

Western & Protection
The Star-Press

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

Volume 143 / Issue 16 | **Official Newspaper for Comanche County, All Cities, Townships and USD 300** | **November 19, 2026**

Local Thrift Store Recieves Grant

STAFF REPORT

Angels Attic, of Coldwater, recently announced the organization was awarded a $2,000 grant through the South Central Community Foundation.

Comanche County Economic Development aided the local thrift store in obtaining the grant.

These funds will help the organization continue to support the bi-monthly Kansas Food Bank, as well as other projects in the community.

The Attic is always striving to support the residents of Comanche County, and the food bank is one of those ways. "With the help of the South Central Community Foundation, we hope to be able to broaden our reach to be able to touch a few more people," Angels Attic said in a press release.

For more information on South Central Community Foundation and its annual grant cycle, please visit sccfks.org.

KanDrive Updates Available to Assist Kansas Motorists

PRESS RELEASE

The Kansas Department of Transportation is reminding motorists about the latest travel tools available through KanDrive, a one-stop resource for real-time road and weather conditions that are available 24/7. Since 2009, KanDrive.gov has provided motorists with real-time travel information such as road conditions, closures, construction updates, traffic camera feeds and detour information, with users able to sign up for route specific information.

Many motorists may not be aware of the KanDrive website/mobile app features that they can access with an updated phone or a newer vehicle. Others may not have explored KanDrive in a while. Either way, now is a great time for Kansans to check out the website or install the mobile app and practice with tools designed to improve travel safety, especially before winter weather begins.

The newest KanDrive features were developed as part of the U.S. 83 Advanced Technology Project, which extends from the southern Finney County line to the northern Thomas County line. While some KanDrive enhancements are corridor-specific to U.S. 83, most are available for use statewide.

Available features include:

- Plow Locations Tool allowing users to see snowplow locations on all state highways
- Roadway camera views
- Ability to report incidents in Apple CarPlay and Android Auto
- Hands-free voice incident reporting through Apple CarPlay
- High wind/weather and slow-moving hands-free vehicle alerts
- Expanded work zone updates
- Enhanced detour information
- Integration with Alexa-enabled devices
- Road condition alerts, which can be especially utilized for winter weather
- Oversized truck location mapping (U.S. 83 Corridor only)
- KanDrive has logged over 4 million web sessions and 2 million app sessions on iOS and Android since the U.S. 83 enhancements were released two years ago.

For more information about the KanDrive features available and the U.S. 83 Advanced Technology Project, visit ksdot.gov/us-83-kandrive.



PAULA BRADLEY / The Star-Press

South Central defenders work together to bring down a Wichita County ball carrier during last week's Sectional playoff matchup. The Timberwolves lost a hard-fought game 28-22 to end their season.

Timberwolves Fall Short in Section Rnd

BY BOB MORRIS
Managing Editor

The South Central football team's season came to an end in the Sectional round of the Class 1A-I playoffs after a 28-22 loss at Wichita County last Friday night.

Head coach Brett Westrup said the issue was that the Timberwolves couldn't convert enough on fourth down to keep drives going.

"We didn't have mistakes – it's not like we turned it over or had fumbles or anything like that," Westrup said. "We just didn't play our best game. It was going to take our best game and we didn't play the best game."

He added that the Braves got some big plays on offense. That included a 46-yard touchdown run in the first quarter and a 30-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter. The Braves led 14-0 at halftime.

Westrup said that the Timberwolves didn't get a lot of big plays, though they were able to move the ball in the second half. But as they got points, the Braves responded with their own scores.

"We couldn't pull within one score until the end of the game when there was only about three and a half minutes left to go in the game and it was just a little too late," the head coach said.

He said that there's a good chance that Wichita County will win the Class 1A-I State championship.

Coda Lindsay ran for a 10-yard touchdown to open the third quarter, but Wichita County answered with a 14-yard touchdown run. Westlynn Stapleton then got an interception that he returned for a touchdown near the end of the third.

The Braves answered with another drive that ended with a 16-yard touchdown run. Easton Huck got a 12-yard touchdown run to pull the Timberwolves within six, but the Braves were able to run out the clock.

Huck finished with 102 yards passing, completed 10 of 18 attempts. He also rushed for 66 yards on 17 carries, Lindsay added 79 yards rushing on 12 carries. Parker Price caught four passes for 30 yards and Dakota Thornesberry caught three passes for 34 yards.

On defense, Colt Yoder had 14 tackles, John Willems had nine and Price had six. Lindsay had three quarterback sacks and Willems had two.

The Timberwolves finished the season with a 10-1 overall record. Westrup said he was proud of his players for the season they had.

"They've done a tremendous job," he said. "I'm especially proud of the seniors that we have. You know, those guys have, they've played a lot of football.

"They were the first group to ever win a State championship in school history. They were the first team to ever win a Sub State game. They were the first group to ever play in a Sub State game and they won three of them."

He said that this is the first time the seniors haven't played in a Sub State game in their high school careers, but that takes nothing away from the success they have had the past four years.

"I told them the other night that that's just how life goes sometimes," Westrup said. "It doesn't go the way you planned it or you wanted it. But the sun will come up tomorrow, and we just got to find some way to keep going."

For the head coach, the seniors are a special group because he first got to coach them in junior high school, before he took over as the head high school football coach.

"One of those boys came up to me and said, when he heard that I was going to take the high school job… they were seventh graders, and he said, 'Why are you leaving us?'" Westrup said. "And my response to him was, I'm not leaving you guys. By leaving you guys this year, I get you for four more years.

"And they've been like kids to me. I have four kids, but all my kids are daughters. And so I don't know what it's like to have a son, but this senior class have been with me for five years,

See **PLAYOFFS** / *Page 2*

Gov. Kelly Announces $226M for Kansas Rural Health Transformation Program

PRESS RELEASE

Gov. Laura Kelly announced last week that Kansas has received an additional $225,896,116.63 for Year 2 of the Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP), a federal grant administered by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Kansas received the 6th highest award in the country.

Kansas has built upon the work from Year 1 by opening a second round of funding opportunities for the Regional Partnerships Grant Program (RPGP), the Transformative Capital Investment (CAP) grant program, and the Community Health Worker + Accountable Food is Medicine (CHW+AFIM) program. The Emerging Technology grant program and the Anchor Hospital Advancement Program (AHAP), among other programs, will also receive funding following a successful first year. Several new RHTP projects will launch in Year 2, including the non-emergent medical transportation grant program, designed to help rural Kansans get to their medical appointments and the consumer facing technologies program, which will provide early-stage disease education, community resources, and care consultations for rural Kansans with Alzheimer's.

The RHTP is a $50 billion nationwide program established by House Resolution 1 in 2025. Over five years, states will receive annual funding based on rural health needs and transformative initiatives. Kansas' plan includes 24 programs across five key initiatives:

- Expand Primary and Secondary Prevention Programs;
- Secure Local Access to Primary Care;
- Build a Sustainable Rural Health Workforce;
- Enable Value-Based Care;
- Harness Data and Technology.

"We've taken great strides in Year 1 of the Rural Health Transformation Program to build a health care system that works for all Kansans – regardless of zip code – at a time when rural communities are particularly vulnerable and need support the most," Governor Laura Kelly said. "I am confident Year 2 of the RHTP will build upon the progress we've made to improve quality of and access to rural health care in our state."

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), in partnership with the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS), the University of Kansas Health System Care Collaborative (CCA), the Kansas Rural Health Innovation Alliance (KRHIA), and other health organizations across the state, implemented Year 1 programs totaling $222 million, the sixth largest award in the country. Programs implemented in Year 1 include $98.7 million in grants to eligible providers and partners in rural communities for projects that will build new, and enhance existing, partnerships, help providers make improvements to their facilities and buy needed equipment, as well as implement proven technologies to improve care delivery.

"The requirements to quickly identify and implement projects in Year 1 of the RHTP were challenging, but through effective collaboration, Kansas providers are well on their way to executing enhanced access to care close to home, and transforming the care delivery system for rural communities," KDHE Secretary Janet Stanek said. "Year 2 focuses on building on that momentum and continuing to put these well-earned dollars to work to strengthen rural hospitals, clinics, long term care facilities, and other providers."

Behavioral health and disability services in rural areas are a key focus of the Kansas RHTP. In Year 1, Kansas launched a nursing facility pilot program for selected facilities to support services that manage complex behaviors and reduce inappropriate use of antipsychotic medication.

"Year 1 has set the stage for us to continue transforming the way behavioral health and disability services in rural Kansas are supported through a more coordinated, collaborative system," KDADS Secretary Laura Howard said.

NEWS

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









PAULA BRADLEY / The Star-Press

South Central fell short of its goal to return to the 8-man D1 State title game following a Sectional loss to Wichita County, in Leoti, last Friday night in a rematch of a playoff meeting last year between the two squads.

PLAYOFFS

• *From Page 1*

and I see a lot of them as kind of a father-son relationship."

He said he appreciated how much the seniors respected him as a coach and that it's been a joy to have the opportunity to coach them.

As for next year, while the seven seniors will graduate, the Timberwolves had 32 players out this year and a lot of other players got varsity experience.

"You know, everybody's going to think, oh, it's just going to have to be rebuilt next year," Westrup said. "But I'm not going to see it as that. I'm just going to see it as, South Central, we don't rebuild, we reload. And that's what we're going to try to do."

He noted that the seniors lost in the Sub-State round when they were sophomores, remembered that feeling, then went on in their junior year to be part of a State championship team. Westrup said he expects this year's sophomores to remember the feeling of losing the Sectional title game and being motivated to go farther.

"We have a lot of young kids that played some sort of role, a big role on the team this year," Westrup said. "And even though they've still got another year left, they know how close they were. They know how good this team was.

"They know how bad that hurt to lose the other night. And so I think they're going to use that as motivation to not let that happen again next year."

