-Path relies:

• The U.S. Constitution is the supreme Law of the Land;

• Every state and local and federal servant must already swear an oath to support the Constitution;

• The sworn oath binds oath-takers to the Constitution's terms;

• Those swearing the oath may only implement the Constitution's enumerated powers, never change them;

• Article V of the Constitution details the amendment process – the formal means for changing the delegated federal powers. While members of Congress are allowed (with two-thirds majority) to propose amendments, only the states (as principals to the Constitutional Compact) may ratify them;

• While the states may also propose amendments in a convention, neither presidents nor Supreme Court justices have any role whatsoever in proposing or ratifying amendments;

• The Constitution may only be changed by ratified amendments and only ratified amendments change federal powers;

• Since federal servants may never change the Constitution or their delegated powers, then even today, we have the Constitution that the framers and ratifiers gave us, changed only by the 27 amendments which the states have since ratified;

• Since nothing has changed in the scope of federal powers beyond the 27 ratified amendments, then there's nothing to change "back"; and

• Since there's nothing to change back, then we only need to see through the lies that stand in our way.

ROAR-Path content coupled with AI capabilities serve as the guide to see through a lifetime of political lies, that seemingly deny any or all of these 10 principles, that falsely assert that federal servants may become our political masters.

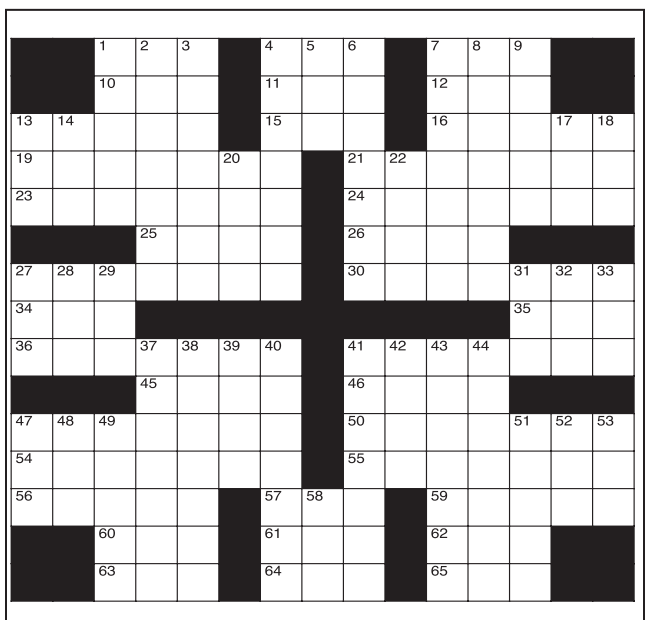
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Tire pressure metric
4. Request
7. Clairvoyance
10. 007's creator Fleming
11. Male adult
12. Norse mythological figure
13. Coffin cloths
15. Breeze through
16. Ladyfish genus
19. We all take them
21. Nobleman's jurisdiction
23. Members of U.S. Navy
24. Rummy-like card game
25. Unable to move
26. Type of horse
27. Parted
30. Woman's cloak
34. South American plant
35. Prohibit
36. Something one takes
41. Dish detergent manufacturer
45. Romanian river
46. Personification of pity
47. Makes upset
50. Discuss again
54. Medical instrument
55. Support
56. Informal term for money
57. Catch doing something wrong
59. Prehistoric people
60. Large African antelope
61. Automobile
62. "Losing My Religion" rockers
63. High-resolution scientific instrument
64. A major division of geological time
65. Attempt

CLUES DOWN

1. Indoor plant
2. Fit to be sold
3. Rather
4. Collected
5. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
6. Irish rap group
7. Ageless
8. Lists indicating curriculum
9. Pokes at
13. Public television station
14. They __
17. Cooking tool
18. Separately managed account
20. Iron-containing compound
22. Swiss river
27. Former French coin
28. Electronic countermeasures
29. Taxi
31. Helps little firms
32. Unhappy
33. Midway between northeast and east
37. Glowing
38. Lists of items to be discussed
39. An informal body of friends
40. Indispensable quality
41. Neural structures
42. Brews
43. A place to dock
44. Festive singer
47. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
48. Northernmost point of mainland Wales
49. Most worthless parts
51. Type of "bear"
52. Take or consume
53. Defunct European organization
58. Swiss river

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

DIABETES CARE WORD SEARCH

BOLUS, CONTINUOUS, DIABETES, DOSE, FASTING, GESTATIONAL, GLUCAGON, GLUCOMETER, GLUCOSE, HORMONES, HYPERGLYCEMIA, HYPOGLYCEMIA, INSULIN, KETOACIDOSIS, NEUROPATHY, PANCREAS, PLASMA, POLYDIPSIA, POLYPHAGIA, POLYURIA, PREDIABETES, RESISTANCE

NEWS

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

KINGMAN CITY COMMISSION MINUTES *Oct. 22 Meeting*

Attendance:

Present: Mayor Winsor, Vice Mayor Kaufman, Commissioners Wollen, Arensdorf, and McFarland were present. City Staff consisted of City Manager Knoell, Treasurer Bieghler, Clerk McClellan, Attorney Graffman, Chief Lux, Director Schrag, Superintendent T. Goldston, Chief Brooks. Manager Streatch, and Chief Rhodes.

Call to Order: Mayor Winsor called the meeting to order at 6:00p and Tyler Esposito led the opening prayer.

Agenda: The Commission considered the agenda.

•Motion made by Arensdorf, seconded by McFarland, to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

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

1.Minutes: 10/8/2026

2.Bills Payable: $530,011.81

3.September 2026 Financial Statement

4.EMS Write-Offs

•Motion made by Arensdorf, seconded by McFarland, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Comment: The commission heard comments from the following citizens:

•Julie Lyon of 1101 E US-54 shared that she was awarded $1.0 million for residential rehab for a five-county area including Kingman County. She wanted the Commission to know this funding was available and that she has been working with Manager Knoell and Inspector Robinson on possible housing projects. The goal is to remove dilapidated structures and to replace them with new housing. She shared that interested parties could visit rebuildourblock.com.

•Josh Beck of 1812 North Main spoke to the Commission as a past member of the aquatic task force and urged the Commission to develop and follow through with plans regarding the Kingman swimming pool before expending funds on future pool projects.

Resolution 2026-5 – PCH Investor Tax Credit: A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF KINGMAN, KANSAS, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR PCH WICHITA, LLC, DBA PRIME CRAFTSMAN HOMES, IN ITS APPLICATION FOR KANSAS HOUSING INVESTOR TAX CREDITS (KHITC) ADMINISTERED BY THE KANSAS HOUSING RESOURCES CORPORATION (KHRC) was considered.

•Motion made by Arensdorf, seconded by Kaufman, to adopt Resolution 2026-5 as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Pool Discussion: Fritz Caspar with Carrothers Construction Company was present via Zoom and presented with Park Board chair Kylee Maloney a proposal to further assess the pool with a sound test. The sound test proposal was $4,000.00 and Mr. Fritz shared that would be needed for an adequate proposal for a pool refurbishment quote. Mr. Fritz answered various questions asked by the Commission and no action was taken but was requested to be added to the next agenda with some optional quotes.

Department Quarterly Reports: The following department heads were present and presented reports on their department from the third quarter:

•Chief Maddi Rhodes provided a report on the EMS Department.

•Treasurer Zach Bieghler provided a report on the Clerk's Office.

•Chief David Lux provided a report on the Police Department.

•Kari Goldston was unable to attend but provided a written report on Public Works in the Commission packet.

•Superintendent Tim Goldston provided a report on the Electric Utility.

•Chief Shae Brooks provided a report on the Fire Department.

•Manager John Streatch provided a report on the Airport.

•Director Leslie Schrag provided a report on Economic Development and Transportation.

Master Park Plan – Park Board: Chair of the Park Board, Kylee Maloney asked for permission to deviate from portions of the master park plan regarding Main Street Park. Commission requested to see a printed, updated plan of Main Street Park.

Noise Ordinance Discussion: Discussion took place on the noise ordinance between the Commission, Manager Knoell, and Chief Lux. The discussion led to review of the noisy animal ordinance as well. Vice Mayor Kaufman requested that the noisy animal ordinance be added to the next agenda. No action was taken.

KOMA/KORA: KOMA/KORA compliance was discussed, with recommendations for annual training and refresher training for Commissioners, board members, etc. The topic may be placed on a future agenda to discuss ongoing compliance and awareness.