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Published in The Western Star and Protection Press on Thursday, Nov. 19, 2026) 1t

Quarterly statement of Laura Sawyers, Comanche County Treasurer of Comanche County, Kansas showing the cash balance belonging to various funds for the quarter ending Oct 31, 2026

County General	$	1,105,940.08
Equipment Reserve	$	1,245,967.32
Clerk Tech Fund	$	2,735.94
Treasurers Tech Fund	$	3,168.80
Road & Bridge	$	633,882.41
Special Highway Improvement	$	127,990.11
Bridge Building	$	289,517.23
Special Machinery	$	13,201.11
Conceal Weapons	$	4,410.00
Sp Law Enforcement & Forfeiture	$	1,679.93
Registered Offender	$	3,395.77
Sheriff Grant	$	3,365.23
County Building	$	51,297.10
Health	$	84,589.97
Health Angel Tree	$	33.89
SC Grant Fund	$	4,354.41
ROD Technology Fund	$	15,017.18
Airport Memorial Fund	$	2,450.00
Noxious Weed	$	117,790.85
Hospital Bond & Interest	$	(102.23)
Airport	$	(16,819.72)
Extension	$	8,931.80
Appraiser	$	46,165.38
Election	$	71,444.46
Fire	$	139,409.95
Sp Fire Equipment	$	188,746.95
Sp Ambulance Equipment	$	113,447.60
Ambulance	$	272,115.20
EMT Grant Fund	$	12,287.47
Employee Benefit	$	633,090.20
Emergency 911	$	154,528.89
MVO Operating	$	9,884.85
Prosecuting Attorney Training Fund	$	4,264.13
Sp Alcohol & Drug	$	40,076.24
Opioid Fund	$	9,653.98
Current Tax	$	-
MVL Advalorem	$	53,715.91
Delinquent Real Estate Redemption	$	6,800.78
delinquent Personal Property	$	-
Part Pay	$	39,261.31
Vehicle Sales Tax	$	12,330.55
MVL Reg	$	8,052.27
Commercial Fees	$	24,564.01
Drivers License	$	250.00
Long & Short	$	809.01
Flex	$	859.98
Total	$	5,544,556.30

Subscribed before me the 12th day of November 2026

Laura Sawyers
Comanche County Treasurer

COLDWATER WEATHER

By Greg Vanderree

NOVEMBER 11
High 75 / Low 42 / Precip - N/A
NOVEMBER 12
High 74 / Low 40 / Precip - N/A
NOVEMBER 13
High 69 / Low 33 / Precip - N/A
NOVEMBER 14
High 69 / Low 32 / Precip - N/A
NOVEMBER 15
High 44 / Low 32 / Precip - .18
NOVEMBER 16
High 41 / Low 38 / Precip - .2
NOVEMBER 17
High 47 / Low 38 / Precip - N/A

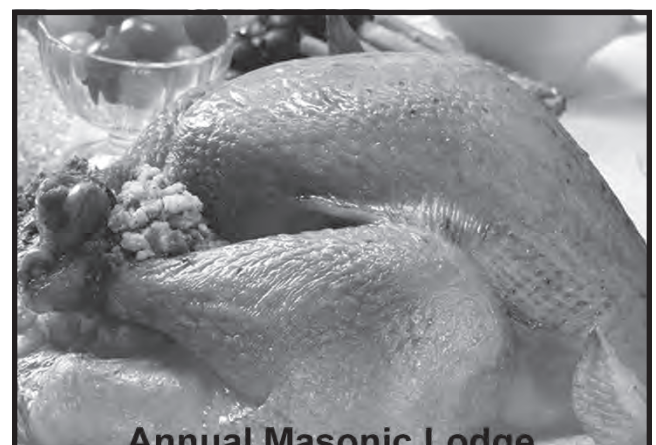
WHEAT PRICES

Alliance Ag & Grain
Coldwater - 620.582.2251
Protection - 620.622.4619

Tuesday 11/3 5.61
Wednesday 11/4 5.58
Thursday 11/5 5.61
Friday 11/6 5.57
Saturday 11/7 CLOSED
Sunday 11/8 CLOSED
Monday 11/9 5.57
Tuesday 11/10 5.59

GOT NEWS?

Send your news tip to: jasonjump@thestarpress.news



Annual Masonic Lodge Thanksgiving Dinner

Its at the South Central High School in Coldwater on Thursday November 26th. Reservations required. Call 620-582-5044 to reserve before the day. Eat-in reservations start at noon. Carry out meals can be picked up at 11:30-noon. Protection residents can call and reserve a meal. They can pick up their meals at the South Central Grade School in Protection at noon. Free will donation. All proceeds raised will go towards their Scholarships they give out every year to South Central High School Graduating Seniors. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Individuals interested in helping with any of it is to call 620-582-5044 please. Ad Sponsored by Comanche County Lodge No. 295

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT
October 15, 2026 Through December 7, 2026

Your community pharmacy is once again offereing FREE, Medicare D plan reviews for your prescription needs for 2027. We are the prescription experts that you have trusted to save you money with Medicare D since 2006.

Call us at 620-582-2134 or stop by to have our pharmacist review your options for next year for FREE, help you enroll in a better plan if needed.

Trust your medication professionals with your prescription needs.

MAIN STREET PHARMACY

Tony & Lisa Gales, Pharmascists
(620) 582-2134 or 1 (800) 794-4307
113 East Main Coldwater

City of Coldwater

Sewer Cleaning Notification

We will be cleaning sanitary sewers throughout the City the months of November and December.

Sewer lines can develop air pressure or a partial vacuum from the cleaning process. Usually any excess air pressure or vacuum will dissipate through your plumbing vents, but occasionally there are homes with inadequate plumbing vents (no vents, undersized vents, or obstructed vents). In the case of inadequate venting of air pressure could escape through your toilet, floor, sink, tub, or shower drains, causing water to splash out or, a vacuum could draw the water out of your fixture traps causing an unpleasant odor.

To guard against this possibility please:

- COVER ALL FLOOR DRAINS WITH PLASTIC AND PLACE A WEIGHTONTHE PLASTIC
- COVER ALL TOILETS WITH PLASTIC AND CLOSE THE LID ON THE PLASTIC.
- IF YOU SHOULD EXPERIENCE AN UNPLEASANT ODOR, RUN WATER INTO EACH DRAIN TO REFILL THE TRAPS.

Water and drains may be used as normal. The cleaning of sanitary sewer is necessary to help prevent stoppages.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION. OUR APOLOGIES FOR THIS INCONVENIENCE.

If you have any questions, please call
(620) 635-6457

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NEWS

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

Back in the Older Days

Coldwater news from earlier days

Compiled by Teresa Jones

130 YEARS AGO
From Nov. 21, 1896 Star

Next Thursday is Thanksgiving.

Kansas apples are shipped to New York and New York apples are shipped to Kansas. People never know when to be satisfied.

Thus far, we have not heard of many prospective candidates in our county for state appointments, but surely there will be some, and Comanche County is entitled to something for her assistance in the election.

County Clerk Harbaugh requests us to announce that certificates of election for all officers from representative down to road overseer have been made out and are in his hands ready to be delivered to those entitled to them.

It is predicted that the winter of 1896–97 is to be a very severe one and that the cold weather will not only come, but stay late.

All the old-fashioned signs are said to indicate this. The squirrels have laid in a large stock of provisions, the crickets have stopped singing unusually early, cranberries have a peculiar acerbity, corn has a remarkable thick coat of husk, chestnut burrs are lined with unusually thick fur and the goose bone is mostly white.

120 YEARS AGO
From Nov. 16, 1906 Star

Thanksgiving next Thursday. The people of Coldwater will unite in appropriate Thanksgiving services.

A sermon will be preached by the Rev. W.T. Ward. Appropriate music will be furnished. The services will begin at 11 o'clock a.m. and will be held in the Presbyterian church. Let there be a good turnout and a general and appropriate observance for the day.

The annual Thanksgiving oyster supper will be given at the New Eden schoolhouse on Thursday evening, November 29. Oysters, both fresh and cove, will be served; also cake and coffee. Proceeds for the benefit of the church. Everybody cordially invited to attend.

From six to eight inches of snow and drifts sufficient to blockade the trains for over four days is a somewhat unusual experience for sunny, southern Kansas in November, but that is just what we have experienced this week.

The temperature began to fall in Sunday morning. For three days and three nights a strong wind blew from the northeast. During Sunday night and most all day Monday, a fierce, blinding snow continued to fall. The strong wind and the fact that the snow was "dry" caused it to drift badly. In places the drifts were five or six feet deep. Travel was almost impossible.

On the Englewood branch, railroad traffic was abandoned altogether until yesterday, when the passenger trains were again started. The storm has not been a severe one on stock as it was neither very cold nor very damp. The losses among cattle will be very slight. Much good will result to the growing wheat.

Since Wednesday morning the wind has calmed and the sky cleared, but as yet the snow has not begun to melt very much. It is the biggest snowstorm for years, especially during the month of November.

On November 17, 1898, a severe blizzard occurred that caused the loss of hundreds of head of cattle, but the snowfall was much less than during the present storm.

Five days worth of mail came in from the east this morning. It kept the post office force busy for over an hour distributing it.

There are surely no objections to any one slaying the jackrabbits. Rabbit and quail hunting has furnished sport for a good many people this week.

The new Methodist parsonage in this city is nearly completed.

District court will convene in regular session in this city one week from next Tuesday, December 4. The docket is a very brief one—less than 20 cases.

110 YEARS AGO
From Nov. 17, 1916 Star

The "cold snap" the first of this week brought to mind the winter of 1898–99, when unusually cold weather prevailed, beginning about the middle of October. That fall a blizzard occurred on November 21 which caused the death of several hundred head of cattle. McNair & Alexander and Jacob Kehl were among the heaviest losers at that time.

In the following February—February 12—one of the worst blizzards ever seen in this country occurred. The temperature went to 24 below zero. Ice, from 14 to 16 inches thick, was put up in abundance.

A few Comanche County farmers evidently saw the drift of things a few weeks ago and made an investment which has proved to be quite profitable. It was not in gas or oil stock, nor in lands, cattle or government bonds, but in—what do you suppose? Yes, in flour. They bought at from $1.50 to $1.55 per sack [$46.45 to $48.00 in today's dollars] which now sells at from $2.35 to $2.50 per sack [$72.75 to $77.40 now].