Park Board – Expenditure Request for Remaining Budget Authority: Kylee Maloney was present representing the Kingman Park Board. Maintenance items at Main Street Park were discussed, including two lights and ensuring the water spigot is accessible and operational. Discussion was had about the spigot during varying temperatures and if it is locked. Maloney was seeking permission to spend the balance of the Special Park Fund budget authority in the amount of $8,188.31 toward a teeter totter and surface equipment at Main Street Park and new swings for Riverside Park.

•Motion made by Kaufman, seconded by McFarland, to approve the purchase of the teeter totter and the surface equipment for Main Street Park not to exceed $7,400.00. Motion carried 5-0.

•Motion made by McFarland, seconded by Arensdorf, to approve the purchase of new swings for Riverside Park not to exceed $300.00. Motion carried 5-0.

Tie Line Substation Maintenance Agreement: Electric superintendent Tim Goldston recommended the purchase of a dual breather tie line substation transformer. The existing component will be refurbished under warranty and kept as a spare. The new component will be installed with a three-to-four-month lead time. Training will also be provided with the new equipment.

•Motion made by Arensdorf, seconded by McFarland, to approve the purchase of the dual breather tie substation agreement not to exceed $7,500.00. Motion carried 5-0.

Champlin Park: Director Schrag presented a $25,000 grant to be used towards Champlin Park improvements to be used within a year. Discussions included the statues and artwork on them. The initial priorities include evaluating the statues and then working on electrical equipment placement for potential food trucks.

•Motion made by Kaufman, seconded by Arensdorf, to approve $25,000 grant to proceed with the Champlin Park plan.

City Manager's Report: Manager Knoell shared that due to the upcoming holiday schedule, the meeting scheduled for November 26th will be moved to November 24th, 2026. The annual safety dinner will be held on December 17th at 6:00pm at The Hangar.

Commissioner Comments: Commissioner Wollen expressed appreciation for Sexton Gruenke and his work done at the cemetery, for the attention to alleys and washouts, and for the notification of the Police training shooting event. He welcomed Clerk Harrison.

Commissioner Arensdorf thanked the city crew for their help pouring the bench pad.

Commissioner McFarland discussed park maintenance and that he feels the maintenance department should be able to replace equipment when needed without the Commissions approval.

Vice Mayor Kaufman discussed his concerns with walking path lighting and the open wires.

See **CITY** / *Page 5*

Community Watch

If you SEE something, SAY something! Help watch out for your neighbors and make Kingman County better for all!

Call 620-532-5133 for Kingman Co. Sheriff's Office, 1-800-kscrime or 911.



PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, Nov. 19, 2026) 3t

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

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS
Plaintiff,
vs.
A & T LIVESTOCK, LC, et al,
Defendants.

Case No. KM-2026-CV-000022

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 60 AND 79 OF KANSAS STATUTES ANNOTATED

NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that by virtue of an Order for Sale issued by the Clerk of the District Court of Kingman County, Kansas, in the above-entitled action, I shall on the 22nd day of December, 2026 at 10:00 a.m., offer for sale at public auction and sell to the highest bidder at the Kingman County Courthouse, Commissioners Room, 130 N. Spruce, 1st Floor, Kingman, KS 67068 the property described below. All persons wishing to bid at the sale must first register with the Kingman County Treasurer's Office, 130 N. Spruce, 2nd Floor, Kingman, KS 67068, no later than 4:00 p.m., December 21, 2026. Bidder registration will open on December 7, 2026. All bidders must be registered in order to bid. Payment at auction must be in the form of cash or check only, and all winning bidders must pay for all purchased property before leaving the sale. In addition to the bid price, each successful bidder must pay a $21 deed recording fee and a $100 court cost fee per parcel. All prior liens and delinquent taxes included in and foreclosed as part of this action will be discharged and not due by the purchaser at tax sale.

Brent Wood, Sheriff
Kingman County, Kansas
KLENDA AUSTERMAN LLC
Michelle L. Brenwald #19287
Christopher A. McElgunn #13359
1600 Epic Center
301 N Main
Wichita, KS 67202
Telephone: (316)267-0331
Facsimile: (316) 267-0333

EXHIBIT A

Parcels not specifically listed have been redeemed or are subject to separate order. Payoff amounts are estimates; contact the Treasurer's office for current amounts.

Parcel No. 3
Tax ID No. 12614000000110000
Legal Description: LAMPE ADD, S14, T28, R05W, Lot 10,13, ACRES 1.6, LTS 10,13 SECTION 14 TOWNSHIP 28 RANGE 05W, Kingman County, Kansas
Approximate Location: 2183 SE WEST AVE, CHENEY, KS 67025
Delinquent Years: 2022-2025
Redemption Amount: $20,281.82
Current Owners: ATENCIO, RONALD D

Parcel No. 4
Tax ID No. 2051501002001000
Legal Description: NEW ROCHESTER (AKA ZENDA) , ACRES 3.5 , BLK 21 EXC S48 OF LTS 4-6; BLK 22 EXC S48 OF LTS 7-9; ASH ST BET & ALYS ADJ; N2 1ST ST ADJ LTS 10-12 BLK 22 SECTION 15 TOWNSHIP 30 RANGE 09W, Kingman County, Kansas
Approximate Location: 101 S PINE ST, ZENda, KS 67159
Delinquent Years: 2022-2025
Redemption Amount: $3,147.55
Current Owners: BAILEY, BONNIE S

Parcel No. 17
Tax ID No. 23204000000060000
Legal Description: S04, T30, R06W, ACRES 1.1, BEG 1386 W & 30 N SE COR SE4; N498 W90.75 S408 W41.25 S90 E1 31.8 TO POB (VACANT), Kingman County, Kansas
Approximate Location: 7750 E HWY 42, SPIVEY, KS 67142
Delinquent Years: 2023-2025
Redemption Amount: $1,189.64
Current Owners: GRAY-LEEPER, KATHLEEN & NEAL, DORLA M

Parcel No. 18
Tax ID No. 10305010120010000
Legal Description: EAST ADD-KINGMAN, BLOCK 26, Lot 2,3, LTS 2,3 BLK 26 SECTION 05 TOWNSHIP 28 RANGE 07W (VACANT), Kingman County, Kansas
Approximate Location: 0 E B AVE, KINGMAN, KS 67068
Delinquent Years: 2023-2025
Redemption Amount: $1,112.09
Current Owners: HAMMERSCHMIDT, ELI

Parcel No. 19
Tax ID No. 14516000000240000
Legal Description: BELMONT, TOWN OF, S16, T29, R06W, BLOCK 10, Lot 21 - 24, ACRES 0.3, LTS 21-24 BLK 10 SECTION 16 TOWNSHIP 29 RANGE 06W (VACANT), Kingman County, Kansas
Approximate Location: 7024 SE STARR ST, KINGMAN, KS 67068
Delinquent Years: 2023-2025
Redemption Amount: $821.86
Current Owners: HOENACK, ADAM LUCAS DAKOTA

Parcel No. 26
Tax ID No. 10305010070040000
Legal Description: GILLETTE`S SUB-EAST ADD, S05, T28, R07W, BLOCK 23, W12.5 LT 8, ALL LTS 9 & 10 OF GILLETTS SUB, BLK 23, OF EAST ADD SECTION 05 TOWNSHIP 28 RANGE 07W (WITH SPECIALS), Kingman County, Kansas
Approximate Location: 427 E C AVE, KINGMAN, KS 67068
Delinquent Years: 2022-2025
Redemption Amount: $2,296.05
Current Owners: LANE, JASON S

Parcel No. 34
Tax ID No. 10305020050130000
Legal Description: KINGMAN,TOWN OF , LTS 20 & 22 ON AVE C WEST SECTION 05 TOWNSHIP 28 RANGE 07W, Kingman County, Kansas
Approximate Location: 224 W C AVE, KINGMAN, KS 67068
Delinquent Years: 2022 & 2025
Redemption Amount: $2,542.21
Current Owners: ROGERS, RONALD J ETAL

Parcel No. 39
Tax ID No. 19516020070040000
Legal Description: NEW NASHVILLE,TOWN OF, S16, T30, R10W, BLOCK 12, Lot 14 - 15, LTS 14 & 15 BLK 12 SECTION 16 TOWNSHIP 30 RANGE 10W (VACANT), Kingman County, Kansas
Approximate Location: 0 S MAIN ST, NASHVILLE, KS 67112
Delinquent Years: 2023-2025
Redemption Amount: $846.67
Current Owners: SHELTON, NICHOLAS O