Among those who thus made lucky purchases were George Briggs, who purchased 40 sacks, and M.K. Klingensmith, who laid in a supply of 10 sacks.

The CHS football team defeated the Englewood team in this city on last Friday. The game this afternoon will be between Ashland and Coldwater.

A bazaar and dinner is being planned by the Presbyterian ladies for December 2. Further announcements will be made later.

100 YEARS AGO
From Nov. 19, 1926 Star

Temperatures ranging between 15 and 18 degrees above zero were reported in this city on Thursday morning of this week.

At the general election in this county, not much attention was paid to township officers, except in Coldwater Township. In this township, George S. Silsby received 489 votes for Justice of the Peace.

The other township candidates who were elected each received about 100 votes less, except for constable. For that office George McDonald received 8 votes and George Williams 4. In Protection Township, none of the successful candidates for township office received more than 15 votes.

The year 1926 has, in many ways, been rich in blessings to everyone, and there should be a general expression of gratitude and of Thanksgiving on next Thursday, when all the country is asked by the President and by the various governors, to join in expressions of thanksgiving to the Divine Ruler for His continued goodness and mercy to us as a people. To ignore the Divine Power in all human affairs and to neglect to make some expression of one's gratitude to and dependence upon Him is not only ingratitude but a selfish and sordid attitude toward all that is holy and divine.

Following the long-established custom, the people of the New Eden neighborhood will join in holding an oyster supper at the schoolhouse in that district on Thanksgiving night, beginning at 8 p.m.

Preceding the oyster supper, the school will present an interesting program of readings and music. Everybody is invited to be present and share in the sociability and happy community spirit, which has always characterized the people of that neighborhood.

It is announced that a pie supper, with a good literacy program, will be given at the Pleasant Ridge school house, northwest of town, Miss Helen Thompson teacher, on Friday evening of this week. Everybody is invited.

The Coldwater-Protection Thanksgiving football game, which will be played in this city this year, will doubtless draw a large crowd. Turn out and help the home team win. It promises to be a hard-fought game.

90 YEARS AGO
From Nov. 20, 1936 Star

Fine fall weather nowadays.

Missouri Valley school will give a Thanksgiving program, followed by a box supper on Wednesday evening, November 25. Everyone is invited.

On Friday, November 13, the Coldwater football team met and tied the strong Haviland team here.

Mrs. Lee Darrow brought to the STAR office the first of the week, a freak egg. It is in the form of a very small single egg attached to the small end of a larger egg.

The State Board of Health and a doctor and nurse from Topeka are cooperating with the local doctors and dentists in holding a free school clinic in this county for all elementary school pupils.

Beginning with the clinic in Protection on Thursday, the clinic will be held in the courtroom in Coldwater beginning at 8:30 a.m. Friday of this week and on Monday the clinic will be held in the grade school building in Wilmore beginning at 9 a.m.

The afternoons are reserved for pupils from the rural schools. Parents are urged to accompany their children, if possible.

Western Kansas is beautiful with fields of green wheat and alfalfa, sugar beets being harvested and the soft yellow and fall of autumn foliage.

The towns can be seen from far off, the elevators glistening and gleaming in the sun like a mirage. The streets are wide and clean, the buildings low. There is no need to crowd in Western Kansas.

80 YEARS AGO
From Nov. 22, 1946 Star

A union Thanksgiving service will be held in the Presbyterian church in this city, Wednesday evening of next week at 7:30 o'clock. Everyone is invited to attend and unite in giving thanks for the blessings which are ours as American citizens.

Each family in this trade territory will be given the privilege of registering for a FREE TURKEY for Thanksgiving. All you have to do is come to our store, Northside Market, and register before Saturday evening, November 23, at 6 p.m. Only one registration to a family, no purchase is necessary. Drawing will be made at our store at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, November 23. You need not be present at the drawing to win.

Both smallpox and diphtheria are diseases that can be prevented. In Kansas so far this year 316 cases of diphtheria and nine cases of smallpox have been reported.

Your county commissioners have arranged with the local doctors to give free immunizations for these two diseases. Diphtheria toxoid is to be given to anyone nine months to 10 years of age. If it has been two years since a child has had the two doses it is recommended that they take one booster dose.

Smallpox vaccination will be given to any one nine months to 99 years. If it has been five years since your last vaccination it is time to repeat it.

The immunizations will be given free to you by Dr. Robert A.J. Shelley and Dr. Lyle G. Glenn at their offices on the Saturdays of December 7 and 21. Let us have 100% protection against these two diseases in Comanche County.

A meeting for all [rural] school boards of the county is called to be held in the courtroom at 8:30 p.m. Friday of this week with a view to organizing a county association of school boards, which may affiliate later with the Kansas State School Board Association.

It is planned to discuss the following subjects: school budgets, long-time plans, building public esteem, legislative action and reserve funds.

The Coldwater VFW is planning to sponsor a town basketball team during the winter and will announce the date of the first game soon after Thanksgiving. Some good games are in prospect.

Jess Lockert brought his good Fowler team to Coldwater last Friday, and with the Iroquois League title at stake waged an exciting, surging battle against the Coldwater eleven, but the fighting Eagles were able to send them home disappointed on the small lead of a 7 to 0 score. The next game will be on the home field Thanksgiving afternoon with our neighbors from Protection.

70 YEARS AGO
From Nov. 23, 1956 Star

No snow in this county—again.

Mildred Deewall has spent all of her life on their Comanche County ranch. Their large registered Hereford ranch covers 3,985 acres of which 2,950 acres are in grass.

This is the second year the Kansas Farm Bureau has recognized outstanding farm women. Mrs. Deewall represents the East Seventh KFB District in Southwest Central Kansas and will receive a trip to Florida and Cuba, December 4–15. Part of the trip will be spent at the American Farm Bureau Federation meeting in Miami, Florida.

Mrs. Deewall helped organize the Sunnyside Farm Bureau Community Club and served as its president two years. George and Mildred Deewall were nominated Master Farmers of Kansas in 1947.

Mrs. Deewall is a charter member of the Antioch Methodist Church and has been active in church work since the church was organized in 1917. She has served as superintendent of the Sunday school primary department and has held all offices in the WSCS except that of secretary.

Coldwater will be favored to gain their second league championship in as many years as they take the field against the Panthers of Protection on the local gridiron Thursday afternoon.

It will be necessary for the Eagles to win to repeat as changes since a Panther victory would enable Ashland to take over the first spot in the league.

Protection has won one league game, a 18–13 victory over Greensburg. The Panthers dropped contest to Ford 19–20, to Fowler 12–13, to Minneola 7–19 and to Ashland 7–31.

The CHS Eagles' league record this year is a scoreless tie with Ford and wins over Ashland 18–7, Greensburg 26–7, Minneola 25–6 and Fowler 26–0.

Performances in the past indicate that when the Comanche County rivals get together on Thanksgiving, they forget all of their past games and start the season anew based upon the one contest.

A Panther victory over the Eagles would mean a successful season for Protection, even if they lost all of the rest of their games. Protection this year, has won three games, namely Greensburg and the non-league contests with Macksville and Preston. Two of their losses (Ford and Fowler) have been by only one point.

Coldwater seniors played the boys from the other classes in a short scrimmage. The seniors scored two touchdowns but had one of them called back because of a penalty.

Basketball practice begins Monday, November 26, and the first game will be with Protection on December 7 at Coldwater. Bob Powers is the new coach.

60 YEARS AGO
From Nov. 17, 1966 Star

Mrs. J.P. Barlow was one of 6,700 winners in the recent Ford Motor Co. contest. She received a scale model Ford camper pickup and a transistor radio. The contest was in conjunction with the Coldwater Motor Co.

The Chamber of Commerce will begin their before Christmas drawings on Saturday, November 26. You may register at the business houses. For more information as to time, date, and place of drawings may be seen in the display ad on another page in this week's paper. Patronize your local businesses, they help you all year long.

Plans were made for the bazaar which will be held in Coldwater on Friday, December 9, and at Protection, December 10. Anyone wishing to bring things in for the bazaar may do so.

The Coldwater Eagles marching band went to Southwestern College at Winfield on Saturday and performed during half-time at the football game between Southwestern and College of Emporia.

In the evening members of the swing band stayed over and played for the after game dance, sponsored by the Symphonians, a music fraternity of which Jim Booth is a member.

50 YEARS AGO
From Nov. 18, 1976 Star

Mrs. Bernice Herd was honored as the 1976 Beta Sigma Phi Lady of the Year at an afternoon tea on November 14 at the Presbyterian church. Members from Xi Epsilon Kappa Exemplar Chapter, and Iota Omicron, Ritual of Jewels Chapter, were present to congratulate Mrs. Herd.

Beta Sigma Phi feels Mrs. Herd truly exemplifies the ideals and purposes of its organization and salutes her many contributions to her community.

Next Wednesday, November 24, there will be a yearbook signing at 3:00 p.m. at the high school. Annuals may be picked up at that time.

From now until December 24, a drawing for 100 gallons of gasoline, with free registration with every purchase. No need to be present to win, just register at Brown's Oil Co.

40 YEARS AGO
From Nov. 20, 1986 Star

Plans for Christmas activities in Coldwater are taking shape, even though the big day is one major holiday and more than a month away.

Final plans will be announced in next week's STAR. So far, the plans include a Christmas business open house by the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Reduced-price "Kids Movie Matinees" are planned and the films already booked for the first two Saturdays in December. A new twist this year is a "Treasure Hunt" which will be explained in next week's STAR.

Michilyn Allen, daughter of Jack and Erma Allen, spent three days in Coldwater a week ago visiting with family and friends. A former Coldwater High School cheerleader, she had flown back from Phoenix to see her brother, Jay, play with the Coldwater Eagles in their last game of the season.

While attending a pregame pep assembly, Michilyn was presented with a "1985 state champions" belt buckle. In Phoenix, where she lives, Michilyn is an elementary physical education teacher at a school where THE WESTERN STAR is widely read.