Parcel No. 45
Tax ID No. 7305010070020000
Legal Description: ELLIOTT`S ADD-CUNNINGHAM, BLOCK 2, LT 1 & N 10 LT 2 SECTION 05 TOWNSHIP 28 RANGE 10W, Kingman County, Kansas
Approximate Location: 200 S ELLIOTT ST, CUNNINGHAM, KS 67035
Delinquent Years: 2022-2023, 2025
Redemption Amount: $3,457.4
Current Owners: SWONGER, JUDITH D

DOCKET

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

KINGMAN CITY POLICE BLOTTER *By Officer Kyle Mandeville*

Sunday, Nov. 8

Traffic Stops	1
Domestic Disturbance	200 Blk W B Ave
Fraud	700 Blk W Washington Ave
Agency Assist	2600 Blk E Bluff St

Monday, Nov. 9

Traffic Stops	3
Abandoned Vehicle	W F Ave and N Lincoln St
Traffic Complaint	E Hwy 54 @ MM189
Suspicious Person	300 Blk S Main St
911 Hang-Up	300 Blk W C Ave

Tuesday, Nov. 10

Traffic Stops	6
Animal Complaint	300 Blk E E Ave
Medical Assist	400 Blk E H Ave
Juvenile Complaint	Norwich School
Gas Odor	300 Blk W D Ave
Suspicious Person	1200 Blk E Hwy 54
Debris in Roadway	W G Ave and N Broadway

Wednesday, Nov. 11

Traffic Stops	20
Suspicious Person	1100 Blk E Hwy 54

Thursday, Nov. 12

Traffic Stops	18
Vehicle Unlock	200 Blk N Main St
Animal Complaint	900 Blk N Coronado St
Animal Complaint	E F Ave and N Main St
Animal Complaint	2100 Blk N Koch Industrial
Missing Person Report	600 Blk N Spruce St
Medical Assist	200 Blk W Copeland Dr
Agency Assist	NE 40 Ave and E Hwy 54
Disabled Vehicle	800 Blk W D Ave

Friday, Nov. 13

Traffic Stop	6
Agency Assist	W Hwy 54 @ MM170
Suspicious Person	1000 Blk E D Ave
Traffic Accident	W A Ave and N Cedar St
Medical Assist	N Hwy 14 @MM77
Bar Check	Taphouse 54

Saturday, Nov. 14

Traffic Stops	2
Animal Complaint	300 Blk E A Ave
Traffic Complaint	Riverside Park

KINGMAN COUNTY SHERIFF BLOTTER

Sunday, Nov. 8

Non-Injury Accident	16000 E Hwy 54, Cheney
Abandoned Vehicle	SE 110 St & SE 110, Norwich
Animal Complaint	N Main St, Norwich
Injury Accident	2600 E Bluff St, Kingman
Accidental 911 Dial	12000 Blk SE 170 St, Norwich
Non-Injury Accident	15000 Blk SE 20 St, Cheney
Non-Injury Accident	NW 170 & NW 50, Cunningham
Miscellaneous	5500 Blk SE 100 St, Kingman

Monday, Nov. 9

Traffic Stops	2
Non-Injury Accident	E Hwy 42 & SE 40 Ave, Rago
Warrant Service/Arrest	130 N Spruce St, Kingman
Miscellaneous	120 N Spruce St, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	4000 Blk W Hwy 54, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	1700 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
Transport/Inmate	700 Blk W D Ave, Kingman
Warrant Service/Arrest	120 N Spruce St, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	16000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
Follow-Up	120 N Spruce St, Kingman
Agency Assist/KHP	15000 Blk E Hwy 54, Cheney
Non-Injury Accident	8000 Blk E Hwy 54, Murdock
Agency Assist/Medical	100 Blk W 1st St, Cunningham

Tuesday, Nov. 10

Traffic Stops	8
Civil Paper Service	10
Disabled Vehicle	NW 30 & W Hwy 54, Kingman
Court/Inmate	130 N Spruce St, Kingman

Wednesday, Nov. 11

Traffic Stops	14
Civil Paper Service	1
Non-Injury Accident	SW 90 & SW 10 St, Kingman
Abandoned Vehicle	NW 30 St & NW 50, Kingman
Parking Complaint	200 Blk S Spruce St, Penalosa
Non-Injury Accident	SE 70 St & SE 60 Ave, Murdock
Agency Assist/Pratt SO	5000 Blk SW 170, Cunningham
Non-Injury Accident	7500 Blk SW 10 Ave, Kingman

Thursday, Nov. 12

Traffic Stops	3
Civil Paper Service	1
Miscellaneous	200 Blk S Main St, Norwich
Non-Injury Accident	NE 10 St & NE 50 Ave, Kingman
Suspicious Person	13000 Blk W H 54, Cunningham
Agency Assist/KHP	1000 W Hwy 54, Kingman
Agency Assist/KMPD	600 Blk N Spruce St, Kingman
Animal Complaint	SE 60 St & SE 130, Kingman
Non-Injury Accident	SE 20 St & SE 160 Ave, Cheney
Non-Injury Accident	NE 40 & E Hwy 54, Kingman
Transport/Civilian	600 Blk N Lincoln St, Kingman

Friday, Nov. 13

Traffic Stops	2
Civil Paper Service	2
Suspicious Person	1000 Blk E Hwy 54, Kingman
Motorist Assist	18000 Blk W H 54, Cunningham
Transport Inmate	700 Blk W D Ave, Kingman
Motorist Assist	W Hwy 54 & NW 20, Kingman
Miscellaneous	100 Blk SE 170 Ave, Cheney
Miscellaneous	400 Blk E Leiter, Cunningham
Agency Assist/Medical	3600 Blk N Hwy 14, Murdock

Saturday, Nov. 14

Miscellaneous	400 Blk E Leiter, Cunningham
Disturbance	NW 30 St & NW 60, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	16000 Blk E Hwy 42, Norwich
Non-Injury Accident	SE40 St & SE 160 Ave, Cheney
Traffic Complaint	200 Blk E Don Lock, Kingman
Traffic Complaint	NE 35 St & NE 40 Ave, Kingman

KINGMAN COUNTY JAIL BOOKINGS

Nov. 12: Brianna Nicole Naranjo, 24, failure to appear, $2,500 bond.

Nov. 15: Edward Noble Moore Jr., 37, DUI, vehicle registration violation and possession of marijuana.

KINGMAN CITY LAND BANK MINUTES

Oct. 22 Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Winsor called the Kingman Land Bank Board of Directors meeting to order at 6:10pm. Directors Kaufman, Arensdorf, and Wollen were also present. Director McFarland was absent.

Agenda: The Board considered the Land Bank agenda.

•Motion made by Wollen, seconded by Kaufman, to approve the agenda. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes: The Board considered the minutes from 9/24/2026.

•Motion made by Arensdorf, seconded by Wollen, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Comment: There were no public comments.

Prime Craftsman Homes – Masterson Home Consideration: Director Schrag presented a new design from PCH called the Masterson. Originally, the board approved three different home styles to be placed on four lots of the Memory Lane Addition with the Hillcrest design being repeated once. PCH would like to replace one of the Hillcrest homes with the Masterson to provide more variety.

•Motion made by Kaufman, seconded by Arensdorf, to approve the placement of the Masterson home in place of one of the Hillcrest. Motion carried 4-0.

Adjournment:

•Motion made by Kaufman, seconded by Arensdorf, to adjourn the Kingman Land Bank meeting at 6:14pm. Motion carried 4-0.

CITY

• *From Page 4*

Mayor Winsor recognized Chief Lux's 25 years with the City. She requested that a motion be made for the meeting scheduled for Christmas Eve to be rescheduled to a different date. She also would like an update on the hydrants that have been bagged at the next meeting.

Adjournment:

•Motion made by Kaufman, seconded by Arensdorf, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40pm. Motion carried 5-0.

KINGMAN COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

Judge Roseanna Mathis

Thursday, Nov. 19

2026: State of Kansas vs. Crystal Mae Drake, diversion.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Jessica Lynn Meier, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. James P. Sowter, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. John Christopher Dennis, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Casey Jordan Williams, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Paxton T. Goldston, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Paxton T. Goldston, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Natalie E. Willis, plea hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Joseph R. Urban, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Tommy Edward Bough Jr., hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Kimberly L. Sturgeon, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Nathan E. Mcalpin, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Renae Paige Merchant, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Joseph R. Urban, hearing.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Gabriel Renard Braxton, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Gabriel Braxton, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Mary Megan Hansen, diversion.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Janette Marie Stauffer, diversion.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Carl Bernard Smalls, diversion.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Aaron Kern Mcgilbra, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Alexis Rivero Moraga, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Haliey C. Medrano, first appearance.