By popular demand, Coldwater Lockers will award $75 in cash to the person bringing in the largest deer to be processed this year at Coldwater Lockers.

Winter storms can cause downed power lines. Never go near them. Never touch them. Always assume that downed lines are charged and extremely dangerous.

Also, avoid contact with any water near the line because water conducts electricity. Should you drive onto a downed power line, or one falls on your car, stay inside your car until help arrives.

Speech-language specialists and graduate students were among those at the fall convention of the Kansas Speech-Language Hearing Assoc.

Among those attending the convention was Marilyn Huck, FHSU graduate student from Coldwater.

NEWS

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

Susie's Scribbles

By Susan Edmonston

PHS Alumni Reunion

Mark your calendar and save the date for Memorial Day Weekend 2027, which has been officially set as the time for the Protection High School alumni get-together. This special reunion event takes place every five years, bringing together graduates to reconnect and reminisce about their school days.

Meeting on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 15, in the South Central school's office in Protection, our planning committee gathered to continue organizing the upcoming alumni event.

Those present included chairman Janell Kay Smit, a PHS graduate from the class of 1997, vice-chairman Dave Webb from the class of 1966, secretary Susan Edmonston who graduated in 1964, treasurer Becky McLaughlin Holler from 1986, as well as Matt Jellison from 1987, and Joe Murphy from the class of 1996.

I am in the process of updating information of graduates from 1940 to 2026 in the 2022 alumni directory. Many changed addresses, married, or died. ProPress@unitedwireless.com can not be used anymore.

If you think I might not know you moved or changed your name, please send the new information to susanedmonston@icloud.com or call (620) 622-7778.

Letters will be mailed in February or early March. If your invitation comes back with "address changed" or "unknown," we have to pay postage to pick up that letter.

Herd's Artwork in Peru

While scrolling through Facebook recently on my phone, I came across a post from Stan Herd, a Protection High School graduate in 1968. His artistic talents continue to impress both myself and many others around the world.

"Stan Herd's latest work was unveiled last week at the Universidad Senor de Sipan campus, in Peru, showcasing a stunning portrait of Pope Leo XIV. The event began with live music and singing, setting a celebratory tone. Two videos were shown that paid homage to both Pope Leo and Stan Herd's incredible artistic contribution.

"Following the videos, the audience witnessed a remarkable earthwork unlike any other. A choreographed dance performance encircled the portrait, culminating in the dancers removing the covering to reveal the artwork beneath, followed by the symbolic release of doves.

"Work is currently underway on producing a short film that will document this unique project, capturing the creative process and cultural significance behind it.

"Herd crafted a 12-metre tile portrait on the grounds of a university campus in northern Peru, specifically in Chiclayo. The piece was composed of approximately 9,000 ceramic and majolica tiles, assembled over a period of about 11 days. Uniquely, this artwork was designed as an outdoor floor installation in the university gardens rather than being housed inside a church.

"The unveiling ceremony included a blessing, a staged presentation, and an opportunity for the crowd to view the circular design up close. Pope Leo XIV returned to Peru on November 13-14 to attend related events. Approximately 500,000 people gathered for the open-air Mass held at Pampas de Pimentel near Chiclayo.

"Pope Leo XIV addressed the assembled crowds in Spanish, the language he spoke during his tenure as bishop of Chiclayo for eight years. He served the diocese from 2015 until his appointment to a position in Rome in 2023.

"The Peruvian government treated this visit as a historic homecoming, honoring Peru's first pope with great respect and celebration."

Trip to Branson, Mo.

When I retired in June, it opened the possibility of a sisters' weekend in Branson. Nancy made all the arrangements. My youngest sister, Jo, from Oceanside, Calif., and I showed up at the same time last Thursday night in McPherson at Nancy and Rick's home.

Jo had rented a vehicle so all six of us could ride together. Sally and her husband Mike from Lyons joined us Friday morning. After checking into Lodge of the Ozarks in Branson, we played "Hand and Foot," a game similar to Canasta, for several hours that evening.

Saturday morning, our first event to attend was the Sight & Sound Theatre for "Miracle of Christmas."

That evening, we were seated in the third and fourth rows in the Clay Cooper Theatre for The Haygoods, five brothers and one sister. No wonder that it is Branson's most popular show. This family has given more than 7,000 performances and sold almost 7 million tickets.

Sunday, Rick and Nancy, Mike and Sally, Jo and I attended Church at Woodland Hills on Green Mountain Lane. The weather was beautiful so we chose to watch the big screen and listen to the outdoor guest minister.

Later we ate outdoors at the mall, then climbed aboard the trolley for a tour of that area. We wanted to shop in Dick's 5&10, but the place is closed on Sundays.

The Randy Travis show was at 8 p.m. and again it was in the Clay Cooper Theatre. Travis has severe aphasia and partial paralysis from a stroke in 2013. He and his wife Mary were seated on the stage during the whole show while his replacement sang Travis' songs. A huge screen had videos of Travis singing while his replacement pretty well matched the music.

Monday, we were back at the Clay Cooper Theatre, this time to watch the Hot Rods & High Heels show. When it ended, most of the crowd stayed seated and were given a free sack lunch from Chick-fil-A: a sandwich, chips, and chocolate chip cookie, plus a bottle of cold water.

A show honoring veterans was next and it continued past 5 p.m. Many of the shows we attended gave special recognition to the veterans.

It is always wise to arrive an hour before a show to find your reserved seat, get concessions, etc. We ended up being seated for 7.5 hours and our ticket for the whole day only cost $28.

We left the show at 5 p.m. to be in the Top of the Rock night tour. We four sisters were in a four-seat 4-wheeler and Rick and Mike were in another right behind us. The trail and wire creatures were lit with thousands of white lights, although there were also other color lights.

Before going back to the Lodge, a stop was made at the Fifties Diner for ice cream and other food.

The last day in Branson was Tuesday. We checked out and then went back to the Clay Cooper Theatre for the Coopers' 10 a.m. show. Going to Branson in November gave us Christmas music, decorations throughout the town, and seeing trees changing colors.

We stopped at the College of the Ozarks to go through the Ralph Foster Museum at 2 p.m. There were three floors to explore in the two hours we were there. Firearms through the Ages and large North America and African animals were on the second floor. Top floor was history of the Ozarks.

The first floor had special collections such as clocks, dolls, butterflies, currency, post office room, and primitive Americans. The 1921 Oldsmobile Model 46 used in the nine seasons of the "The Beverly Hillbillies" as well as old-time tractors were displayed. Too much to read in the short time there.

Jo left McPherson on Thursday afternoon for Kansas City to visit Luty relatives there.

Nancy took me to a friend's home Friday afternoon where women had gathered to wrap gifts for children in kindergarten from the four elementary schools in McPherson. This group was taking a soft blanket to enclose one-piece pajamas with feet covered, an easy-to-read book, shampoo, lotion, soap, toothbrush and toothpaste. Almost 150 pajamas were used. If the child had younger siblings, pajamas for them were also included in the bundle.

I ended up in Halstead on Friday evening to attend "White Christmas." Granddaughter Aunna Howard was one of the cast and the program was also given on Saturday night and Sunday afternoon.

South Central Robotics Showcase Coming Up

STAFF REPORT

The South Central school district is inviting the community to the South Central Robotics Showcase which will be held on Sunday, Nov. 22.

The invitation said anyone interested in seeing "The Colonel" in action should come out to the SCHS cafetria. The event is scheduled to take place at 6 p.m. Attendees will also be able test drive the robot.

In other school related news, USD 300 is seeking a shot clock operator for varsity boy's and girl's basketball games this winter.

It is a paid position with flexible scheduling. Training will be provided to the interested parties.

If you are interested, you are asked to contact the SCHS athletic director, Tim Erickson, at (620) 582-2158 or email ericksontim@usd300ks.com.

All Kansas schools will be required to utilize a shot clock by the 2027-28 season.

USD 300 Board of Education Minutes

Nov. 4 Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: The Board of Education of U.S.D. #300, State of

Kansas, Comanche County, met in regular session at 7:00 p.m.,

November 4, 2026, in the Board Conference Room located at 600

East Garfield in Coldwater, Kansas.

PRESENT: Kelly Herd, Gail Boisseau, Hanna McCleary, Steve Prusa, Jim Stanford, Dean Yoder, Michael Baldwin Superintendent,

Linda Basnett Clerk.

ABSENT: Jody Leeper

Two patrons spoke to the board with Recreation Commission concerns.

Dean Yoder walked out of the meeting at 7:20 and did not return.

NO. 1 APPROVE AMENDED AGENDA

Motion by Gail Boisseau , seconded by Steve Prusa to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion carried 6-0.

NO. 2 APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Jim Stanford, seconded by Hanna McCleary to approve the consent agenda consisting of October7th regular meeting minutes, payment of bills in the amount of $241,268.95, the treasurer's report, ratify a contract for JT Prusa as SCMS assistant boys basketball coach, accept Jennifer Cronin's resignation from SCHS volleyball and approve Vanessa Acton and Frankey Schmidt as substitute teachers.

Motion carried 4-1. One board member abstained

NO 3 TABLE RESOLUTION TO INCREASE MILL FOR REC

COMMISSION

Motion by Steve Prusa, seconded by Hanna McCleary to approve tabling the resolution to increase Comanche County Recreation Commission funding from 1 mill to 2 mills until December.

Motion carried 5-0

NO. 4 TABLE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Motion by Steve Prusa, seconded by Hanna McCleary to approve tabling a special board meeting with the Recreation Commission.

Motion carried 5-0.

NO. 5 APPROVE BID FOR HANDICAP RAMP

Motion by Steve Prusa, seconded by Jim Stanford to accept a bid from Welsh Construction for a handicap ramp at SCE/MS at a cost of $6,830. Motion carried 5-0. (Exhibit 5-1)

NO. 6 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Steve Prusa, seconded by Hanna McCleary to go into executive session at 7:20 p.m., with the superintendent, Tyler Bates SCHS Principal and Matt Jellison SCE/MS Principal, to discuss an individual employee's performance pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the board room at 7:35 p.m..

Motion carried 5-0.