2026: State of Kansas vs. Trevor Rendall Leslie, first appearance.

Judge Gaten Wood

Friday, Nov. 20

2025: In the Matter of the Marriage of Jennifer L. Dyke vs. Jesse J. Plock, bench trial.

KINGMAN COUNTY ACCIDENTS

Oct. 29: The Kingman County Sheriff's Department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which Kara Kendra Nelson, 47, of Attica was driving a 2013 Nissan Armada southwestbound on Kansas Highway 2 when, about two-tenths of a mile southwest of SE 160th Avenue, she struck a deer that ran into the roadway. Nelson was not injured nor were passengers Kendrick Ryan Nelson, 48, and Kendall Steven Nelson, 19, both of Attica.

Oct. 30: The Kingman County Sheriff's Department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which Ashley Danielle McCaig, 34, of Brooksville, Fla., was driving a 2013 Chevy Traverse southbound on Kansas Highway 11 when, at the intersection with NW 60th Street, she attempted a lefthand turn but made the turn too late and her vehicle road the edge of the culvert and ditch and got stuck. McCaig was not injured nor were passengers Jazlyn Heeling, 13, and Jaxon Heeling, 12, both of Brooksville, Fla.

Nov. 1: The Kingman County Sheriff's Department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which Marie Mercy Gwayi, 35, of Pratt was driving a 2011 Chrysler Town and Country westbound on U.S. Highway 54 when, about nine-tenths of a mile west of NW 150th Avenue, she struck a deer that came from the north ditch. Gwayi was not injured.

Nov. 2: The Kingman County Sheriff's Department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which Heather Rene Newman, 38, of Guthrie, Okla., was driving a 2020 Toyota Camry westbound on U.S. Highway 54 when, just west of NE 20th Avenue, she struck a deer that came from the north side of the roadway. Newman was not injured.

Nov. 4: The Kingman County Sheriff's Department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which Kandy Kay Bevan, 64, of Cheney was driving a 2022 Hyundai Tucson eastbound on NE 40th Street when, about half a m mile east of NE 140th Avenue, she struck a deer that came from the south field. Bevan was not injured.

Nov. 6: The Kingman County Sheriff's Department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which Joel Eugene Graves, 58, of Green Bay, Wis., was driving a 2018 Dodge R15 eastbound on U.S. Highway 54 when, about half a mile west of NE 100th Avenue, he struck a deer that came from the south ditch. Graves was not injured.

Nov. 8: The Kingman County Sheriff's Department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which Jaden Matthew Franz, 22, of Wichita was driving a 2013 Nissan Altima westbound on U.S. Highway 54 when, about one-and-a-half miles east of NE 150th Avenue, he struck a deer that came from the north ditch. Franz was not injured.

Nov. 8: The Kingman County Sheriff's Department investigated a one-vehicle crash in which Kerry Woodrow Morris, 65, of Murdock was driving a 2013 Ford F15 westbound on SE 20th Street when, just west of SE West Avenue, he struck a deer that came from the south side of the roadway. Morris was not injured.

KINGMAN COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES *Nov. 9 Meeting*

Chairwoman Lyon called the Board of County Commissioners meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. October 26, 2026, in the County Commissioners room at the Kingman County Courthouse.

Julie Lyon, Chairwoman
Jack Thimesch, Commissioner
Jeff Young, Commissioner
Carol Noblit, County Clerk
Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor

Visitors: Dale Enyart; Bob Morris, Kingman Leader Courier;

Online Visitors: AS, Caller 01, Caller 1, Chief Brooks, DH, Michael Miller, Dennis,

Staff: Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director; Amanda Stucky, Field Appraiser/Planning/Zoning Director.

Chairwoman Lyon gave the invocation.

MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to recess the Board of County Commissioners at 8:32 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to reconvene the Board of County Commissioners at 9:06 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Commissioners discussed fire extinguisher bids with Tonja Stamm, Courthouse Maintenance and they would like for her to ask questions and return next week to go over the bids.

Chairwoman Lyon asked if there were any additions to the agenda.

Carol Noblit would like to add the appointment to the executive board of the Council on Aging per a request that was received.

Ms. Noblit also asked for an executive session for non-elected personnel matters for employee performance with the County Commissioners.

Ms. Noblit also asked to add a resignation from the Valley Township Board.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the agenda with the additions requested for an executive session, resignation from Valley Township Board and Council on Aging executive board appointment. Commissioner

See **COUNTY** / *Page 10*

SPORTS

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

Eight KHS Football Players Receive All-League Honors

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor



BOB MORRIS / Leader-Courier

Kingman football players who received all-league honors from the Central Plains League were (L to R) Trent Clark, Malachi Graber, Jaxson Campbell, Brennan Van Wyhe, Chris Hepburn, Andrew Ziegler, Boston Beck and Logan Birkenbaugh.

Eight Kingman football players were named to the Central Plains League all-league football teams.

Andrew Ziegler was a unanimous first-team selection as a defensive lineman and a second-team selection as an offensive lineman.

"Andrew was a key factor for us on both sides of the ball," said head coach Tanner Hageman. "I think his production on the field is even more impressive when you know he was basically doing it with one good shoulder.

"He is an extremely physical player, loves all things contact on the football field and was really a tone setter on the offensive and defensive line. We are looking forward to Andrew stepping into more of a leadership role next year along with even more production."

Logan Birkenbaugh was a first-team selection as a defensive back and a second-team selection as quarterback and punter.

"Logan plays some key factors for us on both sides of the ball and then when you add in his ability to punt and the pride he has doing that, it really makes him a well rounded player," Hageman said. "Being one of two people that touches the ball every play on offense you really need someone at QB like him to make good decisions for your team.

"He has an equally important job on the defensive side hollering checks and coverages and making sure the back end is on the same page. We again are looking forward to him continuing to get better and pushing our program forward."

Boston Beck was a second-team selection as a running back and a defensive back.

"Boston is lightning in a bottle on the offensive side of the ball," Hageman said. "We have had some special players during my tenure that are fun to watch when they get the ball in their hands and I'm not sure Boston isn't the most exciting to watch. Whether he is running, catching or on special teams we wanted to give him the most opportunities that we could.

"On defense, we changed our defense, and it took Boston from a position he loved at linebacker to a more natural position from him in safety. There was a learning curve that came with that, but his drive to be successful wasn't going to be stopped. We are really appreciative for him being so open and willing to make that change."

Jaxson Campbell was a second-team selection as a wide receiver and honorable mention as a linebacker.

"Jaxson had a great year on both sides of the football," Hageman said. "He really became a sure handed player in the passing game and I don't believe had a drop all season long. He plays back-up QB so he sees how to get open and what to look for from two different perspectives which I think is really valuable.

"On defense he is the signal caller. He is making checks for the fronts and making sure our guys are lined up properly. It is a very cerebral task and for him to make the right checks and then still play fast is really a credit to his abilities."

Brennan Van Wyhe was a second-team selection as an offensive lineman.

"A two year CPL offensive lineman is no small feat," Hageman said. "Brennan made the change this year from guard to tackle. For anybody that knows football, they know that the responsibility to protect the blindside of the quarterback is one of the most important jobs there is.

"Along with his play on the field, Brennan really challenged himself to become someone that his teammates trusted. That, along with his play on the field, make him a really valuable piece of our team."

Malachi Graber was a second-team selection as a linebacker.

"Last year as a sophomore was when we really started to see glimpses of what Malachi was capable of," Hageman said. "So, for him to make the leap that he did this year I do not think came as a shock to our coaching staff.

"One of Kai's biggest strengths has always been his mind for the game. Whether he was playing QB at the youth level, offensive line in middle school, or running back on JV, he has always been very knowledgeable. Kai then added this enforcer type mentality this year that our team desperately needed. Again, another kid that we are expecting to continue to improve not just on the field, but as a leader off of it."

Chris Hepburn received honorable mention as a tight end.

"What a great honor for Chris and it is really a testament to his hard work," Hageman said. "Chris was really dedicated this summer in the weight room and put on a lot of strength and muscle.

"Because of that new found strength, I used his big frame in the run game a lot more than I have with tight ends in the past. That may have led to fewer opportunities in the passing game for Chris. However, he never once complained and just continued to show up and be a really consistent player for us on offense."

Trent Clark received honorable mention as a kicker.

"We found out Trent could kick a little bit last year as a junior and he kind of battled for that position a little back and forth last year," Hageman said. "Coming into this season, he was always out to practice right away doing warm-ups usually by kicking.

"Trent was a really valuable kicker for us all year, but played a vital part in us winning the Phillipsburg game. He went 3-for-3 that night in some wet, rainy conditions and hit the go ahead extra point to win us that ball game. That was one of the purest kicks I think he has ever had, in a high pressure situation, and a memory that I will be very fond of for years to come."

All-District Selections Announced

Multiple KHS football players also received Class 2A District 8 all-district honors.

On first-team offense, players named were running back Boston Beck, wide receiver Jaxson Campbell, offensive lineman Brennan Van Wyhe and offensive lineman Andrew Ziegler.

On first-team defense, players named were defensive lineman Andrew Ziegler, linebacker Malachi Graber, linebacker Jaxson Campbell, defensive back Boston Beck and defensive back Logan Birkenbaugh.

Receiving honorable mention on offense were quarterback Logan Birkenbaugh, wide receiver and kicker Trent Clark and tight end Chris Hepburn, while receiving honorable mention on defense was defensive lineman Danny Sanchez.

"(Sanchez) did a great job for us all year but especially late in the season," Hageman said. "He was splitting a lot of time and reps with other players early, but ultimately was just too difficult to take off the field as the season progressed.

"He was our defensive MVP in the game against Phillipsburg which says a lot about his toughness, strength and quick get-off. We are looking forward to him really being a foundational piece for us next year on both sides of the ball."

Wildcats Fall Short in Sectional Playoff Game Against Hanover

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

Mistakes piled up in the Cunningham football team's Class 1A-II Sectional playoff game at home Friday against Hanover.

Between bad field position, turnovers and other mistakes, the Wildcats were unable to get much going against Hanover, who was the runner-up in a tough District 4, and it led to a 52-6 loss. The game ended at halftime on the final play.

The game was close to start, with the Wildcats going three-and-out on the opening drive, then Hanover scoring on its first possession after a 1-yard touchdown run by Kadrick Cohorst, then a successful two-point conversion when Cohorst passed to Lanxden Stallbaumer.

But Cunningham responded with a 65-yard drive, which ended after Tyler Osner found John Paul Kerschen for a 34-yard touchdown pass. The Wildcats then pooch kicked, but the ball bounced off a Hanover player and Cunningham recovered.

The Wildcats were unable to convert that into points, though, and Hanover scored again after Cohorst hooked up with Hunter Kickhaefer on a 23-yard touchdown pass.

Osner then threw an interception on Cunningham's next drive and Hanover took over from there, scoring 38 unanswered points to close out the game.

Head coach Lance McGuire said it was one of those games in which Cunningham couldn't afford too many mistakes.

"We knew we'd have to string together a lot of good things to get a score and probably have to do that three or four times in order to compete and push them a little bit," McGuire said. "And we just didn't string them together enough of those to make good things happen at the end."

Hanover featured a tough running back in Cooper Bruna, who rushed for 150 yards and caught two passes for 43 yards. He had three touchdowns for the game and McGuire said the Wildcats haven't seen a running back like Bruna this season.

"He's a different animal," McGuire said. "He is a well put together young man and they do a good job blocking around him. A lot of people are doing a lot of things right for them, and so he got a lot of one on one looks. And then you better tackle him perfectly or he's not going down."

The Wildcats went to the passing game early. McGuire said he had hoped to give Hanover a different look from what the Wildcats have usually done this season.

"We knew we had to give them some things that they hadn't seen a lot from us on film in the last couple of games," he said. "We haven't thrown it much. We've been more of a ground team. And we also knew how tough up front they were on defense. And I was trying to open up the game a little bit and do some different things."

The Wildcats did get the running game going and utilized senior Stephen Kerschen for direct snaps on multiple plays. While the Wildcats were able to move the ball, they weren't able to finish drives.

McGuire said that was a credit to Hanover adjusting as the Wildcats changed things up. He added that Hanover had a deep roster, with 30 kids compared to 19 for Cunningham.

"They've got a lot of guys that they can keep fresh," McGuire said. "And if they have somebody have cramps, they get them off and they've got two, three, four guys to come in. They are strong up front, extremely disciplined, very well coached."

But even when Hanover was far out ahead, the Wildcats kept hitting. McGuire said that is a testament to the competitive nature of the boys.

"It doesn't matter if it's at cards or tiddlywinks kind of deal — the old folks know what tiddlywinks are," he said. "But these boys compete all the time. And I think if we had done that a little earlier, it might have given us a little fire instead of letting them get on some rolls. But I loved seeing that."



STEPHANIE JUMP / Leader-Courier

Cunningham's John Paul Kerschen (4) heads for the end zone after catching a first-quarter pass from Tyler Osner during last Friday's Sectional playoff game against Hanover at home. Kerschen scored a 34-yard touchdown, but it was the only TD for the Wildcats, who lost 52-6 to Hanover, ending their season with a 10-1 overall record.

The Wildcats' season ended with a 10-1 overall record. It was their first year back in eight-man football since 2015 and they had a strong season, in which they won the District 2 title and two playoff games.

"This year has been a blast," McGuire said. "The attitude, the boys adapting, different people stepping in through all of the nicks and dings and injuries this year."

He added that the players were willing to adjust or take on whatever role they needed when other players lost time to injuries.

"It's a really fun group to coach," McGuire said.

Stephen Kerschen, the lone senior, was one of those players who moved to a new position after he missed time with injuries early in the season.

"He's been incredibly selfless," McGuire said. "And he just naturally went to guard — I didn't even ask him. He went to the line. And so tonight was his first carries in two months, two and a half months, something like that, as we were trying to manage his health a little bit.

"He's been utterly selfless. And you're not going to find a harder worker hardly anywhere, whether it's conditioning on his own after practice or in the weight room or whatever it is."

Meanwhile, the head coach is excited about next season, because so many younger players got experience at the varsity level this season.

"They will work hard and they'll compete," McGuire said. "And I think this group, they bought into the weight room and I think they'll continue to get better every chance they can."

NEWS

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

KINGMAN HIGH SCHOOL THEATER FALL PRODUCTION *Photos by Bob Morris*













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MEET THE ELEPHANTS

Elephants are the largest land animals in the world. But not all elephants are the same. Most scientists divide elephants into two main groups: **African** elephants and **Asian** elephants.

(Some scientists say that the forest and grassland elephants of Africa are so different that there should be three groups of elephants—Asian and two groups of African. What would you call the different African elephants?)

Standards Link: Life Science: Students know there is variation among populations.

African Elephants

African elephants are _____ than Asian elephants. They have large ears shaped a little like the continent of _____. Large ears help keep the elephant _____ on the _____ African plains. African elephants have a sway back and very _____ skin. They also have a rounded head without any big bumps.

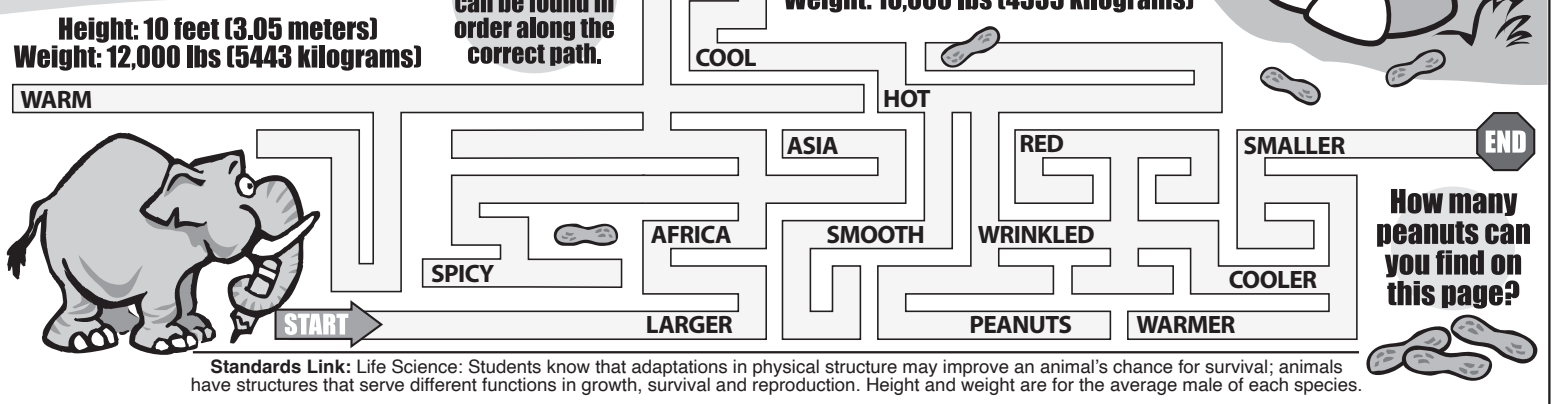
Asian Elephants

Asian elephants live in _____ forest areas and they have _____ ears. They also have rounded backs, smoother skin and a high forehead with two "bumps."