NO. 7 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Steve Prusa, seconded by Hanna McCleary to go into executive session at 7:35 p.m., with the superintendent, Tyler Bates SCHS Principal, and Matt Jellison SCE/MS Principal, to discuss an individual employee's performance pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the board room at 7:45 p.m.,.

Motion carried 5-0.

NO. 8 EXECUTIE SESSION

Motion by Gail Boisseau, seconded by Jim Stanford to go into executive session at 7:45 p.m., with the superintendent, to discuss an individual employee's performance pursuant to non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, and the open meeting will resume in the board room at 7:47 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

NO. 9 ADJOURNMENT

Board President Kelly Herd declared the meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Clerk

Date

Comanche County Commission Minutes

Nov. 2 Meeting

The Comanche County Commissioners met on the above date with Joe Moore, Zack Ellis, and Saige Gerstner; Also present was County Clerk, Bri Uhl.

Approved a payment of bills for $106,212.22. All vouchers are on file in the County Clerk's office.

Approved minutes from the meeting held on October 20, 2026. Saige moved to appfOVe the minutes as present, Zack second, motion passed 3-0.

Road and Bridge

Road and,Bridge supervisor, AJ Becker,.and·K. irkham·Michael Engineer, Tanner Yost, met with the Commissioners to discuss various Road· and Bridge matters.

AJ and Tanner first reported that Cory, with Kirkham Michael, submitted a new fuel system plan for the airport. AJ was needing signatures to go ahead with the new plans. The plans include a new fuel take with a card reader. This will be apart of the grant the county received for the airport. The total project cost is$283,500, the countywill only be paying 10% of that. Saige moved to approve and sign the fuel tank and card reader project for the airport, Zack second, motion passed 3-0.

AJ let the Commissioners know he is having problems with the semi. He's narrowed down the problem to either the clutch or the transmission.

AJ reported there's a tree on 714that fell and needs to be moved but does not want to do it until the roads are less muddy. The topic of the grader maintaining 714 came up. The Commissioners all agreed that if Harold cannot stop putting rock that is hauled into him into the ditch he will be wrote up and pulled from the grader. All 3 Commissioners have gotten complaints of this, and it is a waste of rock.

Saige requested that Savannah come to every Commissioner meeting. She would like for her to be in the loop with AJ since she manages the office.

AJ let the Commissioners know he was looking putting wifi at the shop in Protection. AJ told the Commissioners he could get the wifi through United since he has a phone plan with United. Tanner reported there will be a field check at the Eubanks Bridge on November 9 to make sure all plans are good to go to start construction on the new bridge.

Tanner let the know Commissioners know the state put a "High Rish Grant" out for counties to use for anything safety related. This grant was used in the past for signage around the county. Tanner will go ahead and apply for the grant.

AJ talked to the Commissioners about the county grading the few dirt roads for the City of Protection. Chris Brosius asked AJ to talked to the Commissioners to see what kind of agreement could be made between the city and county. Zack said there is already an agreement with the City of Wilmore. Briwill ask Clay ifhe can find the contract between Wilmore and the county. AJ is going to the next city council meeting to discuss with Protection exactly what they are needing, then we will see if Clay can draw up an agreement with the city and county.

Misc

Bri asked the Commissioners if they could be available November 11th for the election canvass. Each Commissioner agreed to be present at the Canvass.

Zack let the board know a taxpayer was upset about the lift getting in and out of the building. The lift malfunctioned and he was stuck on the lift for just a little bit. Bri told the Commissioners her and Bryan maintained the situation. While Tanner was at the meeting, the Commissioners asked ifhe knew of any engineers who could put input in to put an elevator in the courthouse. Tanner said he would ask around to other counties to see what they have done to get the process started for an elevator.

Bri presented a warranty bill to the Commissioners for the Ambulance department. The warranty is to Zoll for their monitors. Saige moved to approve the warranty for $6,007;50, Zack second, motion passed 3-0.

Bri showed the Commissioners a quote from CIC to incorporate Time Clock Plus (digital timecards) for employees. The quote is $10,589.00, this is for the initial install of the system.

See **MINUTES** / *Page 8*

LIFELINE PROGRAM

Low income individuals may be eligible for the Lifeline Program, which provides discounts on the monthly plan charges for landline, cell phone, and internet service. Individuals may qualify through specified guidelines. Lifeline is a government assistance program, the service is non-transferable, only eligible consumers may enroll in the program, and the program is limited to one discount per household.

If you have any questions regarding this program or you want to apply for the Lifeline Program, application forms may be obtained from the following location:

United
1107 McArtor Rd.
Dodge City, KS 67801

UNITED

Visit getunited.com or contact United at 620-227-8641 for more information.

NEWS

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

WILMORE NEWS

By Christina Griffin

We had a trace of rain in Wilmore this week.

It was a good turnout for the soup supper, raised $1,399 for the sound system, enjoyed some good soup and had great entertainment by Joyful Noise. Thank you for your support, we appreciate it.

Clark and Betty Yost made it back form their trip to South Dakota, they took sister Bonnie back home and visited all the relatives they could find.

Jill Metzger and group had a good trip to South America, saw a lot of beautiful sights and is ready to go again.

We had Book Club on Tuesday at the library, and had five people: Joni Royce, Sue Martin, Barbara Delaney, Jill Metzger and myself. The book was a mystery, Doomed Blooms and we all kind of liked it, it was a very simple story. We had great refreshments and good conversation.

We put the flags up for Veteran's Day, it's a good way to celebrate the USA and pay tribute to veterans. Thank you for your service.

Kenny and Suzanne Timmer took a quick trip to New Mexico to visit relatives. They had a good trip, no problems.

There was a small catastrophe at the main corner in Wilmore on Friday, the 13 night. Beau, the dog, barked a lot when several trucks stopped on that corner, we don't have a direct view from our back porch but we can see extra vehicles and flashing red lights. The brakes of a cattle trailer caught on fire and the fire engine responded with water. We only found this out because Ernie rounded the corner at the same time.

The blaze maples next door are on the way out, but they are the "aura" stage now, meaning a lot of leaves have fallen, they've not been disturbed, if you stand under the trees and there is a little bit of sun or more, it's like you're in a rose colored place. It's beautiful, we don't charge so this is something you could see for free.

Ernie and I went to Hutch Friday to get my sewing machine serviced and my ears cleaned out. I don't know why but in my old age, my wax system is working over time. They feel much better.

Virginia helm and I went to Pratt to go to thrift and consignment stores. We didn't get much but we had fun, and did some errands too.

We haven't had a lot of carousel riders, it's getting cold, you better hurry over for a ride. We will be here all of Thanksgiving weekend and then we will close up and go back to California by Dec. 2.

Thanks for having me, see you next week.

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LEGALS

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

(Published in The Western Star and Protection Press on Thursday, Nov. 19, 2026) 1t

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-9

A RESOLUTION FINDING THAT THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT: LOTS SIX (6) AND SEVEN (7), IN BLOCK ONE-HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE (191), OF THE ORIGINAL TOWN OF THE CITY OF PROTECTION, COMANCHE COUNTY, KANSAS, COMMONLY KNOWN AS 107 W. MAIN STREET, PROTECTION, KS 67127 IS UNSAFE OR DANGEROUS AND DIRECTING THAT THE STRUCTURE BE REMOVED AND THE PREMISES BE MADE SAFE AND SECURE.

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

WHEREAS, the governing body did by Resolution No. 26-2 dated the 16th day of July, 2026, fix the time and place of a hearing, to be held on September 9, 2026, at which the owner, his or her agent, and lienholders, any occupants and all other parties of interest of such structure could appear and show cause why such structure should not be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished, and provided for giving notice thereof as provided by law; and,

WHEREAS, said Resolution No. 26-2, was published in the Western Star & Protection Press on July 23rd, 2026, and a copy of the Resolution was sent by certified mail to the owner at the last known place of residence and marked "deliver to addressee only," but said mailing was returned to sender as insufficient address, unable to forward; however, said Resolution 26-2 was not published the second consecutive week on July 30th, 2026, as required, and an alternate potential address for the owner has been located; and,

WHEREAS, the governing body did by Resolution No. 26-4 dated the 9th day of September, 2026, fix the time and place of a hearing, to be held on November 11, 2026, at which the owner, his or her agent, and lienholders, any occupants and all other parties of interest of such structure could appear and show cause why such structure should not be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished, and provided for giving notice thereof as provided by law; and,

WHEREAS, said Resolution No. 26-4 was published in the Western Star & Protection Press on September 17, 2026 and September 24, 2026, and on September 18, 2026, a copy of said resolution was mailed by United States Postal Service Certified Mail, marked as "deliver to addressee only" to all persons entitled thereto as provided by law; that the certified mail to the Owner, Ada Cutsinger, was sent to the Owner's last known address, 1505 Avenue K., Apt. #108, Dodge City, KS 67801, which returned as no such number, as well as the alternate potential address that had been located, P.O. Box 35, Leedey, OK 73654, which was signed for and received by Debra Boggs, who based upon information discovered by the City appears to be the sister or sister-in-law of the Owner.

WHEREAS, on the 11th day of November, 2026, the Governing body did convene the hearing scheduled in Resolution No. 26-4; the governing body received evidence from the following:

_X_ the Code Enforcement Officer, Jennifer Momoe, on behalf of the city;

( ) on behalf of the city;

Ada Cutsinger, the Owner;

( ) on behalf of the Owner;

_X_ the following parties in interest failed to appear or appeared and did not present evidence: Ada Cutsinger.

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

1. The Governing body hereby finds that the structure located at:

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

and commonly known and referred to as 107 W. Main Street, Protection, KS 67127 is unsafe and dangerous and directs that such structure is to be removed and the premises made safe and secure.

2. The owner of such structure is hereby directed to commence the removal of the property within 20 days from the date of publication of this resolution (not later than the 15th day of December, 2026,) and to have the removal completed within 60 days of the date of commencement (not later than the 15th day of January, 2027). Provided, that upon due application by the owner and for good cause shown, the governing body, in its sole discretion, may grant the owner additional time to complete the removal of the property.