Height: 10 feet (3.05 meters)
Weight: 12,000 lbs (5443 kilograms)

Height: 9 feet (2.75 meters)
Weight: 10,000 lbs (4535 kilograms)

The missing words from the above paragraphs can be found in order along the correct path.

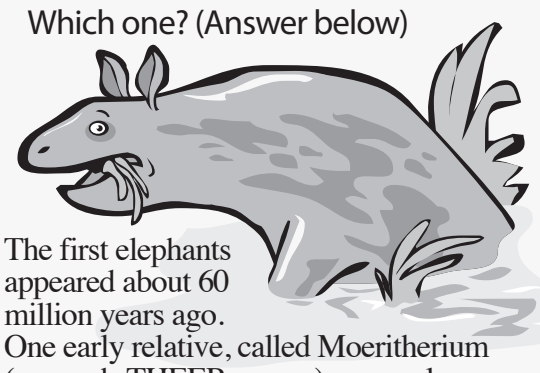


How many peanuts can you find on this page?

Standards Link: Life Science: Students know that adaptations in physical structure may improve an animal's chance for survival; animals have structures that serve different functions in growth, survival and reproduction. Height and weight are for the average male of each species.

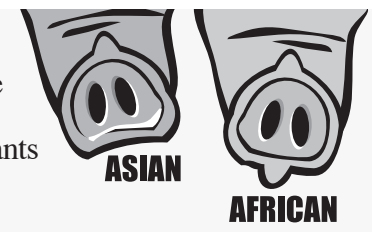
Trunk Truths

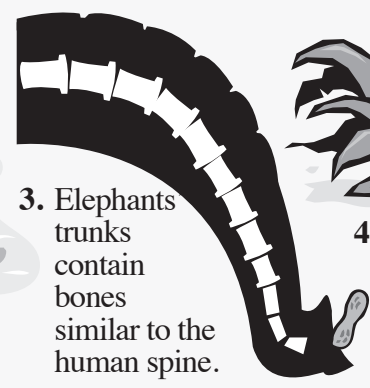
One of these statements is false. Which one? (Answer below)



1. The first elephants appeared about 60 million years ago. One early relative, called Moeritherium (meer-uh-THEER-ee-um), was only about 2 feet (0.6 m) tall and had no trunk.

2. Asian elephants have one small "finger" at the end of their trunks for grasping. African elephants have two "fingers."





3. Elephants trunks contain bones similar to the human spine.



4. There are more than 100,000 muscles in the trunk, making it very flexible, and strong enough to lift whole trees.

ANSWER: #3 is false. There are no bones in an elephant's trunk.

Standards Link: Life Science: Animals have different structures to help them survive.

Extra! Extra! Partners

People need animals and animals need people. Look through the newspaper for examples of how people and animals need each other.

Standards Link: Life Science/Ecology: Students know organisms in an ecosystem can support each other.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Elephant Hides

The skin of an elephant is rough and wrinkled. In fact, the creases in the lower part of their legs can be used to tell elephants apart. Like fingerprints, every elephant has its very own crease pattern.

Which picture comes next in each pattern below?



Standards Link: Math/Reasoning: Extend simple patterns.

Double Double Word Search

ELEPHANTS
SCIENTISTS
TRUNKS
SOCKS
ASIAN
WRINKLED
AFRICA
LARGE
EARS
SKIN
PAGES
COOL
PATTERN
TREES

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

S	W	S	E	G	A	P	I	L	L
L	T	E	K	C	A	S	I	A	N
O	L	N	I	I	K	O	L	R	T
O	E	R	A	N	N	C	L	G	R
C	F	P	U	H	H	K	I	E	E
A	S	R	A	E	P	S	A	C	E
S	T	S	I	T	N	E	I	C	S
N	T	W	R	I	N	K	L	E	D
S	N	R	E	T	T	A	P	E	K

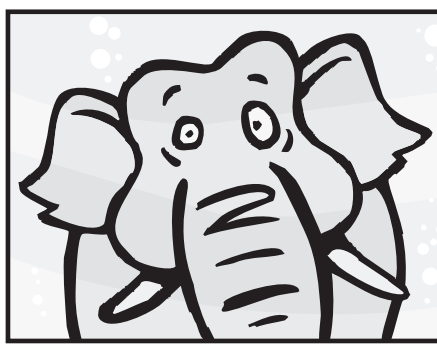
Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop® LESSON LIBRARY

Elephant Measure

Cut several pages of the newspaper into long strips. Use the columns to guide you. Tape the strips together until you have enough to show the height of Asian and African elephants.

Standards Link: Math: Students measure using nonstandard units.



How do you make an elephant float?

ANSWER: With a large glass, two scoops of ice cream, a bottle of root beer and one elephant.

Kid Scoop Together:

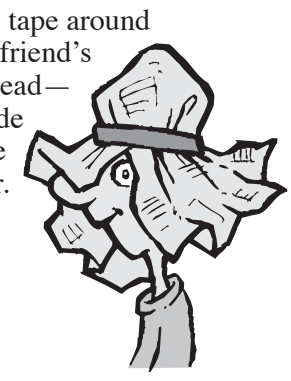
Newspaper Hat

Hat-making fun for two!

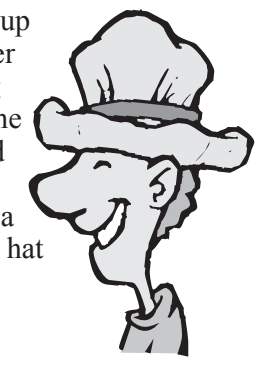
1. Drape a page of the newspaper over your friend's head.



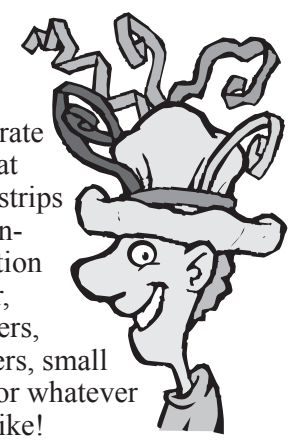
2. Wrap tape around your friend's forehead—outside of the paper.



3. Crinkle up the paper hanging below the tape and shape it to form a creative hat brim.



4. Decorate the hat with strips of construction paper, feathers, flowers, small toys or whatever you like!



5. Repeat and have your friend help you make your own hat.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow multiple-step written directions.

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Kid Scoop® VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:

SEEK

The verb **seek** means to try to find, to look for.

When outside, **seek** shady places to play.

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

Write On!

Animal Riddles

I have a long neck and brown spots. I like to eat leaves high in a tree. What am I?

Auto | Home | Life



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NEWS

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KINGMAN COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS MINUTES *Nov. 9 Meeting*

Motion: Canvasser Thimesch moved to call the Board of County Canvassers to order at 8:32 a.m. Canvasser Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Carol Noblit, County Election Officer presented the Board of Canvassers 65 provisional ballots to review.

Ms. Noblit let the Board of Canvassers know that the provisional ballots were separated by statutes and there were 22 ballots that possibly will not count per statute. Also, there were 43 ballots that possibly be counted after their review.

Board of County Canvassers approved the following 43 ballots pursuant to the statutes listed.

25-409,25-2316c(a) 2 ballots
25-1122, 25-2311 4 ballots
25-2316 c (b) 36 ballots
25-2908c 1 ballot
Total 43 ballots

Board of County Canvassers rejected the following 22 ballots pursuant to the statutes listed.

25-215, 25-2302 15 ballots
25-3702 3 ballots
25-2311 (a)(6), 25-2311(e) 4 ballots
Total 22 ballots

Ms. Noblit let the Canvassers know that the Counting Board was available to count the approved ballots.

MOTION: Canvasser Lyon moved to recess the County Board of Canvassers at 9:06 a.m. Canvasser Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

MOTION: Canvasser Young moved to reconvene the County Board of Canvassers at 11:42 a.m. Canvasser Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Ms. Noblit submitted the final totals of the canvass including the provisionals counted and there was a tie for Kingman Township Clerk. Jaden Strohl and Jim Schaller both received 10 write-in votes.

The Board of Canvassers then chose to do a flip of the coin with Jaden Strohl being heads and Jim Schaller being tails. The coin was flipped by Canvasser Lyon and the result was Jim Schaller for Kingman Township Clerk.

MOTION: Canvasser Thimesch moved to approve November 3, 2026, General Election Canvass. Canvasser Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

MOTION: Canvasser Young moved to adjourn the Board of County Canvassers at 11:50 a.m. Canvasser Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

LEGAL NOTICE

(First published in the Kingman Leader-Courier on Thursday, Nov. 5, 2026) 3t

IN THE THIRTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT, KINGMAN COUNTY, KANSAS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
DONNA F. VAN ORDEN, Deceased
CASE NO. KM 2026 PR 21
Pursuant to Ch. 59
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on the 4th day of August, 2026, a Petition for Probate of Will and Issuance of Letters Testamentary was filed in this Court by Belinda Beck as executor and child of Donna F. Van Orden, deceased.

All creditors of the above-named decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against the estate within four months from the date of first publication of this notice, as provided by law; and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Belinda Beck
Petitioner

GRAFFMAN LAW, LLC
347 N Main - PO Box 491
Kingman, Kansas 67068
Telephone: (620) 955-6025
Email: info@graffmanlaw.com
Attorneys for Petitioners
Attest:
Roseanna Mathis
District Magistrate Judge

COUNTY

• *From Page 5*

Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

9:17 a.m. Charles Arensdorf, Public Works Director was in to discuss the 2027 Hot Mix Project that would be a combination of the Neville Rd & SW 90 Ave (Windfarm) and FAS 359(2 miles south of Cunningham) and (4 miles north of Cunningham NW 20 St to Reno Co. line).

Mr. Arensdorf left the meeting at 9:42 a.m.

Commissioners received a resignation

MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to approve the resignation of Ed Troyer from Valley Township Board. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the appointment of Toby Eslinger to the Valley Township Board. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Chairwoman Lyon asked for public comments.

No Public Comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Young moved to go into executive session at 9:50 a.m. with Carol Noblit, County Clerk and Brandon Ritcha, County Counselor to discuss pending litigation pursuant to the exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act for discussion of matters which would be deemed privileged under the attorney-client relationship, and they will return to open session in the Board Meeting room at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Commissioners returned to regular session at 10:00 a.m. with no action taken.

Carol Noblit, County Clerk submitted the November 2, 2026, Commission meeting minutes for approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to approve the November 2, 2026, Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Commissioners discussed correspondence received.

10:20 a.m. Amanda Stucky, Field Appraiser was in with building permits for the following:

1. Tiffany Schnittker for a cottage stand in Section 17, Township 29, Range 10W.
2. Jim & Michelle Lickteig for a new home in Section 14, Township 27, Range 06W.
3. Mark Molitor for a shed in Section 24, Township 29, Range 09W.
4. Kevin & Sherry Vierthaler in Section 18, Township 29, Range 10W.
5. Alex McGlothlin for a new home in Section 2, Township 28, Range 05W.

Ms. Stucky let the Commissioners know that the Zoning meeting for November 23, 2026, has been moved to November 30, 2026, due to the holiday being the week of November 23rd.

Ms. Stucky let the Commissioners know that the public hearing for battery storage will be December 9, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the County Courthouse, 130 North Spruce St., Kingman, KS 67068.

Ms. Stucky left the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

Chairwoman Lyon discussed an email received from Misty Jacobs about Cybersecurity response team establishment. Ms. Lyon will work with the safety team on this.

Commissioner Thimesch discussed that Hometown Grants is available for everyone to use and can help find grants out there that can be used.

MOTION: Commissioner Thimesch moved to recess the Board Meeting of the County Commissioners at 11:42 a.m. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

Motion: Commissioner Thimesch moved to reconvene the county commissioners at 11:50 a.m. Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

MOTION: Commissioner Young moved to adjourn the regular board meeting at 11:53 a.m. Commissioner Thimesch seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a 3-0 vote.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Kingman County Council on Aging is accepting applications for a full-time Driver-40hr work week, Vacation, Sick, KPERS. Applicants must be able to adapt to all weather-related conditions, drive a 7-passenger van in rural and cities areas. Pre-employment Drug Test, Background Check and KDOT Physical. Applications may be picked up at 305 N. Cedar, Kingman KS -(620)532-5744. KCCOA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

M³ Publishing is looking for part time help on Wednesday evenings for circulation and distribution of weekly newspapers. Hours will vary but will be at least 3 hours per week. This is a good position for someone who has a flexible schedule late in the evenings. For more information please contact Stephanie at 620-532-3151 or email at sjump@kcnonline.com.

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Days of Yore



11 Years Ago

Kari Goldston and Becky Pickett unveiled the new community watch website during a meeting of the Kingman City Commission. NextEra Energy Resources proposed a wind farm to bring 115 turbines to Kingman County. Kingman High School students and staff recognized local military members and veterans during its annual Veteran's Day ceremony., in which Seth Roe did his Bob Hope impersonation and KHS student Kennedy Fischer played a dual role of Marilyn Monroe and Carrie Underwood. Dick and Janice Neville celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Kingman High School junior Shyann Jackson and Norwich High School junior Megan Kelly each received All-State volleyball honors. The Kingman Middle School girl's basketball team opened its season with a 35-23 home win over Garden Plain. The Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism provided a hunter safety education course to Kingman Elementary-Middle School students.

35 Years Ago

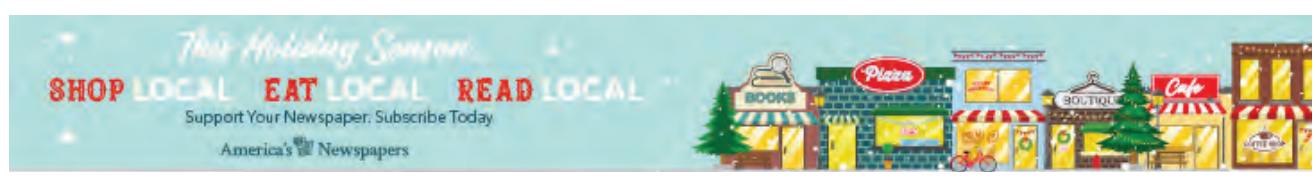
The Kingman Area Chamber of Commerce announced plans for its Christmas parade and that many local businesses would have extended hours for holiday shoppers. Kingman Elementary and Middle School students signed feathers, attached to the body of a turkey designed by Karen Ward, to create a Thanksgiving artwork on display at the school. Nancy Govert was named the Kingman Community Hospital's 1991 Employee of the Year. Klaver Construction Company received a contract to build a new bridge three miles south of Norwich. The Kingman boy's basketball team was ranked second by Chisholm Trail League coaches in preseason voting. The Kingman City Commission rejected the final payment estimate for the water tower project, believing it should not be forced to pay more for delays with the project. Joel Henning and son Joshua were photographed with their cake creation, featuring a fishing theme, for the annual Cub Scout cake bake and auction. Six letter winners returned to the Kingman High School girl's basketball team.

60 Years Ago

The Kingman Eagles beat Anthony 13-7 to finish third in league play. The Unified School District 332 administrative office scheduled an open house so everyone could visit the new facility. There were 31 youths who completed a training course in rifle marksmanship, home safety and hunter safety. Paula Baker, Teri Dixon and Sheryl Kauffman were photographed rehearsing a scene from the Kingman High School play "Where's Laurie?" Kingman High School students prepared care packages to send to six former KHS students who were serving overseas in Vietnam. A new postal mailbox was placed next to the back alley of the Kingman post office, making it easier for postal patrons to mail letters and small packages. Members of the Eagle Choir started rehearsals for a program to be presented at McKinney Auditorium. The "What's New Gift Shop and Bible Book Nook" held a grand opening for its new location at 115 N. Main St.

85 Years Ago

A photograph of the Kingman Christmas parade from the previous year served as a reminder to area residents that Santa Claus would bring a number of clowns, animals and other characters to entertain everybody Nov. 29. The Kingman High School a cappella choir, under the direction of Mac R. Stanley, was set to hold its first concert of the year. The Kingman Eagles football team claimed the Southern Football League title after beating Kiowa 18-6; Kingman handed Kiowa its only conference loss. Mrs. R.E. Baldridge, chairman of the Kingman County Tuberculosis and Health Association, announced the 35th annual sale of Christmas Seals would begin Nov. 24. There were 240 Kingman County 4-H members who were guests of honor at the achievement awards dinner presented by the Chamber of Commerce. Pay Day Market advertised head lettuce for 10 cents per pound.