3. If the owner fails to commence the removal of the structure within the time stated herein, or any additional time granted by the governing body, or fails to diligently prosecute the same until the work is completed, the governing body will cause the structure to by razed and removed and the costs of razing and removing, less salvage if any, shall be collected in the manner provided by in

K.S.A. 12-1,1115, and amendments thereto or shall be assessed as a special assessment against the lot or parcel of land upon which the structure is located or by both, all as provided by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the owner fails to commence the repair or removal of the structure within the time provided herein or fails to diligently prosecute the same, the governing body may take such further action as it deems necessary to raze and remove the structure without further notice to the owner or other parties in interest.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk shall cause this Resolution to be published once in the official city paper and shall mail a copy to the owners, agents, lienholders, occupants, and other parties in interest.

Passed and adopted by the Governing Body of the City of Protection, Kansas, this 11th day of November, 2026.

_____
Chris Brosius,
Mayor
ATTEST:

_____
Jennifer Monroe,
CIty Clerk

(Published in The Western Star and Protection Press on Thursday, Nov. 19, 2026) 1t

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-8

A RESOLUTION FINDING THAT THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT: LOTS TEN (10), ELEVEN (11), AND TWELVE (12), IN BLOCK TWO-HUNDRED AND TEN (210), HICKOK'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF PROTECTION, COMANCHE COUNTY, KANSAS, COMMONLY KNOWN AS 208 W. MAIN STREET PROTECTION, KS 67127 IS UNSAFE OR DANGEROUS AND DIRECTING THAT THE STRUCTURE BE REMOVED AND THE PREMISES BE MADE SAFE AND SECURE.

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

WHEREAS, the governing body did by Resolution No. 26-1 dated the 12th day of June, 2026, fix the time and place of a hearing, to be held on August 19, 2026, at which the owner, his or her agent, and lienholders, any occupants and all other parties of interest of such structure could appear and show cause why such structure should not be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished, and provided for giving notice thereof as provided by law; and,

WHEREAS, said Resolution No. 26-1, was published in the Western Star & Protection Press on June 25, 2026, and a copy of the Resolution was sent by certified mail to the owner at the last known place ofresidence and marked "deliver to addressee only," but said mailing was returned to sender as unclaimed, unable to forward; however, an alternate potential address for the owner was located; and,

WHEREAS, the governing body did by Resolution No. 26-3 dated the 19th day of August, 2026, fix the time and place of a hearing, to be held on October 14, 2026, at which the owner, his or her agent, and lienholders, any occupants and all other parties of interest of such structure could appear and show cause why such structure should not be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished, and provided for giving notice thereof as provided by law; and,

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

WHEREAS, the governing body did by Resolution No. 26-5 dated the 9th day of September, 2026, fix the time and place of a hearing, to be held on November 11, 2026, at which the owner, his or her agent, and lienholders, any occupants and all other parties of interest of such structure could appear and show cause why such structure should not be condemned and ordered repaired or demolished, and provided for giving notice thereof as provided by law; and,

WHEREAS, said Resolution No. 26-5 was published in the Western Star & Protection Press on September 17, 2026 and September 24, 2026, and on September 18, 2026, a copy of said resolution was mailed by United States Postal Service Certified Mail, marked as "deliver to addressee only" to all persons entitled thereto as provided by law; that the certified mail to the

Owner, Armando Barragan, was sent to the Owner's last known address, 10500 Laramie Pl., Chatsworth, CA 91311, as well as the alternate potential address that had been located, 21031 Warner Center Ln., Ste B, Woodland Hills, CA 91367, both were returned as unclaimed.

WHEREAS, on the 11th day of November, 2026, the Governing body did convene the hearing scheduled in Resolution No. 26-5; the governing body received evidence from the following:

_X_ the Code Enforcement Officer, Jennifer Momoe, on behalf of the city;

( ) on behalf of the city;

Armando Barragan, the Owner;

( ) on behalf of the Owner;

_X_ the following parties in interest failed to appear or appeared and did not present evidence: Armando Barragan.

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

1. The Governing body hereby finds that the structure located at:

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

and commonly known and referred to as 208 W. Main Street Protection, KS 67127 is unsafe and dangerous and directs that such structure is to be removed and the premises made safe and secure.

2. The owner of such structure is hereby directed to commence the removal of the property within 20 days from the date of publication of this resolution (not later than the 15th day of December, 2026,) and to have the removal completed within 60 days of the date of commencement (not later than the15th day of January, 2027). Provided, that upon due application by the owner and for good cause shown, the governing body, in its sole discretion, may grant the owner additional time to complete the removal of the property.

3. If the owner fails to commence the removal of the structure within the time stated herein, or any additional time granted by the governing body, or fails to diligently prosecute the same until the work is completed, the governing body will cause the structure to by razed and removed and the costs of razing and removing, less salvage if any, shall be collected in the manner provided by in K.S.A. 12-1,1115, and amendments thereto or shall be assessed as a special assessment against the lot or parcel of land upon which the structure is located or by both, all as provided by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the owner fails to commence the repair or removal of the structure within the time provided herein or fails to diligently prosecute the same, the governing body may take such further action as it deems necessary to raze and remove the structure without further notice to the owner or other parties in interest.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk shall cause this Resolution to be published once in the official city paper and shall mail a copy to the owners, agents, lienholders, occupants, and other parties in interest.

Passed and adopted by the Governing Body of the City of Protection, Kansas, this 11th day ofNovember, 2026.

_____
Chris Brosius, Mayor
ATTEST:

_____
Jennifer Monroe,
CIty Clerk

(First published in The Western Star and Protection Press on Thursday, Nov. 19, 2026) 2t

RESOLUTION NO.2026-10

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

WHEREAS, the enforcing officer of the City of Protection, Kansas, did on the 11th day of November, 2026, file with the governing body of said city, a statement in writing that the structure, hereinafter described, is unsafe and dangerous.

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

That a hearing will be held on the 13th day of January, 2027, before the governing body of the City of Protection at 7:00 o'clock p.m., at the Protection Township Library, 404 N Broadway Ave, Protection, KS 67127, at which the owner, his or her agent, any lienholders or record, any occupant and any other parties in interest, as that term is defined by law, of the structure located at:

408 N. Jefferson Avenue, Protection, KS 67127

Legal Description: Lots Eleven (11) and Twelve (12), in Block One-hundred Twenty-seven (127), of the Original Town of the City of Protection, Comanche County, Kansas.

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

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

Passed and adopted by the Governing Body of the City of Protection, Kansas, this 11th day of November, 2026.

_____
Chris Brosius,
Mayor
ATTEST:

_____
Jennifer Monroe,
CIty Clerk

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NEWS

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Past Paragraphs

Protection news from earlier times

Compiled by Dave Webb

125 YEARS AGO
Western Star
Nov. 22, 1901

Protection paragraphs
Not much "going on" this week. Everything quiet about the stockyards this week.

The Thanksgiving turkey will soon get it "in the neck."

Some folks have begun already to plan for Christmas presents.

The members of the Protection band are preparing to give an oyster supper on the evening of Thanksgiving at Uncle Pete's hotel. The band will discourse some of its choicest music. This will be the boys' first public appearance and they deserve to be well patronized. Let all turn out and enjoy the occasion and at the same time help along a good cause.— [Correspondent] "UNCLE BOB."

Protection prattle
Cooler weather this week.

Quite a good attendance at church Sunday morning.

Dr. Moore, a brother-in-law of J.E. Harbaugh, has been at the City Hotel this week doing dental work.

The dance last Friday night was well attended. The music was furnished by Ross Bachman, of this city, and a Mr. Jackson, from near Lexington.

Mrs. Wilson, mother of Matt and Charley Wilson, died at the home of her oldest son between here and Ashland on last Friday night. She was one of Clark County's oldest and most respected citizens.

A turkey shooting is announced for Thanksgiving Day. Come in, boys, and enjoy a good time; also come to the dance and supper on that evening. The dance will be held at Keys' hall. The supper will be served at the Wuchter Hotel. — [Correspondent] "JUNIPER."

On the mend
Mrs. Charles H. [Mary] Volkman, who was shot in the left knee over a year ago* [at her home in Irwin Township north of Protection], is now able to get about without the aid of crutches. The injured knee, however, is left stiff as a result of the injury.

**The shooting was explained in the Western Star, January 19, 1900:*

"While thus seated [at their kitchen table] they were suddenly startled by the firing of a shot near the house by an unknown person.

"Two shots were fired, one passing through the lower part of a window of the room in which Mr. and Mrs. Volkman were sitting and striking Mrs. V. just below the left kneecap and penetrating the knee, ranging upward for a distance of probably six inches. The second shot went wild.

"Dr. Pritchard was summoned and, upon examination, found that the ball was embedded in the limb above the knee. Everything possible was done for the patient, but the latest reports indicate that she is still suffering greatly and that fears are entertained that blood poisoning will set in.

"The shot was supposed to be from a 32-caliber revolver and fired by someone with malicious and evil intent. We understand that suspicions are directed toward certain parties in that neighborhood and that the officers have some strong circumstantial evidence, but so far, no arrests have been made.

"The shooting no doubt grew out of some bad feeling which has evidently existed among a few of the citizens of that neighborhood for some time past.

"Such an act as the one committed Monday night is strongly condemned by all good citizens and it is hoped that the guilty party may be speedily brought to justice."

Mary Volkman was later taken to Wichita where a surgeon removed the bullet, but after effects of her injury remained.

The Western Star, May 25, 1900, reported the results of an arrest and subsequent trial:

"The all-absorbing topic during the first few days of the week was the progress of the evidence in the Volkman case.

"'Guilty as charged,' was the verdict after less than half an hour's deliberation Saturday evening in the Volkman case. Mrs. Volkman, the wounded woman, had to be carried into the courtroom on a stretcher in order that her testimony might be taken.

"The entire chair of evidence introduced by the state was circumstantial, yet, in the opinion of the jury, it was such as to justify the belief that the defendant, William Folks, was the guilty party.

"Sheriff Bert Smith started this morning with the prisoner for Lansing where he will spend six years in the penitentiary.

"It is said that the cost to the county of convicting William Folks will aggregate about $1,000" over $40,000 in today's dollars.



William Folks was admitted into the Kansas State Penitentiary at Lansing in 1901.

100 YEARS AGO
Protection Post
Nov. 18, 1926

Cars in color
Bachman & Company received a carload of Fords last week. Every Ford in the lot was either painted green, maroon or gray.

These new cars certainly look snappy and are finding a ready sale here. Four of the seven are already sold.

Ed Tharp, "Dutch" Young and Emery Newton each purchased a new coupe. Edgar Baker bought a new Tudor sedan. A gray Fordor is now on display in the office of Bachman & Company.

Seeing old black and white photos featuring early-day cars, it's easy to imagine they were all black, especially because Ford standardized black paint on its popular Model T between 1914 and 1925. Other companies, however, offered color choices as early as about 1900.

Gas well gossip
Tuesday, three new boilers and a heavy type 124-foot rotary drill outfit arrived in Protection for the Watchorn Company and the street rumors grew as to the intentions of the company.

Undoubtedly but that the company intends to soon resume drilling operations on the Morrison lease northwest of Protection where the big gasser was struck last year, but the hole was lost through tolls dropped, corkscrewed casing, and cave-ins.

From reliable sources it is known that the Watchorn company has been quietly leasing, or rather re-leasing, a large block of territory and have completed their leases, and the arrival of material substantiates the rumor of new operations in the Morrison field.

A new location has been staked for the new well, by current rumor, at least, and it will be considerably east of the former location and on higher ground.

Local oil experts are perking up since the arrival of the boilers and the casing in Protection and all but have the well drilled and the gas—yes, indeed—the surface gas and vibrated gas is already flowing.

All indications point that new operations on the lease will begin and begin soon. Just how soon is problematical, but as John Ramsey, the genial field superintendent for Watchorn arrived simultaneously with the casing and the boilers, something at least substantially is contemplated by the company on the Morrison lease, and undoubtedly with its past experience and with a logged field, the company from all outward appearances is making and taking the steps that will test the field fully and completely this time, and if oil is present, find it, and if not, forever settle the mooted question as to an oil field in this section of Kansas.

No newspaper reporter or editor today would ever write or print a sentence this long! Former Press editor Bob Greer would've chopped it into at least seven or eight pieces.

75 YEARS AGO
Protection Post
Nov. 16, 1951

Reopens photo studio
Elsewhere in this issue of the POST, Maynard Brown announces the reopening of the new Maynard's Studio in Protection. Mr. Brown purchased the Carpenter Studio from Mrs. Erma Smith several months ago.

In a Capsule…
By Orin Strobel

This probably won't mean a thing to anyone but another printer, but the POST Print Shop is in the process of printing one of the biggest jobs, as far as quantity is concerned, we have ever heard accepted by a shop of comparable size.

We are working on more than 100,000 shipping tags, printed in two colors, and numbered. The tags will be used to label shipments sent out by Lane Myers.

When Lane got the government contract for 1¼ million fence posts, the quantity didn't floor us until we found it was necessary to label each bundle of 12 posts with one of the tags we're printing.

Believe us, it's a lot of posts and a lot of tags.

Anniversary meeting
The Kiowa Creek 4-H Club of Comanche County held their 20th year anniversary celebration Monday night, November 12, in the Protection Grade School. This was a homecoming for former club members with several taking part on the program.

The new club officers were installed by a group of former club members, Mrs. LaVaun Lohrding, Mrs. Maxine Huck, Mrs. Thelma Blackard and Dan Parcel, who installed Patty Peterson, president; Glenice Atteberry, vice president; Myrel Rich, secretary-treasurer; and Cleon Parkin, reporter.

Installation services were held for Kathleen Unruh, Danny Rich, Lance Riner, Bonnie Wimmer, Betty Jo Fitzwater, Sondra Bird, Alice Eubank and Larry Filson. New members voted in were Anne Lehman, Charles Peterson and Marcia Gohn….

The 1951 enrollment in this club is 50. These members, with their parents, former club members, leaders and guests, made an attendance of 149 for the evening….

Happy birthday
Nora Miller, assisted by Pauline Graham, entertained the kindergarten pupils Friday afternoon with a party honoring Sonny Smutz on his fifth birthday.

Sonny received many nice gifts. Those who enjoyed the occasion were Johnny Graham, DeWayne Tobias, Mike Cummings, Peggy Sue Edmonston, Susan Strobel, Susan Thomas, Connie Turner, Diana Teter, Rodney Sangster, Geraldine Brown, Anita Smith, Cheryl Herd, John Huck, Sharron Williams, Charles McGee, Atha May Webster, Jimmy Condra and the honored guest, Sonny Smutz.

Refreshments of pop, ice cream bars and cupcakes decorated with a birthday candle were served. Each pupil was given favors of suckers and balloons to take home.

55 YEARS AGO
Protection Post
Nov. 19, 1971

A step closer to state
Adjectives cannot describe the defensive game played by the Protection Panthers at Tribune last Friday night. The Panthers held the Jackrabbits to 54 yards rushing and 4 first downs while compiling 235 yards rushing and 13 first downs in their favor.

Protection came out on top 21-0 in a Class 1-A District 4 playoff battle against Tribune….

Protection will meet the Little River Redskins for the regional title at Lyons Friday night at 7:30. Little River defeated the Clyde Blue Jays last Friday night 24-16.

Former coach writes
Dear Orin and Judy,

I received your copy of the Protection POST today concerning Protection's fine football team. I had been thinking of writing to you to issue my wholehearted congratulations and knowing the community like I do, I know how proud they are. I also know the team will perform well in the state playoffs.

Protection was my first coaching position and the athletes and community are still first in Nina and my hearts. We surely loved Protection….

Sincerely,
Gary Fisher

Before state high school football playoffs were established, Gary Fisher (1935–2007) coached the undefeated Panther football team in 1960. He taught and coached at Protection from 1959 to 1961. He was later a school superintendent.

Becky turns 4!
A party Monday afternoon at the home of Melvin and Gracie McLaughlin honored Rebecca Irene on her fourth birthday.

Guests were Amy and Trent Hazen, Kristi and Mishaun Leeper, Kim and Mark Lohrding and Clay Parkin.

A birthday cake decorated with Bo Peep, ice cream and Kool-Aid were served. The table was decorated with a Red Riding Hood doll. Gracie was assisted by Sherry Leeper, Dixie Hazen, Patricia Lohrding and Mildred Moore.

35 YEARS AGO
Protection Press
Nov. 21, 1991

Vandalism at mini-park
Beautification's new storage building was broken into Halloween eve.

The building contained paint, tools, fertilizers and sprays. For safety's sake, it was kept locked.

The lock and door were damaged to gain entry. The building's interior and exterior were spray-painted. Glass was broken, every bottle of weed and insect spray was emptied, and new garden hose burned.

The worst may not be realized until next spring. It appears the chemicals were spread over plantings around the mini-park area.

If this is the case, replacing supplies and repairing damages is minor to the expense and hard work of removing and replacing plantings.

Many hours of donated labor and money from the Protection community have gotten us to where we are today. But these can be destroyed in a matter of minutes by the senseless acts of a few who have no respect for property or for what others improve….

Basketball rosters
Panther girls

Practices are now underway for the 1991–92 Protection High School girls basketball squad.

Ten girls are on the roster for Coach Mickey Stout's squad…. Seniors on the roster are Tiffany Leeper, Sheri St. Clair, Angela Hackney and Cindy Lohrding. Only junior on the roster this time is Jennifer McCarl.

The three sophomores are Sascha Willems, Erin Baker and Amy Edmonston. Protection High's two freshmen girl cagers this time are Marla Willems and Marshell Herd.

Veteran staffer Charles Furgason will again be assistant coach to Stout this winter.

Panther boys

A big turnout of 19 boys was on hand here Monday afternoon as the opening practice of the 1991–92 basketball season for Protection High School got underway, Coach Joe Fassler reported….

Seniors on the roster are Kraig Lindsay, Brian Harris and Chris Selzer. The six juniors are Jeremy Herd, Logan Girk, Duane Mosshart, Lance Smith, Darell Newton and Roy Beeley (a recent transfer here from Coldwater High School).

Sophomores out for the PHS squad are Tobin Sawyers, Robert Moody, Steve Rich and Bruce Dutton. The six freshmen…are Cade Leeper, Buddy Probst, Rustin Martin, Klete Hackney, Troy Jellison and Jamil Moody.

Team manager will be Charlie Lohrding, a junior this year.

Honored in Topeka
Lewis and Waldena Lindt joined other Pearl Harbor survivors in the statehouse rotunda at Topeka for the 50th Congressional Commemorative Medal ceremonies on Veterans Day, November 11, 1991.

This medal was authorized by Congress in 1990, honoring those who served at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, before war was declared.

Governor Joan Finney was in attendance, as were representatives Slattery, Nichols and Myers. Pat Roberts and Dan Glickman were represented by aides….

Medals were presented to next-of-kin of deceased survivors by Governor Joan Finney. Medals were then presented by the governor and our representatives to 111 of the 175 Pearl Harbor survivors living in Kansas.

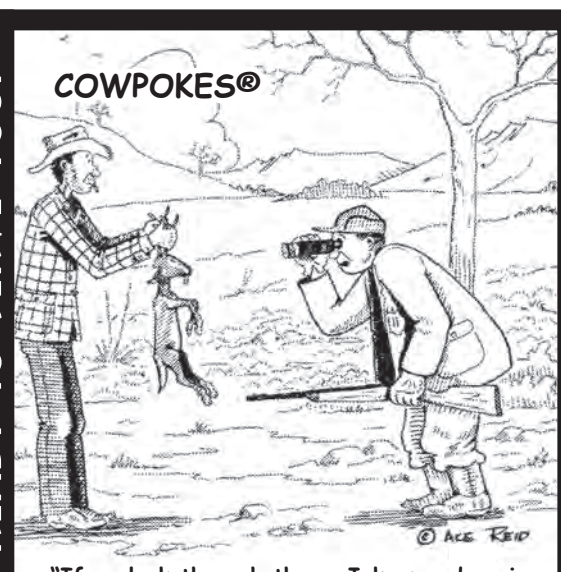
15 YEARS AGO
Protection Press
November 17, 2011

Bobbing Along Broadway
By Bob Greer

Recently my wife Wilma and I saw three antelope along State Highway 34 north of the Lexington corner on the way to Bucklin. About 25 or 30 years ago the state fish and game folks freed a lot of antelope near Clark State Fishing Lake.