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COMMUNITY

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

OBITUARIES

LESTER JOHN ZIEGLER

Lester John Ziegler, 92, passed away Monday, Nov. 16, 2026 at Wheatlands Healthcare Center, Kingman.

He was born Aug. 5, 1934, in Willowdale, the son of George and Rose (Thimesch) Ziegler. A lifetime resident of Kingman County, he worked at the Callahan Ranch and the City of Kingman where he retired after 35 years as a grader operator.



Lester attended church at St. Louis in Waterloo. He loved rabbit hunting, fishing, hobby farming, junking iron, and spending time with his grandkids, but he really loved his John Deere tractors and memorabilia. He loved hunting snapping turtles and teaching his kids and grandkids how to clean and cook them.

On March 2, 1957, he married Kathleen Cunningham at Zenda. They had five children: Donnie (Deb), Terry (Terri), Mike (Kim), Marilyn (Doug) Rodman, and Nancy (Greg) Burnett. They were married 64 years before Kathleen's passing on June 21, 2022.

Other survivors include brother Larry; eight grandchildren: Megan (Troy), Claire, Brandon, Christopher (Simona), Trevor (Katie), Hannah (Blake), Kayla, Dillon; 10 great-grandchildren: Audrey, Brooke, Miah, Nova, Brooks, Briggs, Maisyn, Brinlee, Saylor, Allison; one great great grandchild: Kai; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents George and Rose; wife Kathleen, siblings Evelyn, Paul, Gene, Rozella, Jerry; and a grandson Garrett Rodman.

Funeral services will be 10 a.m., Friday, Nov. 20 at the Livingston Funeral Home in Kingman. The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19 at the funeral home. Burial will be in the Walnut Hill Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Rivercross Hospice or City of Kingman Parks Department – Memorial Bench, both in care of Livingston Funeral, 1830 N Main, Kingman, KS 67068.

DAVID ADAM FATH

David Adam Fath, 75, of Somerset, Pa., formerly of Kingman, and Jeannette, Pa., passed away Thursday, Oct. 29, 2026, at his mountain home.

He was born Sept. 13, 1951, in Greensburg, Pa., the son of the late Lloyd and Cecilia (Gazze) Fath. David was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend. He was also a compassionate teacher and coach to many.



David was a graduate of the former Sacred Heart Catholic School in Jeannette, and the Jeanette Senior High School. He loved sports and excelled at football, playing for Jeannette High, and chose to further his football journey at Sterling College in Sterling. David was a four-year letterman and co-captain of the Warriors. He cherished his football playing days and often reminisced. After college, David married Barbara Price in Lyons on Aug. 2, 1975. They both began their teaching careers in Kingman. He taught middle school social studies and coached football and track. David was known for hard work ethic and his strict discipline in the classroom and on the field. He and Barbara retired in 2009 and moved to Somerset.

David was an avid music listener and could tell you the artist, title, and year the song was released, and was a collector of albums. He enjoyed collecting antique bitters and whiskey bottles from the 1860s. He was a member of the Laurel Highlands Antique Bottle Club. David loved his time at the gym working out and lifting weights even after his disabling accident in 2019 when he severed his spinal cord. He was a huge Steelers fan and collected many Steelers memorabilia. He was currently a member of the Saint Peter's Catholic Church in Somerset.

David is survived by wife Barbara (Price) Fath; daughters, Laura Fath and Diana Fath of Pittsburgh and Susan Fath and granddaughter Amara Clemons of Wichita; and a sister Janie Emmert and husband Terry of Houston.

A funeral mass was celebrated at the Sacred Heart Church in Jeannette. Interment followed in the Sacred Heart Cemetery, Hempfield Twp. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the St. Patrick Church, 638 W. D Ave., Kingman, KS, 67068; or the St. Peter's Church, 433 W. Church St., Somerset, PA, 15501; or the Sacred Heart Church, 615 Division St. Jeannette, PA, 15644.

Scott Strong Steps Down After 43 Years

PRESS RELEASE

Scott Strong, a titan of the Kansas insurance industry, has officially retired after a remarkable 43-year career. His departure marks the end of an era for colleagues and clients alike, leaving behind a legacy defined by unwavering integrity, mentorship, and an adaptable approach to decades of industry evolution.

When Strong first entered the insurance field in 1983, the industry looked vastly different. It was an era of paper files, face-to-face handshakes, and localized risk assessment. Over the next four decades, Strong did not just witness the transition to digital underwriting, growth strategies and globalized risk markets, but he led that transition within his firm.

Colleagues note that Strong's true talent lay in his ability to humanize a metrics-driven business. While data models changed, his core philosophy remained steadfast: insurance is ultimately about protecting people and providing peace of mind during their most vulnerable moments. His ability to foster and develop relationships in a changing industry helped to drive the success of the organization. In 2018, Strong's sold to Sunstar Insurance Group where Strong continued to provide leadership to the Kansas agencies he served.

Beyond his professional accolades, Strong is celebrated as a dedicated mentor. He spent a significant portion of his career coaching the next generation of agents and underwriters, instilling in them the same work ethic and ethical standards that guided his own path.

"Scott always had time for a question, no matter how busy he was," shared a senior colleague who started as a producer under Strong. "He taught us to read a policy, but more importantly, he taught us how to listen to the client." As he hangs up his briefcase, he leaves behind a robust portfolio and a team fully equipped to carry on the legacy he has left. While the industry loses a wealth of institutional knowledge, Strong expressed deep optimism for the future of the firm and the capable hands taking over his responsibilities.

In retirement, he plans to swap policy reviews for golfing, hunting, biking and travel. Mostly, he looks forward to quality time with his wife Genelle, their children and grandchildren.

The entire organization extends its deepest gratitude to Strong for 43 years of unparalleled service and wishes him a joyful, well-deserved retirement.

Norwich Boosters 4-H Club Holds November Meeting

ORGANIZATION REPORT

The monthly meeting of the Norwich Booster's 4-H club was held Nov. 15 in the Norwich Booster's 4-H room that is shared with the Norwich Fire Department. Kansas Game Warden Halle Barker gave a presentation on what she does as a game warden, how she became one and how to identify different animal species and their tracks. The Fire Department was able to purchase a mini split unit and TV for the room that is shared. The club will be helping Monte and June Hardaway sell kettle corn on main street Dec. 20 during Norwich's annual Santa Day celebration, there will also be a bake sale. Jan. 8, 2027, there will be a silent bake sale held at the home basketball game. The club adjourned the meeting and finished with a group picture for Christmas cards to be sent out to supporters. The next meeting will be Dec. 20 and the club will be decorating sugar cookies.

Madison Francis
Reporter

PUZZLE ANSWERS

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SCKAA MEALS

Please call 620-553-4177 for meal reservations

Monday, Nov. 23: Cheesy chicken spaghetti, California blend vegetables, applesauce, garlic wheat roll, butter, milk

Tuesday, Nov. 24: Sloppy joes, tater tots, coleslaw, peaches, milk

Wednesday, Nov. 25: Hot ham and cheese on bun, creamy vegetable soup, mandarin oranges, pudding, milk

Thursday, Nov. 26: Closed for the holiday.

Friday, Nov. 27: Closed for the holiday.

Kingman County Angel Tree Ready for Another Season

PRESS RELEASE

For nearly three decades, the people of Kingman County have helped those less fortunate through the Angel Tree program. Your generosity ensures that families celebrate the holidays with gifts for their children and food on their tables.

To adopt an angel, visit the Angel Trees in Kingman at Citizens Bank of Kansas, Peoples Bank and Trust or Jeri's Kitchen. If you adopt an angel please have gifts wrapped and delivered back to Citizens Bank of Kansas by Dec. 4. You may also make donations of toys and non-perishable food items at Citizens Bank of Kansas. Monetary gifts payable to the Kingman Community Christmas Fund will be accepted with gratitude at Citizens Bank of Kansas.

Help us make sure every child in Kingman County has something under the tree this Christmas.

Thank you everyone in Kingman County for your support and help with my recent campaign. A special thanks to the Kingman County Democratic Party, they were great. Your votes also helped numerous great Kansans win in their races. Your courage fighting for Democracy will be written in our Kansas history again! Thanks and fight on!
Alan Albers

Thank you to everyone that took time out from their busy schedules to come to Ed Mies' 80th birthday party. He was played "Happy Birthday"on a violin, received many birthday cards, gift certificates, lotto tickets and pottery mugs. Again, thank you so much.
Ed Mies and Family

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