But those critters are shy! In all my years in this area, I've seen them only one other time—several years ago at about the same location.

YOUR HOMETOWN BANKS ARE READY TO SERVE YOU!



"If ya look through these, Jake, my deer is a whole lot bigger!"

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NEWS

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



SHERMAN SMITH / Kansas Reflector

Gov.-elect Cindy Holscher talks to reporters at a Nov. 13 news conference at the Statehouse. She is accompanied by Lt. Gov.-elect KC Ohaebosim. Holscher is the narrow winner of the Nov. 3 election against Republican gubernatorial nominee Ty Masterson.

Holscher Pledges to Advocate for All Kansans as Next Governor

BY TIM CARPENTER
Kansas Reflector

Counting and recounting of votes didn't alter the outcome of the Kansas gubernatorial race, enabling Gov.-elect Cindy Holscher to personally offer thanks at the close of a campaign entwined with economic forces aggravating the cost of living.

"This election, it was never about Republicans versus Democrats," Holscher said in a speech Friday at the Capitol in Topeka. "Throughout this campaign, I heard from Kansans across the state who want their leaders to put politics aside and work together for the good of the people."

"It's been about the families at the kitchen table with a stack of bills that keeps growing while their paycheck is stagnant," she added. "It's been about those farmers and ranchers watching the price of diesel rise and wondering if their farm is going to make it another year. It's about the nurses pulling double shifts to get by, the teachers buying school supplies with their own money and the retirees trying to stay in the home where they raise their children."

The Overland Park Democratic state senator, 57, survived a toss-up contest Nov. 3 to beat Republican Senate President Ty Masterson of Andover by less than 8,000 votes. Of 1.09 million votes counted in unofficial election results, Holscher earned 551,243 while Masterson received 543,842. She prevailed despite President Donald Trump repeatedly stumping for Masterson in a state with hundreds of thousands more registered Republicans than Democrats.

Holscher's news conference at the Capitol was attended by Lt. Gov.-elect KC Ohaebosim, her immediate family and a handful of colleagues from the Kansas Legislature.

"Here's my promise: Whether I earned your vote or not, I will work for you," Holscher said. "We all know the challenges ahead of us. They're real. But I've seen what Kansans can do when we pull together instead of pulling apart."

Masterson, who remains president of the Kansas Senate, declined to concede until examination of late-arriving mail ballots and the required partial audit of ballots. He congratulated Holscher by telephone. Her victory coincided with the rare election of a Democrat to the U.S. Senate and the post of state attorney general. In addition, Democrats picked up 20 seats in the Kansas House.

"It looks like we will come up just short," Masterson said. "It has been the honor of my life to carry the Republican banner for the state I love. This was a hard election for people who share our vision, here and across the country. But I believe in this state and in the people who live here, and that hasn't changed."

Masterson said Kansas retained the benefit of a Legislature led by Republicans. He said that GOP majority should concentrate on "the things that matter to them: property taxes, public safety, affordability and schools."

The election of Holscher means the state will have its first Black lieutenant governor when Ohaebosim, a Wichita member of the Kansas House, formally takes the oath of office in January. Ohaebosim expressed gratitude to Holscher for placing her trust in him.

"I'm just very grateful," Ohaebosim said. "I look forward to working to make sure that her policies are implemented to move the people of Kansas forward."

Holscher expressed appreciation to Kansans who stepped forward to embrace her "people power" campaign.

"From Overland Park to Liberal, from Wichita to Kansas City to Manhattan, and every small town and city in between, I thank you. You gave what you could. You volunteered your evenings and weekends. You found five friends that you got to vote, and you proved that people power is more powerful than anything else," she said.

Holscher, who follows two-term Democratic Gov. Laura Kelly, said economic issues confronting voters require the state government's attention.

"Groceries, rent, utility bills, healthcare and property taxes keep climbing," Holscher said. "Regular Kansans, they're finding it harder and harder, and they're getting left behind. It is time for that to change. As your governor, we're going to lighten the load for Kansas families, and we're going to work to cut your property taxes."

"We're going to work to make sure your schools are funded so every child gets access to solid public education, just like I got, and just like my kids got," she added. "We'll work to expand Medicaid, not because it's a Democratic idea or a Republican idea, but because it's a good idea for Kansas and it's good for our people in our state."

Holscher said her administration would strive to make state government work for Kansans rather than answer to billionaires, lobbyists and special interests with leverage to grab a seat at the table.

"I will work across the aisle to fully fund our schools, expand Medicaid and lower healthcare costs. I'll work to cut property taxes with folks across the aisle and bring down the cost of living," Holscher said.

"But make no mistake about this: I will always fight for Kansans, and I will not tolerate policies or politicians who try to impose laws that harm our state and our people. I will always fight for Kansans with an unmatched fierceness," she said.

Holscher said details about the gubernatorial transition process would be forthcoming. That would include any special duty assigned to her lieutenant governor as well as appointment of cabinet officers to manage state agencies, she said.

The state Board of Canvassers must certify official results of the election by Dec. 1. Holscher would take the oath of office Jan. 11, weather permitting, on the south steps of the Capitol.

Kansas AG: Backpacks, Lockers Aren't Secure Enough for Cellphones

STAFF REPORT

According to Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach, a student's backpack nor locker is secure enough for the state's bell-to-bell ban on phones in schools.

He said in an opinion that students still have access to their backpack and locker during the school day, which means storing their personal cellphone or device in those locations does not meet the bill's definition of "secure storage."

"Students' backpacks are generally accessible to students during the school day, so personal electronic devices would not be stored in an 'inaccessible location,'" Kobach said in the opinion. "Assuming students carry their backpacks at some point during the school day, storage in backpacks is not away from the student's person."

This year, Kansas became the fourth state to implment the ban throughout the school day.

The attorney general's opinion was sought out by State GOP Sen. Kenny Titus, of Pottawatomie County, due to guidance that was given to school districts from the governor's administration, as well as the Kansas Association of School Boards. He said the guidance being issued "seemed to contradict" the state's legislation.

The United School Administrators of Kansas gave state school districts the advice to not spend funds on storage solutions since there were "no consequences for this bill" if school district does not follow the new state ban imposed by the legislation.

MINUTES

• *From Page 4*

After the install it will cost $4,348.02 a month for the county to have TCP. Bri asked the Commissioners to give her another couple week to ask CIC and other counties who use TCP several questions to air out details.

Zack told the board about a potential new project that could happen at the fairgrounds. Emergency services have a fundraiser called "Honk, Flash, Roll," they use this to raise money for something beneficial to help the community. This year they are potentially going to use the money to help fund a Recreational type building to put at the fairgrounds. No plans have been set and they are just throwing around ideas.

Meeting adjourned at 10:44am.

IN TESTIMONY THEREOF WITNESS my hand and the seal of approval for Comanche County, Kansas this 17th day of November 2026.

Joseph Moore
Chairman
Bri Uhl
County Clerk

City of Protection
Red Hills Waste Solutions will be picking up trash on Friday, November 27.
Happy Thanksgiving!



PUBLIC NOTICE

(First published in The Western Star & Protection Press, on Thursday, Nov. 12, 2026) 2t

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-7

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

WHEREAS, the enforcing officer of the City of Coldwater, Kansas did on the 9th day of November, 2026 file with the governing body of said City, a statement in writing that the structures, hereinafter described, are unsafe and dangerous:

Structure on Lot 13 and South 20 Feet of Lot 14 in Block 59 in the Original Town of Coldwater, Comanche County, Kansas. Street address: 209 S. Chicago Ave.

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

That a hearing will be held on the 11th day of January, 2027, before the governing body of the City at 6:30 o'clock p.m. at 239 E. Main St, in the northeast room, at which time the owner(s), his/her agent, any lienholders of record, any occupant and any other parties in interest, as that term is defined by law, having objection to the ordered repair or demolition of the structure located on:

Lot 13 and South 20 Feet of Lot 14 in Block 59 in the Original Town of Coldwater, Comanche County, Kansas. Street address: 209 S. Chicago Ave.

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

Adopted this 9th day of November, 2026.

/s/ Paul Alvarez, Mayor

ATTEST:
/s/ Kristal Sherman, City Clerk
[SEAL]

CLASSIFIEDS

Call Stephanie at 620.532.3151 to place a classified ad, remove an ad or make changes to your ad.

Bar-Six Manufacturing, Inc. is hiring a welder. No experience is required. Must be 18 years old or older, have reliable transportation and the ability to lift 50-plus pounds. Need the ability to work in a shop environment (heat, noise, dust) and a willingness to learn welding and fabrication skills. Need the ability to use basic hand tools. Need a good work eithic and dependable attendance. Apply in person at US-160, in Protection. For more information, call (620) 622-4456.

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

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

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

Pioneer Lodge has the following openings:

RN or LPN charge nurse full time or part time, C.N.A. Full time or part time, Laundry Aide part time - Stop by for an application or email diana@pioneerlodgeks.org for more information.

Benefits include sign bonuses for nurses and C.N.A., insurance, vacation.

South Central High School Custodian (4 ten-hour days per week) – Please contact the district office if you are interested in a bus driver or substitute teacher position. Applications are available at https://usd300ks.com/en-us/employment-1887b0dc – Positions Open Until Filled.

Send resume and credentials to: Mike Baldwin, Comanche County USD 300, PO Box 721 Coldwater, Kansas 67029.

South Central Middle School is looking for paraprofessionals to work with middle school students. If you are interested please call Matt Jellison at South Central Middle School, at (620) 622-4545 or email at jellisonmatt@usd300ks.com.